



## MESSAGE FROM 'CHIEF' MARY LOU PARKER

Greetings!

I apologize for the delay in writing this newsletter but I have lost my son since our last letter and I have been coming to grips with that.

We now number in excess of 20,000 members and we wish to thank you all for your trust and confidence in our Grand Council and myself for all these years.

We need to make ourselves more visible here in N.S. We WILL win! There are many members leaving other Metis organizations in N.S. and joining us. You are all more welcome. Our Chief Captain of the Hunt Blair McCauley keeps trying to get our hunting and fishing rights in motion. We are, and have been facing much discrimination here in the Atlantic Provinces from all levels of Government. In the Federal Budget the Metis of Maritimes is not even mentioned. I quote Prime Minister Trudeau; "No relationship is more important to me and to Canada than the one with First Nations, The Metis Nation and Inuit" (what are we in the Atlantic Provinces, Aliens?)

I am including in this newsletter, pages 1 & 2 of the Budget 2016; Chapter 3, a

better future for Indigenous Peoples. We are recognized by the Dept. of Indigenous Affairs and Human Rights in Nova Scotia. Why not the Government? We are being brushed off once again by those who are in power.

Many of our members are being helped with post-education and our card is being used at SOME border crossings. We had a very informative meeting with our M.P. Colin Fraser on March 17, 2016. We are hoping to set up meetings with our Chief Negotiator Charles Crosby and Government officials in Ottawa. So far it looks positive. We will keep you all informed as to when this will be.

I will be contacting ALL media in Canada; TV, radio, and newspapers. Our story must be told. They cannot keep up this discrimination. Metis in the Maritimes are never included in any aspect of the Government.

When Champlain landed in Annapolis Royal in 1604, he noticed that there were Metis here (our ancestors). Must history be rewritten to satisfy the bureaucrats? We know who we are. We are Canadian Metis/Aboriginals. We were here even before there was a Canada!

*(Continue Next Page)*

We are planning a peaceful demonstration for some time in May, and all those interested in attending please call your Chiefs or call me at 1-902-742-9679. At this demonstration we will be interviewed by the Coast Newspaper.

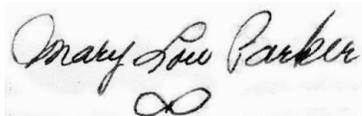
On a lighter note...

We are planning a Gathering (Pow wow) on June 17, 18, and 19 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Yarmouth Nova Scotia to celebrate Aboriginal day. There is no cost for this and we will be open to the public. There will be drumming, smudging ceremonies, & storytelling, as well as concession tables, a 50/50 draw, raffles and much, much more.

Special guest is Colin Fraser our M.P. for Yarmouth and County. Captain of the Hunt Blair McCauley will be speaking on hunting and fishing and preservation of our forests. Please register early so we can plan our days activities.

For those who wish to stay for the 3 days, Rodd's Grand Hotel is giving us special rates for this occasion. We have received a small grant to help us with this celebration.

Till next time,  
Grand Chief  
Mary Lou Parker W.O.D



## NATION NEWS!

The Métis and non-status Indians are "Indians" within the meaning of Canada's 1867 Constitution, the Supreme Court of Canada has said in a unanimous decision on April 14. Stay tune on what this mean for our Nation and our People.



Painting by Raven Davis

## MEMBERSHIP FEES...

Please remember, annual membership fees are \$30.00 for existing members of EWMNNS. We have attached the "Renewal" form to this newsletter and ask all Nation members to keep the membership up-to-date.

I you have any questions call the office at 1-902-742-3304.





**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 area.

Annual membership dues are \$30.00 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)

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

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: [ewmnns02@yahoo.com](mailto:ewmnns02@yahoo.com)

***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.***

Payment: We accept certified cheque or money order. Sending cash is at your own risk!!

Thank you for bring your membership up to date!

The following is an excerpt from the Government of Canada's Budget 2016 announcement:

## Chapter 3- A Better Future for Indigenous Peoples

### Introduction

Budget 2016 advances the Government's objective to renew the relationship with Indigenous peoples by making real progress on the issues most important to Indigenous people. Too many generations of Indigenous peoples have suffered from the neglect and failed policies of the federal government. There should be no reason preventing an Indigenous child from having the same hopes and aspirations as any other child in Canada, or from having the opportunities to achieve them. Economically, the arguments are sound. Indigenous peoples represent the fastest-growing segment of the Canadian population and are an important part of Canada's economic prosperity. The unprecedented investments in Indigenous peoples proposed in Budget 2016 will help us to turn the page and begin a new chapter in the relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples. All Canadians will benefit as a result.

*...no relationship is more important to me and to Canada than the one with First Nations, the Metis Nation, and Inuit.*

*- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau  
Remarks to the Assembly of First Nations  
Special Chiefs Assembly  
December 8, 2015*

The relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples is vital. Yet First Nations, the Metis Nation and Inuit do not enjoy the same quality of life as other people in Canada. Intergenerational poverty harms families and has costs for the Canadian economy. The Government is committed to working in partnership with Indigenous peoples to break down the barriers that have for too long held back individuals and communities

from reaching their full potential to contribute to and participate in Canada's prosperity. To support our shared economic interests and to advance the process of reconciliation, this Government proposes an unprecedented level of investment to support Indigenous communities and the aspirations of Indigenous peoples. The proposed investments, including in on reserve education and infrastructure, begin to address some of the root causes of poverty, promote opportunity and inclusive growth, and help to lay the foundation for growth in Indigenous communities. This will benefit the broader Canadian economy. Budget 2016 proposes to invest 8.4 billion dollars over five years, beginning in 2016-2017, to improve the socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples and their communities and bring about transformational change. This represents a significant increase over the investments that would have been made under the Kelowna Accord. The unprecedented scale of this investment underscores the Government's intent to renew the relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples. The proposed investments in education, infrastructure, training and other programs will directly contribute to a better quality of life for Indigenous peoples and a stronger, more unified, and prosperous Canada.

Government of Canada – 3/27/2016  
Source: <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2016/docs/plan/ch3-en.html>