

# The *Riel* Scoop

MÉTIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

## *Looking* Ahead

UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES

### **FREE 2-DAY FINANCIAL WORKSHOPS:** **LIFT: Learning Indigenous Financial Teachings**

Two Workshops in January 2025

We are inviting **ALL Indigenous Women and 2-Spirited people** to join our **FREE LIFT Workshop!** It is a 2-day financial workshop to LIFT Your Future by Empowering Your Finances. Full of Indigenous teachings, prizes, and community.

The **LIFT Workshop (Learning  Indigenous Financial Teachings)** is Free Teachings that focus on:

- **Decolonizing Your Money**   
 **mindset**
- **Planning Your Personal**   
 **budgeting**
- **Debt Planning**
- **Navigating Credit**
- **Investing In Yourself**

The workshop will also have a local bank in attendance to discuss starting an account, a mental health professional as we navigate these difficult topics, educational support, local success speakers, and more!

LEARNING  
INDIGENOUS  
FINANCIAL  
TEACHINGS



iPad Draw  
& Daily  
Prizes

## LIFT Your Future

Empower Your Finances

**Free 2-Day**

Inviting ALL Indigenous Women and 2-Spirited

**Financial Workshop**

**Made by Indigenous people  
for Indigenous people**

There will be **LOTS OF PRIZES**  
even a **DRAW FOR AN IPAD**

to be drawn throughout the two days, and  
at the end of the event!

### FREE 2-Day Financial Workshop

Inviting ALL **Indigenous**  
Women and Two-Spirited

#### IN SLAVE LAKE

**DATE:** January 11 & 12  
**Saturday & Sunday** (Both)  
**TIME:** 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**PLACE:** Pioneers Drop-In Centre,  
208 4th Ave NE, Slave Lake

**REGISTER FOR FREE TODAY!**

Made by Indigenous people  
for Indigenous people

iPad Draw  
& Daily  
Prizes



Learn to **Decolonize Your Money Mindset**, Debt & Credit, **Personal Budgeting**, & Investing In Yourself.  
LIFT Your Future by Empowering Your Finances

### FREE 2-Day Financial Workshop

Inviting ALL **Indigenous**  
Women and Two-Spirited

#### IN HIGH PRAIRIE

**DATE:** January 25 & 26  
**Saturday & Sunday** (Both)  
**TIME:** 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**PLACE:** To be determined,  
in High Prairie

**REGISTER FOR FREE TODAY!**

Made by Indigenous people  
for Indigenous people

iPad Draw  
& Daily  
Prizes



Learn to **Decolonize Your Money Mindset**, Debt & Credit, **Personal Budgeting**, & Investing In Yourself.  
LIFT Your Future by Empowering Your Finances

### SLAVE LAKE WORKSHOP

**Date:** January 11 & 12, 2025 Saturday  
& Sunday

**Time:** 9:00 am to 3:00 pm both days

**Where:** Pioneers Drop-In Centre, 208  
4th Ave NE, Slave Lake

**Cost: FREE:** Includes lunch, snacks &  
refreshments

Register for Slave  
Lake

### HIGH PRAIRIE WORKSHOP

**Date:** January 25 & 26, 2025 Saturday  
& Sunday

**Time:** 9:00 am to 3:00 pm both days

**Where:** To be determined in High  
Prairie

**Cost: FREE:** Includes lunch, snacks &  
refreshments

Register for High  
Prairie

#### ELIGIBILITY:

- Must be an Indigenous woman or

Indigenous 2-Spirited person to attend. \*Indigenous is considered **self-declared** First Nation, Metis, or Inuit\* Please note that your Indigenous and gender status does not require verification as it is self-declared ONLY

**IMPORTANT INFO TO NOTE:**

- Participants must be in attendance at the time of drawing to win any prize, or they will be drawn again
- This workshop is for those in and around the community - there will be No Compensation for travel and No Accommodations.

**BROUGHT TO YOU IN PARTNERSHIP BY:**

LIFT has been made possible by our wonderful partners:

- Community Futures Lesser Slave Lake Region (CFLSLR)
- Government of Alberta
- Slave Lake Friendship Centre
- Slave Lake Metis Local #19
- Metis District 21



**FREE 2-Day Financial Workshop**

Register for **FREE Today**. Multiple locations available on our website.

Learn to Decolonize Your Money Mindset, Personal Budgeting, Debt & Credit, Investing In Yourself, and LIFT Your Future by Empowering Your Finances!

