



Ref. 46877

March 13, 2019

Keith Henry
President
BC Métis Federation
300 – 3665 Kingsway
Vancouver BC V5R 5W2

Dear Keith Henry:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and the representatives of the British Columbia Métis Federation (BCMF) on January 30, 2019, in Vancouver. The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) is committed to true, lasting, reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in British Columbia (B.C.).

As we discussed together, my commitment as Minister is to close the gap in the quality of life between Métis people and other British Columbians. As I emphasized during that meeting, the contributions and efforts made by the BCMF, to support the social, cultural, and economic needs of Métis in the province, are critically important. We remain committed to Métis Nation Relationship Accord and our work with Métis Nation BC. However, I want to emphasize that the Province views the Métis Federation as a valued partner committed to the same goals.

As you are aware, our government is focused on several transformative initiatives in the areas of poverty reduction, housing, children and families, economic development, education, heritage, and culture, intended to improve the lives of Indigenous peoples in B.C., including the almost 90,000 self-identifying Métis people in living in B.C.

.../2

**Ministry of
Indigenous Relations
and Reconciliation**

Office of the
Minister

Mailing Address:
Box 9151 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
email: IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
website: www.gov.bc.ca/irr

Telephone: 250 953-4844
Facsimile: 250 953-4856

The Métis Nation Relationship Accord lists Métis identity and data collection as well as information sharing as an objective of the agreement. We are working across government to make ministries aware of this commitment and to collaborate on the most effective way to communicate areas of service that are available to Indigenous communities, including Métis.

In addition, I am pleased to share with you the Province will be investing \$85 million to support all children in care including Métis by increasing support payments for foster parents, adoptive parents and extended family members caring for children and by ensuring children in care benefit from provincial tax benefits.

If you have any questions, or require any additional information, please contact Rob Parenteau, Director, Community and Social Innovation Branch, at Rob.Parenteau@gov.bc.ca, or by phone at 604 802-5624.

Sincerely,



Scott Fraser
Minister

pc: Ricardo Toledo
A/Executive Director
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Rob Parenteau
Director
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

