



Metis Nation
Saskatchewan

Eastern Region III

Regional Council Report

**Annual General Assembly
June 9, 2019**

Submitted by
Marg Friesen
Eastern Region III Regional Representative

Regional Council

NAME	LOCAL	POSITION HELD
Marg Friesen	ERIII	Regional Representative & Chairperson
Tracey Rogers	#103 Indian Head Sintaluta Wolseley	President
Shelly Kapell	# 182 Moose Mountain	President
Leebert Poitras	# 8 Lestock	President
Stewart Klyne	# 48 Lebret	President
Alma Desharme	# 135 Rocanville	President
Virginia LaCroix	# 6 Fort Qu'Appelle	President
Don Lafoy	# 87 Weyburn	President
Linda Sopp	# 25 Estevan	President

Governance



Eastern Region III is an active region with long standing locals with members from the south eastern part of the province.

ERIII welcomes Estevan Local #25 to the council. After years of inactivity there has been a consistent interest in Metis Nation Saskatchewan from citizens from this community.

All the locals within ERIII has met the necessary requirements of MN-S to remain as part of the legislative assembly and to have an active role in core governance.

ERIII hosted a Governance Workshop for governing members of the region and open to all citizens in February 2019. It was well attended, and we received information on the structure of MN-S and the difference of forming a government verses a operating a not for profit organization. There was helpful tools and resources in the package prepared and presented by Chief Operating Officer: Louise Simard.



ERIII hosted a MN-S housing strategy discussion for Metis citizens in April 2019. Minister Derek Langan provided information on process and funding for Metis housing allocation to MN-S.

Citizens of the region discussed gaps in housing programs, the opportunity for a Metis housing strategy that is reflective of the needs of the citizens of the region. Citizens identified 3 priority areas for housing:

1. Affordable, accessible housing for seniors and elders
2. Home repair assistance program for Metis homeowners
3. Housing for single parent or low-income parents.

Minister Langan informed the participants that the process for community engagement on housing is only starting. The process and funding projects will be determined at a later date.

ERIII focuses on sound business that is based on good governance, communications, economic efficiencies and best practices for operational and financial stability for regional operations.

ERIII Regional Council is strong and committed to the success of MN-S and the people we serve.

The Council members have diverse experiences and are focused on providing support and sound business practices. The Council members are also respected community members who embrace and foster leadership

qualities in their other community members. We make it a priority to understand the needs of the individuals and families we serve. We understand and recognize MN-S Metis Nation Legislative Assembly & the need for a strong connection to Metis Governance as paramount in supporting the ongoing work.

Accountability & Transparency

ERIII has regular council meetings to update our local governing members on activities, events and information with regards to local governance and governing activities of MN-S. All minutes are available to the membership upon request.



ERIII Regional Council attended the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly on April 12-14, 2019 in Regina. The format for the MNLA was different than previous years. There were discussion forums for the first 2 days on priority areas such as housing, health and constitutional reform. All the discussion forums will be presented to the MNLA for further community consultation in MN-S priority areas.

There was positive feedback on the format and the participants were able to provide information of community programs and services, suggestions for constitutional changes to MN-S legislation and address housing needs in communities and identify inequities in health care for Metis citizens.

Metis Registry & Citizenship

All locals maintain an active membership and are recruiting new members and are also encouraging members to apply for Metis citizenship. We are focused on increasing our citizenship to reflect the number Metis citizens in this region. This is a priority for the upcoming year.

ERIII has recently become an intake office for citizenship registry. We have an intake clerk fulltime for this purpose who can assist Metis citizens with the application process. All applications are currently processed in Saskatoon; however, the intake clerk can assist, take photos, provide information and answer questions for those who are applying for citizenship.

ERIII encourages locals to support the citizenship registry and promote the benefits of citizenship to all their members.

Reflections

ERIII has positioned itself to deliver on its mandate and contribute to Metis Nation Saskatchewan's vision of a strong commitment and secure tomorrow. I look forward to building on our accomplishments over the coming year.

In the spirit of reconciliation, I look forward to an exciting 2019-2020 year.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marg Friesen'.

Marg Friesen
Regional Representative
Eastern Region III
Metis Nation Saskatchewan