SLAVE LAKE NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE | MÉTIS DISTRICT 21 Lesser Slave Lake | Slave Lake Métis Local #19

LIFT LEARNING HORIZONS FINANCIAL TEACHERS | Community FUTURES | Alberta

**REGISTER FOR FREE TODAY!**  
**Daily Prizes Drawn and Enter to Win an iPad!**  
\*Must be in attendance to win any prizes or they will be drawn again.

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT SLAVE LAKE LOCAL #19

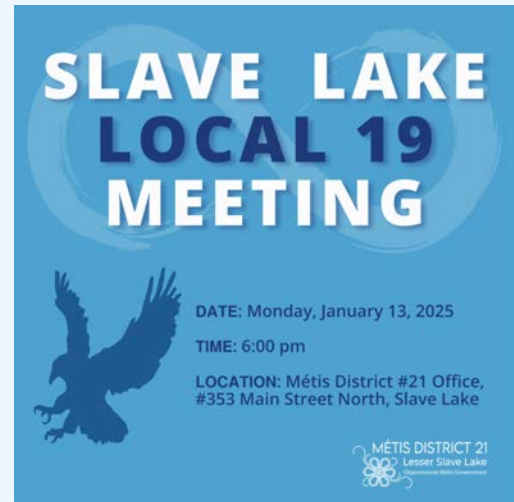
Monday, January 13, 2025

The Slave Lake Local #19 Métis will host a regular meeting on Monday, January 13, 2025. The details of the meeting are located below. □ Please note that this meeting is **not** a part of the Métis District #21, but is organized and run by the Slave Lake Local #19 Métis. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Shane Combs, President of the Slave Lake Local #19, at 780-849-9312.

**DATE:** Monday, January 13, 2025

**TIME:** 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Métis District #21 Office, #353 Main Street N



**SLAVE LAKE LOCAL 19 MEETING**

DATE: Monday, January 13, 2025  
TIME: 6:00 pm  
LOCATION: Métis District #21 Office, #353 Main Street North, Slave Lake

MÉTIS DISTRICT 21 Lesser Slave Lake

## JANUARY OFFICE CLOSURE

January 16 to January 21, 2025

\* The Métis District 21 office will have limited services and openings from January 16 to 21, 2025. Our office will be open only in the afternoons during this time from 1:00 to 4:00 pm with limited services offered. We will return to regular service hours on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.





## START A BUSINESS: OPEN A DAY HOME

January 10, 2025

The Day Home Startup Pilot Program is offered by the Children & Family Services Team at the Otipemisiwak Métis Government. This program, connects wit Métis citizens interested in opening and operating licensed day homes in their communities, supporting them in navigating the day home licensing process, providing financial assistance with startup costs, and providing guidance in Métis cultural readiness through Métis Cultural Awareness training and resources.

If this program is of interest to you, sign up to attend one of our **information sessions** that are listed below. Both run via Zoom from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The application form will be posted on the MNA's social media on January 13, 2025.

- Friday, January 10, 2025
- Wednesday, January 22, 202

[Register for Information Session](#)



[Learn More](#)

## NAVIGATING FASD WEBINAR

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Join us for this eye-opening webinar about criminal justice and FASD. Long-time registered social worker Donna Kristiansen from the Willow Winds Support Network's In Reach program will explore the constantly evolving world of FASD and offer tips on how to support those with FASD who are navigating incarceration.

[Register Here](#)

**Navigating FASD Webinar**  
ONLINE

**The Path Ahead: Learning More about FASD and the Justice System**

Join us for this eye-opening webinar about criminal justice and FASD. Long-time registered social worker Donna Kristiansen from the Willow Winds Support Network's In Reach Program will explore the constantly evolving world of FASD and offer tips on how to support those with FASD who are navigating incarceration.

Tuesday, January 28, 2025  
6:00pm - 7:00pm  
Zoom

FASD Bridging Connections  
Otipemisiwak Métis Government  
Children and Family Services  
780-435-2200  
1-877-664-6622

# Metis Youth & Children

## EXPLORING METIS CULTURE: CULTURE CARDS

### Explore Métis Culture Together!

The Otipemisiwak Métis Government's Children and Family Services Department is thrilled to announce the launch of the Métis Culture Card Collection!

