



MESSAGE FROM 'CHIEF' MARY LOU PARKER

The promise that is Canada is to live in Peace and Harmony. That promise remains a challenge to the Métis/Aboriginal Peoples of Nova Scotia to this day. EWMNNS Peoples are the direct descendents of our Mik-Mak ancestors and we are part of the Nations of Aboriginal Peoples of Canada.

MÉTIS NATIONHOOD

When a nation dies and never ascends from the ashes of its own destruction, one circumstance must always be present. That nation forgot where it came from. It lost sight of its roots. The struggle for identity and the fervid quest for nationhood disappeared into the midst of time. The nation gave up the quest. Outsiders came in, and this nation denied its own heritage. Vision and hope faded; customs became suppressed through assimilation and doubt. Those people whose forefathers and mothers would hold nothing to be impossible in their vision as a nation, joined in the hopelessness and despair. They forgot where they came from. They lost sight of their heritage. And, when men forget what is at the heart of their nation, they lose their identity and their past, and become one with a people foreign to them and their ways, and disappear.

Yet I can see in the Métis of today the faces of those who struggled at Bloody Creek, and I realize that our nation yet lives.

I have seen the faces of the Métis people of today and they are the faces of a nation still strong, a reflection of the past, yet with the strength of the present, men women and children who live today, who like our ancestors share in the making of the Eastern Woodland Métis Nation.

Our forefathers passed on a legacy of backbreaking toil and the turmoil of revolution. They saw change and they saw despair; until now when the Métis Nation is again about to take its rightful place in this country.

I can see in their faces throughout the whole story of the Métis people. We have given them our heritage, this land that we honor, through the dreams and visions and struggles of our forefathers and mothers. The cost has been high, but the price they paid has been worthy of them. To forge our nation took men and women who were willing to become a new people. And they did that. And it is up to us to tell our children and their children that we remember our identity, and from this identity we will shape our nation.

The Eastern Woodland Métis Nation Nova Scotia must not be forgotten and allowed to die. We owe it to those who passed this way before us, who gave us our grand heritage, who carried our nation with their hands and their hearts, that we will carry on the struggle, and that we will write the history of a new nation, strong on our belief in the Creator, a love of our land, and a faith in our people, **The Métis People**.

LATEST NEWS!

We have been working very hard to secure recognition for our Nation, but are still running into roadblocks. So many doors have opened up to us; some of our members have been accepted into Community Colleges, some into post-secondary colleges. Other members have been accepted on to the police force, military - the list goes on and on and still, they say we do not exist.

On March 3 Of this year, Grand Chief Tim Parker, Chief Mary Lou Parker and Elder Adrienne Speck were invited to attend a reception at Government House at the "Celebrating Our Peoples" tour. We were invited by Lieutenant Governor Mayanne Francis. I read the welcome speech for all and it was indeed a great honor. This will be aired on APTN in the near future. This is a step in the right direction for ALL Métis in N.S. We must now convince the nay sayers of our existence.

Unity is important for the continuation of our peoples, and when you belong to a minority, we frilly realize that we have to be better to have the right to be equal. We have earned our place in society as it is said in section 35 of the Canadian Constitution of 1982. We are choosing, at this time to step forward as peacemakers to heal the terrible wounds that racism of every kind has created. It is our mission to find the tools and methods to give a voice to ALL Métis (mixed ancestry) Peoples honoring all races and both genders equally. We are striving to relearn the songs of freedom, which will heal us and our world. We too have the Dream.

In addition, you will find in this newsletter, copies of letters to and from our M.P. and our response from our Premier. (*see pages 4, 5 and 6*)

FEE INCREASE

Due to rising costs of electricity and supplies etc., we are increasing our administration fee by \$3.00 (from \$12.00 to \$15.00) annual dues still remain the same.

In this newsletter, I am also enclosing a plea for assistance from all members to assist our peoples who are in need. During this past winter, we have had numerous calls for help for fuel, food, etc. We have gone into our pockets to do this; there are families whose children are going to school hungry.

We are asking all members to please help us help them Please donate whatever you can and make the cheque payable to "*EWMNNS members assistance fund*". Thank you in advance.

The Nation finally has received a book from National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF) for First Nation, Inuit, and Métis students, 2011-2012. Roberta Jamieson is the president & CEO. This is a charitable foundation and has been around since 1985 and has raised more than \$37 million in scholarship and bursaries to help all aboriginals. To find out more information go to www.naaf.ca or call 1-800-329-9780. You can download an application from this site to choose the naaf plan that is better suited for your needs.

