

Resolutions of the MNC General Assembly on Citizenship and Boundaries

National Definition of Métis Unanimously Adopted by the 2002 General Assembly of the Métis National Council:

Métis means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is of historic Métis Nation ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples and is accepted by the Métis Nation.

“Historic Métis Nation” means the Aboriginal people then known as Métis or Half-Breeds who resided in the Historic Métis Nation Homeland.

“Historic Métis Nation Homeland” means the area of land in west central North America used and occupied as the traditional territory of the Métis or Half-Breeds as they were then known.

“Métis Nation” means the Aboriginal people descended from the Historic Métis Nation, which is now comprised of all Métis Nation citizens and is one of the “Aboriginal peoples of Canada” within s.35 of the Constitution Act of 1982.

“Distinct from other Aboriginal peoples” means distinct for cultural and nationhood purposes.

Métis Nation Homeland Resolution 2013:

WHEREAS the Métis emerged as a distinct Aboriginal people in what was then known as the historic Northwest.

AND WHEREAS there is only one Métis Nation.

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada in the Cunningham case acknowledged that the Métis “mainly emerged in the prairies in the provinces which are now Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta”.

AND WHEREAS legal counsel in harvesting rights litigation have consistently argued that the Métis homeland is specific to the Northwest.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this General Assembly re-affirms that there is only one Métis Nation, and that the geographic homeland of the Métis Nation is the historic Northwest which entered into confederation in 1870 through the negotiations of the Métis Provisional Government led by President Louis Riel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the term “west central North America” in the 2002 definition of Métis means the “historic Northwest”

Métis Nation Homeland Map Resolution 2018

WHEREAS the Métis National Council has clearly and consistently defined the Métis Nation and its Homeland as the distinct Indigenous people and nation that emerged in the late 18th century with its own culture, language and political consciousness, in that part of the historic Northwest encompassing today's Prairie Provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta), and contiguous regions of north-eastern British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, northwestern Ontario and the northern United States;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the General Assembly confirms the map below of the Homeland of the historic Métis Nation:



Métis Nation of Ontario Probation Resolution 2018

WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) was admitted to MNC in 1994 with a clear understanding that registration of its membership would be restricted to those Métis from the historic Métis Nation homeland i.e. those from Métis communities in that part of northwestern Ontario contiguous to Manitoba and Métis from the prairies who had moved to Ontario.

WHEREAS, the MNO has failed to apply the citizenship criteria of the historic Métis Nation adopted by the General Assembly in 2002 (National Definition);

WHEREAS the MNO has consistently ignored and been in breach of MNC General Assembly resolutions on citizenship and grandfathering;

WHEREAS the MNO has attempted to extend the boundaries of the historic Métis Nation homeland without the consent of MNC and its other Governing Members;

WHEREAS there is a need to correct a longstanding abuse of our citizenship system while at the same time ensure that historic Métis Nation citizens in Ontario will continue to be represented within the national government institutions of the Métis Nation;

WHEREAS the President has recommended the suspension of the MNO from the governance institutions of the Métis Nation, including the General Assembly and the Board of Governors;

WHEREAS the General Assembly agrees with the suspension of the MNO;

WHEREAS the General Assembly is prepared to entertain a period before the suspension becomes effective;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the members of the MNC General Assembly exercised their inherent authority and place the MNO on probation for one year while it meets the conditions listed below failing which the General Assembly will revisit this matter at the conclusion of the probation period and decide on further action.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following condition must be met before lifting the probation decision:

- That all MNO members must meet the criteria for citizenship in the Métis Nation set out in the 2002 General Assembly citizenship resolution (National Definition) to be eligible for enrolment and are connected to the historic Métis Nation homeland as set out in the homeland map;
- That the MNO must abide by the 2004 Métis Nation directive providing that all members shall re-register under the 2002 criteria with no grandfathering-in of members;
- That a committee of the MNC Board of Governors shall be established to organize a registry review of all MNO members to ensure the above two conditions are met, as well as provide general oversight; and
- That a panel of registrars from the western Governing Members working under the direction of the above committee shall conduct the registry review of existing MNO members and will ensure that all future citizenship applications shall abide by the 2002 criteria.

