



Métis Nation of Greater Victoria Membership Information & Application Process

1. Definition of Métis

As Adopted at the MNC's 18th AGA in Edmonton, AB on September 27th – 28th, 2002

THE MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL defines a person as Métis if the individual meets the following criteria:

- self-identifies as Métis
- is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry
- is distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples, and
- is accepted by the Métis Nation

2. Definition of Métis Terms

THE MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL provides the following definitions for terms that describe and define a person as Métis:

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

2.2 "**Historic Métis Nation**" means the Aboriginal people then known as Métis or Half-breeds who resided in the Historic Métis Nation Homeland

2.3 "**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.

2.4 "**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 the meaning of Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

2.5 "**Distinct from other Aboriginal peoples**" means distinct for cultural and nationhood purposes.

3. Métis Nation Membership Criteria

3.1 The Métis Nation is distinct among Aboriginal peoples in Canada. Its Aboriginal treaty rights are recognized and affirmed in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

3.2 Métis membership may be granted and a Métis Nation of Greater Victoria Membership Card is issued only to individuals who supply genealogical documentation and proof of Métis ancestry as defined by the MNC (see left).

3.3 The Métis Nation of Greater Victoria is recognized by the Métis Nation of BC (MNBC) and the Métis National Council (MNC) as the only Métis local in the Capital Regional District authorized to issue local membership cards under the guidelines of the MNBC, with whom we have signed a community governance charter.

3.4 The Métis Nation of Greater Victoria represents the interests of Métis people in one of six geographic areas in the province's Vancouver Island Region. This geographic area includes Greater Victoria, the Gulf Islands, the West Shore Communities and the territory from Port Renfrew to the Saanich Peninsula.

4. Genealogical & Application Process

To process your application for Métis Nation Membership, the following information is required to support the genealogical research and begin the registry process.

4.1 Your family history - information must date back to 1901 (*preferably earlier if possible*).

4.2 Your full name, date and place of birth

a. The full names, dates and places of birth for both your parents (maiden names are always used for female family members)

b. The full names, dates and places of birth for your grandparents (both your mother's and father's – remember to use maiden names for female family members)

c. The full names, dates and places of birth for your great grandparents (as many as are known)

d. If you can provide additional generations please do so along with any siblings of your ancestors. Many references may only identify a few children to a couple and the more names that are known the easier the task becomes.

4.3 As much of the following information for the people listed above in 4.2:

a. Birth - when & where (*birth certificates*)

b. Marriage - when & where (*marriage certificate*)

c. Death - when & where (*death certificate, obituary*)

4.4 Other information that you think is relevant.

5. Resources Available to Complete Genealogical Research

5.1 Federal government census records up to 1901. These records are searchable by census district and then sub-district. The names are not in alphabetical order. To use census records it is useful to know your ancestor's place of residence at the time the census was taken. It is also useful to know the names of any of your ancestor's siblings to isolate the family being researched.

The 1901 Census web site is located at www.archives.ca/02/02012202_e.html

1906 Census is

www.afhs.ab.ca/data/census/1906/

1911 Census is www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/census-1911/index-e.html

1901 and 1906 Census are searchable alphabetically at the following sites:

1901 Automated Census at

automatedgenealogy.com/census/cache/index.html

1906 Automated Census (note that it is only available for the Prairie Provinces)

automatedgenealogy.com/census06/index.html

1911 Census is available through Ancestry.ca and requires a subscription. The 1916 Census is becoming available but also by subscription.

5.2 **Scrip applications** are available from the National Archives (NA) in Ottawa. Summaries of each application are available from the NA Web Site and can be accessed from your home computer. The NA database is searchable by surname, full name of the individual, or place of residence or birth. The results can easily be downloaded to your home computer. The web site is http://www.archives.ca/02/02010502_e.html

5.3 Church and parish records.

5.4 Voyageur contracts, service records, biographies and other documents available from the Hudson's Bay Company archives located in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Some information is on microfilm and can be obtained through interlibrary loan. The HBC Archives is at

www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/index.html

The HBC Archives have listed many of the servants contracts at the following

www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/biographical/index.html

These are searchable by name and are listed alphabetically.

5.5 National and Provincial Archives for birth, marriage and death records. The BC Archives is at

a. BC Archives

www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/textual/governmt/vstats/v_events.htm

b. Saskatchewan Archives

www.isc.ca/VitalStatistics/Genealogy/vsgs_srch.aspx

c. Manitoba Archives

vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php

d. Alberta Archives are not available for search.