This is it for this newsletter, please if you have any questions call the office at 1-902-742-3304.

***Chi Miiguich
(Chief) Mary Lou Parker***



**RENEWAL FORM
EASTERN WOODLAND MÉTIS NATION NOVA SCOTIA**

IMPORTANT! This form is only for membership renewal and not for new registration. If you are looking to become registered, please use a different form.

Renewal of Membership

Please remember that we are a dues related organization. By keeping your membership dues paid up to date, you are helping your Nation to keep you informed of happenings in and around your

Annual membership dues are \$20.00 per year and due by December 31 of each year.

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ PROV. _____ POSTAL CODE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE; HOME _____ WORK _____

E.W.# _____ (this number appears on your identification card)

Years Owing: 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

Return to the following address:

**Eastern Woodland Métis Nation Nova Scotia
Pier One Complex 1A-W
101 Water Street
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia Canada
B5A 4P4**

Phone/Fax: 902-742-3304

Website: <http://www.easternwoodlandmetisnation.ca>

Email: contact@easternwoodlandmetisnation.ca

IMPORTANT! This form is only for membership renewal and not for new registration. If you are looking to become registered, please use a different form.

Thank you for bring your membership up to date!



House of Assembly Assemblée législative
Nova Scotia Nouvelle-Écosse

Liberal Caucus Office
5151 George Street, Suite 1402
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2T3

October 12, 2010

Honourable Darrell Dexter, Premier
Office of the Premier
7th Floor, 1700 Granville Street
Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

Dear Premier:

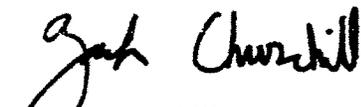
I have recently met with Mary Lou Parker, Chief of the Eastern Woodland Métis Nation Nova Scotia, along with other Métis elders.

The Eastern Woodland Métis Nation represents over nine thousand Métis across the country who have family and territorial connections to Nova Scotia.

I wish to inform you that Mary Lou Parker and the Grand Council of the Eastern Woodland Métis wish to meet with you to discuss the history of the Métis people of this region and their desire to receive appropriate provincial recognition.

I am happy to facilitate such a meeting. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me in my constituency or at our Caucus Office. In the meantime, I would like to thank you for your consideration of this matter and look forward to your reply.

Yours truly,


Zach Churchill
MLA Yarmouth

cc Mary Lou Parker, Chief, Eastern Woodland Métis ✓



OFFICE OF THE PREMIER
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
B3J 2T3

October 14, 2010

Mr. Zach Churchill
MLA Yarmouth
C/o Liberal Caucus Office
Suite 1402
5151 George Street
Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

FAX *Zach Churchill* *John Mail*

John Mail

DATE: _____

Dear Mr. Churchill:

Thank you for your letter of October 12, 2010, requesting a meeting with Premier Dexter on behalf of Mary Lou Parker.

All meetings are reviewed by the Premier's scheduling committee. A member of the Premier's scheduling committee will be in contact with you as soon as this request has been reviewed and a decision has been made.

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Correspondence Unit
Office of the Premier

Reference # 101310002



THE PREMIER
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
B3J 2T3

October 29, 2010

Zach Churchill
MLA, Yarmouth
Liberal Caucus Office
5151 George Street, Suite 1402
Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

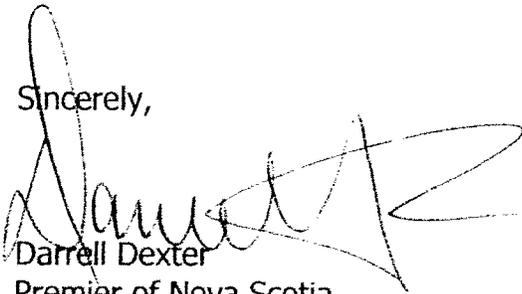
Dear Mr. Churchill:

Thank you for your letter of October 12, 2010, regarding the Eastern Woodland Métis.

Regrettably, I am unable to meet with this group until such time as the legal proceedings regarding Métis status in Nova Scotia are resolved.

If Ms. Parker would like to meet with staff of the Office of Aboriginal Affairs, she can contact Ernest Walker, Director of Policy, at (902) 424-4931.

Sincerely,



Darrell Dexter
Premier of Nova Scotia

c: Mary Lou Parker, Chief, Eastern Woodland Métis ✓