This starter bundle includes:

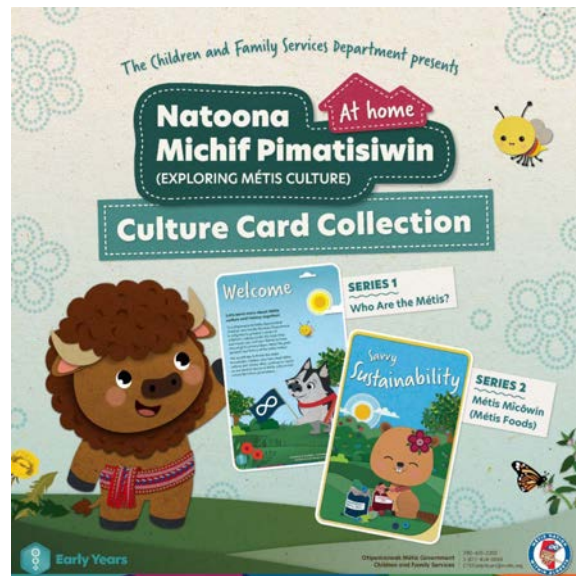
- Series 1: "Who Are the Métis?"
- Series 2: "Métis Mîcôwin (Foods)"

Perfect for early learners, these cards are a fun and engaging way to discover Métis culture, history, and traditions as a family.

### Eligibility:

- Reside in Alberta
- Be the legal guardian of a child aged 0–11
- Either the parent/guardian or child must be a registered Otipemisiwak Métis Government citizen

Complete the application process by clicking the button to the right and bring Métis culture to life in your home!



[Apply Here](#)

## FROSTY REELS: FAMILY CAMP

Applications Open January 10, 2025 at 10:00 am

**Frosty Reels Camps are back this February!** Bundle up and join us for an unforgettable experience on the ice, reeling in fish and making memories.

The Otipemisiwak Metis Government's Children and Family Services (CFS) is excited to announce the Winter 2025 dates for the Frosty Reels Family Camp at Camp Maskepetoon, on Pigeon Lake. **Applications open January 10, 2025 at 10:00 am** on the MNA website and social media channels.

Eligible families will be selected on a first-come first-serve basis, and must be residents of Alberta, Citizens of The Otipemisiwak Metis Government/MNA with at least one attending child aged 17 or younger.



For more information on this meaningful opportunity, contact the Early Years team at [CFSEarlyYears@metis.org](mailto:CFSEarlyYears@metis.org)

# Digital Community

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## CONNECTION

### MÉTIS CITIZEN SUCCESS STORY FROM OUR DISTRICT

**Celebrating Brenda Genaille:** A Metis Leader In Our District

Let's take a moment to celebrate the incredible Brenda Genaille, a true powerhouse and integral part of our Métis District 21 team!

Our team came together and decided we wanted to nominate and truly reflect on this wonderful woman ☺

Brenda, currently serving as a Senior Transition Coordinator with the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, has been a driving force for progress and positive change since joining the District 21 office in 2021. In her



three different roles, including her time as the Executive Director, Brenda's passion for helping people has shone through in everything she does.

# BRENDA GENAILLE

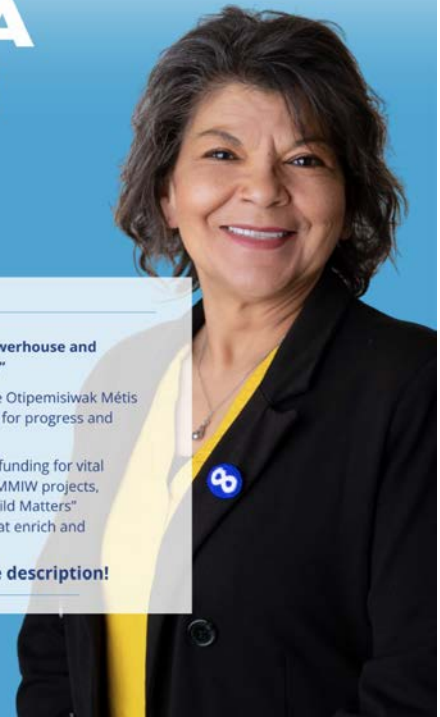
Métis Citizen Success  
Story from District #21



"The incredible Brenda Genaille, a true powerhouse and integral part of our Métis District 21 team!"

- ★ As a Senior Transition Coordinator with the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, she has been a driving force for progress and positive change
- ★ Brenda has been instrumental in securing funding for vital programs such as Covid relief initiatives, MMIW projects, Kimiyow Machion, the beautiful "Every Child Matters" Monument, and numerous workshops that enrich and strengthen our community.

[Read the whole success story in the description!](#)



□ Let's take a moment to celebrate the incredible Brenda Genaille, a true powerhouse and integral part of our Métis District 21 team! □

Our team came together and decided we wanted to nominate and truly reflect on this wonderful woman ☺

Brenda, currently serving as a Senior Transition Coordinator with the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, has been a driving force for progress and positive change since joining the District 21 office in 2021. In her three different roles, including her time as the Executive Director, Brenda's passion for helping people has shone through in everything she does.