5.6 Public libraries for books on the fur trade and early western settlement, e.g.: the Dictionary of Canadian Biography – 15 Volumes, now available for search at www.biographi.ca/index-e.html and books published by the Hudson's Bay Record Society and Champlain Society

6. Application Process & Payment

6.1 Complete and sign the Métis Nation Membership application form (*on page 4*). Along with the application form you must also include:

- Two photographs. The photographs must be no larger than 3 x 3 cm in a 'photo booth' type of photograph is best. The photographs may be black & white or colour.
- A \$40 application processing fee for each Métis Nation Membership application form that is submitted. Make cheques payable to:
THE MÉTIS NATION OF GREATER VICTORIA.
- Genealogical detail to support your application for membership and to complete a thorough search of records filed prior to the 1901 Census.

6.2 Deliver completed application to the office, or mail application forms along with photographs, cheque, and genealogical information to:

MÉTIS NATION OF GREATER VICTORIA

c/o Victoria Native Friendship Centre

231 Regina Ave

Victoria, BC V8Z 1J6

6.3 Allow 6 - 10 weeks to process applications and to arrange a suitable date to pick-up your Métis Nation of Greater Victoria Membership card at a community event or meeting.

Important application notes:

NSF cheques will result in an additional \$30 payment before a membership card can be issued

Please provide copies of official documents and photographs only. Retain originals in your records.



Authority to issue Métis Nation of Greater Victoria membership cards

The Métis Nation of Greater Victoria is recognized by the Métis Nation of BC and the Métis National Council as the only Métis organization in the Greater Victoria area (*including the Gulf Islands, the West Shore Communities and the territory from Port Renfrew to the Saanich Peninsula*) authorized to issue Métis Nation of Greater Victoria membership cards; certify membership in a recognized Métis “local”, and verify community acceptance. The Métis Nation of Greater Victoria is approved by the Métis Nation of BC (MNBC) to issue Métis membership cards at the local level – distinguishing it from organizations which may merely issue membership without documentation of Métis ancestry as set out by the MNC National definition.

Provincial Citizenship application

Membership in the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria fulfills the requirement for community acceptance which is required for Provincial Citizenship applications. Being a member of MNGV certifies that you are a registered member of a recognized Métis Local in the province of BC.

Residence Clause

Full membership is granted to applicants who have been a resident of BC for a minimum of 6 months.

Recognized Métis membership cards

Applicants must relinquish Métis membership cards issued by other organizations before receiving a membership card from the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria.

Voting Rights

Métis Nation of Greater Victoria members must hold membership for at least 3 months and be ‘in good standing’ before voting rights can be granted. The MNGV determines the guidelines for ‘a member in good standing’.

Métis Nation of Greater Victoria MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



First Name _____ Middle Name _____ Last Name _____

Place of Birth City _____ Province _____ Country _____

Sex _____ Height _____ *ft* _____ *in* Weight _____ *lbs* Eye Colour _____

Date of Birth *Month/Day/Year* _____ Are you a Veteran? Yes No

Address _____ Postal Code _____ City _____

Province _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

LIST THE NAME(S) AND DATE(S) OF BIRTH (Month/Day/Year) FOR ALL CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE 18.

1. Name _____ Date of Birth *Month/Day/Year* _____
2. Name _____ Date of Birth *Month/Day/Year* _____
3. Name _____ Date of Birth *Month/Day/Year* _____
4. Name _____ Date of Birth *Month/Day/Year* _____
5. Name _____ Date of Birth *Month/Day/Year* _____

I _____
(Print Name)

Authorize the MÉTIS NATION OF GREATER VICTORIA to pass my application form and submitted genealogical information to Stanley S. Hulme or another Family Researcher for related genealogical research and validation purposes. I accept that my name and the name of my ancestors may be used on the Internet to research my ancestry for purposes of establishing Métis ancestry and eligibility for membership.

Signature **X** _____

Date _____

I _____
(Print Name in Full)

of _____
(Print Address)

In the province of British Columbia, DO HEREBY DECLARE that I am of Métis ancestry and that I identify myself as a Métis person in accordance with the MNC definition of September 27, 2002.

Signature **X** _____

Date _____

Signature Of Witness _____

Print Name of

Witness _____