BC Métis FEDERATION

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May 20, 2025

Attention:
Aleksandra Stevanovic, Executive Director, Policy, Legislation & Litigation

Regarding:
Feedback on Proposed Changes to the Designated Representative for Métis Peoples

Greetings Executive Director Stevanovic,

I am writing on behalf of the BC Métis Federation (BCMF) and its Partner Communities to submit our response to the Ministry of Child and Family Development's (MCFD) request for feedback and dialogue on the proposed change to the designated representative for the Métis community in BC.

Firstly, I wish to thank you for your participation at our event on April 26, 2025. Your presentation and the subsequent conversation was a positive step towards the inclusion of all Métis voices in the discussion surrounding the wellbeing of Métis children and families in British Columbia.

The attached report summarizes the feedback of our Partner Community leaders and the leadership here at BCMF. It captures what you heard in the room in Vancouver as well as subsequent input sent after those present had time to fully consider the proposed changes and to discuss them with community members.

You will see that the response is overwhelmingly against Métis nation British Columbia (MNBC) becoming the designated representative for Métis. That sentiment is the product of years of hostility and discrimination against BCMF members by MNBC. MNBC has proven time and time again that they will only serve their own interests, leaving other legitimate Métis in BC without support or representation.

As MNBC stated to you directly when referencing their handling of the ISETS program funding, they "prioritized their Citizens". There is no evidence that MNBC will handle the role of designated representative any differently. They will not equitably and fairly

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represent the interests of all Métis families and children, they will only support MNBC Citizens.

BCMF must be recognised as the designated representative for BCMF member families and children. Doing otherwise would leave BCMF member families and children unrepresented and would further reinforce the systemic discrimination BCMF members have received from MNBC and MCFD.

I look forward to working collaboratively with you and MCFD to develop an approach to the designated representative that serves the interests of all Métis in BC, both BCMF members and MNBC Citizens.

Sincerely,



Keith Henry
President, BC Métis Federation

CC: BCMF Board of Directors
BCMF Partner Communities
Premier David Eby
Honourable Jodie Wickens, Minister of Children and Family Development

Enclosure: BCMF Feedback on Proposed Changes to the Designated Representative for Métis Peoples (https://bit.ly/bcmf-mcfd)