One of her proudest achievements with District 21? The heartfelt labor of love in erecting the "**Every Child Matters**" monument at Slave Lake Town Hall □ - a beautiful symbol of healing and remembrance.

Brenda has also been instrumental in securing funding for vital programs such as Covid relief initiatives, MMIW projects, Ki Miyo Machion, and numerous workshops that enrich and strengthen our community. She was the driving force during this transition process to the new Otipemisiwak Metis Government and the transition from Region 5 to District 21.

Beyond her work, Brenda is a proud mother of three and kokum to three wonderful boys—her most cherished role. As the second youngest of 11 children, she carries a deep connection to her Métis roots, passing down knowledge from her parents and elders.

When she's not working hard for our community, Brenda enjoys hunting, fishing, traveling, and spending quality time with friends and family.

Thank you, Brenda, for your dedication, compassion, and tireless work. Our community is stronger because of you! □

**NOMINATE A DISTRICT'S CITIZEN AS A SUCCESS STORY**

Do you know someone in our community who has a success story worth sharing? We want to hear about it! Whether it's a personal achievement, a career milestone, or a positive impact on our community, we want to celebrate the successes of our Métis citizens.

**Nominate or recommend someone for**

**our Métis Success Stories feature by**

**filling out the form linked below.**

Share their inspiring journey with us! Share their inspiring journey with us!

[Click here to nominate someone, a team, or a business!](#)

We want to hear

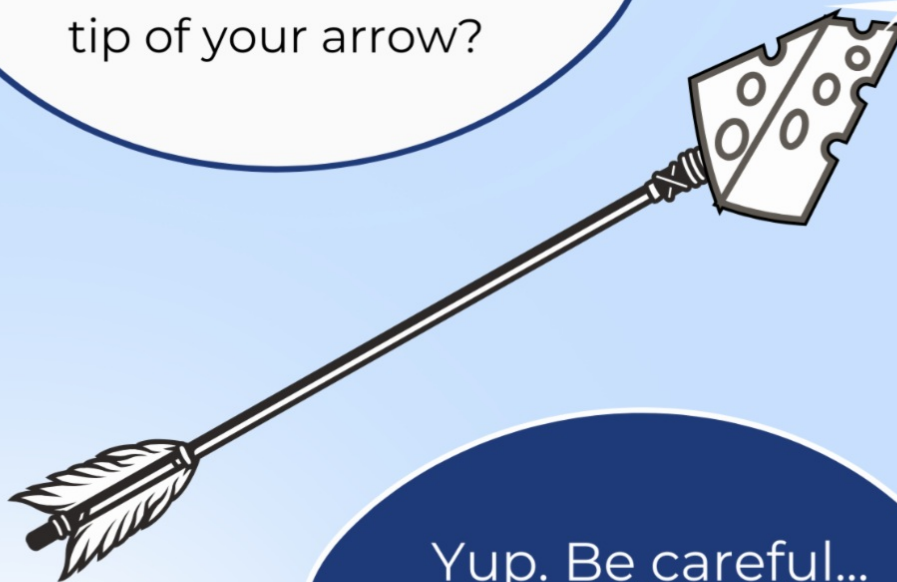
**SUCCESS STORIES  
IN OUR DISTRICT**

**Nominate them in our form!**



**NOMINATE A SUCCESS**

Did you just put a piece of cheese on the tip of your arrow?



Yup. Be careful...  
it's sharp cheddar.





## METIS MIX-UP: ITALIAN WEDDING SOUP

Are you ready to mix it up Métis style? Follow along in Episode 2 of our YouTube show, Métis Mix-up, and learn how to Métis-ify a classic recipe!

In this video, join along with Kelsey as she makes Italian Wedding Soup—with a Métis twist! Click below to watch!



## Looking Back

LAST MONTH AT A GLANCE

### CITIZEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: A GREAT SUCCESS!

Saturday, November 09, 2024

Wow, what an unforgettable evening we had at our **Citizens' Christmas Party** on Saturday, December 14, 2024! **Over 200+ citizens** joined us for a night full of love, laughter, and community spirit. ☐ ☐ ☺

☐

#### ☐ HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENING:

- ☐ One amazing **Santa spreading joy**
- ☐ **Fantastic fiddling** paired with **fancy footwork**
- ☐ Youth **painted wooden spoons** with care



- Cookies were decorated with loads of sprinkles
- Over 70+ gifts for the kids**
- Gift cards & turkey/ham vouchers gifted to each family**
- Delicious food enjoyed by all
- 



We are so grateful to everyone who attended and made the night so special. A huge thank you to our volunteers and everyone who helped bring this event to life!




- 
- