



*Happy new year to all!*

## MESSAGE FROM 'CHIEF' MARY LOU PARKER

First, I would like to thank all who sent cards, made phone calls and kept me in your prayers during my stay in the hospital. I am well on the road to recovery and am gaining strength each day.

Lots of good happened to our Nation in 2012!

The most important one being that on December 5, 2012, EWMNNS was invited by the Aboriginal Senate Committee in Ottawa to attend and testify at the 64th Standing Committee on the "Collective Identity" of all Metis People in Atlantic Canada. As I was unable to attend this session, our Government Liaison in Ottawa (Jerome Downey) represented our Nation. Please be sure to check our website for more information on his report.

In addition, I was humbled to be included in the Heritage Registry of Who's Who for the years 2012/2013. Also in 2012, the International Women's Leadership Association selected me for contribution to family career and community for outstanding leadership.

As a result of our session in Ottawa, we now will restructure our Nation for the upcoming events that may occur within our Nation. Members who wish to benefit from this events MUST be members who are in good standing within the Nation (Dues up to date)

On the topic of dues, please note that as of September 9, 2012 first-time membership dues were increased to \$50.00. Annual dues for members remain at \$20.00 and are due at the end of December of each year. Those who joined after the end of September do not have to pay dues until the following year.

Remember that the VERY FIRST Metis were the children of European fishermen and native women along the Atlantic Coast of Canada.



Above, Jerome Downey at work in Ottawa

For more on Jerome Downey, visit his website at [www.jeromedowney.ca](http://www.jeromedowney.ca)

## THE SASH

The sash was firmly established in Eastern Woodland Indian tradition and was introduced as an article of clothing. The Metis share the sash with two other groups who also claim it as a symbol of nationhood and cultural distinction. It was also worn by Eastern Woodland Indians as a sign of office in the 19th Century.



Above, Metis and fiddler, Gaetan Serré, wearing his sash.

We've come a long way since our inception in 2000. We started out with a membership of five (5) and here we are in 2013 with well over 11,000 members and still growing. We welcome everyone to sit under our tree of life. Our cards are now being recognized at a great many places. We have some education in place also. We have received grants from both the Federal and Provincial Governments. And the list goes on...

We are now a "Registered Established Metis Organization". The CMA at the bottom of our cards stands for "Canadian Metis Allegiance". The number with it is our Federal number.

This year, we will be submitting an application to the Governments for a large grant to teach culture, genealogy, heritage, etc. We also want to be able to give out bursaries and scholarships to those of our Nation who want to learn.

EWMNNS is forming a new Circle in the Halifax area with Barry Marchand as the leader, the circle will be known as "Spirit of the Buffalo".

There will be another newsletter out in the Spring to keep you up-to-date on our progress at home and in Ottawa.

In closing, I wish Peace to all.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Please remember, annual membership fees are \$20.00 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.

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

*Chi Miiguich  
(Grand 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 area.

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)

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: [contact@easternwoodlandmetisnation.ca](mailto:contact@easternwoodlandmetisnation.ca)

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

Thank you for bring your membership up to date!