

Mr. David Doyle
6903 Cranberry St.
Powell River, BC V8A 3Z6
www.rievity.ca

September 7, 2017

Keith Henry,
President, BC Metis Federation
#300 3665 Kingsway,
Vancouver, BC V5R 5W2

Dear Keith,

LOUIS RIEL Let Justice Be Done

The ideals that Louis Riel fought for – ideals of inclusiveness and equality – are now the very same values on which we base our country's identity.

Justin Trudeau, February 15, 2016

Sweet words indeed! Although the prime minister has given Louis Riel Canada's blessing, the prime minister's office has recently informed us that the government WILL NOT be exonerating Louis Riel for Canada's sesquicentennial.

As you know, I have been calling for exoneration since opening the campaign at the Riel gravesite with Metis elders George and Terry Goulet in 2010. Since that time, grassroots support has grown and progressive organizations such as the BCMF and the Union nationale métisse St-Joseph du Manitoba have passed resolutions in support of exoneration. The Union nationale métisse effectively lobbied the Montreal City Council for exoneration, and the Friends of Louis Riel have lobbied the prime minister, the minister of Indigenous Affairs, the minister of Justice, the Liberal Indigenous Caucus and conducted a petition campaign seeking exoneration. Unfortunately, once again, the leadership of the Metis National Council and its various provincial affiliates have opposed exoneration, although no legitimate reasons have been forthcoming.

My new book *LOUIS RIEL Let Justice Be Done* (Ronsdale Press) is dedicated to the exoneration of Louis Riel, and is a thorough review of his career. Focusing on Riel's democratic initiatives, seeking Indigenous and democratic rights for all Canadians, and upon the reprehensible misdeeds of the Canadian government of John A. Macdonald, I open up the discussions necessary for reconciliation of Canada and the Metis — discussions Canada has avoided for the past 133 years. I would be honoured to give a presentation from "Let Justice Be Done" at the BCMF AGM in Burnaby. In particular, it would also give me the opportunity to pay my respects to my fellow "Honorary BCMF" sister and friend Joyce Fisher.

If you can fit me into your AGM I would be pleased to participate.

Sincerely,

David Doyle
604 223 3478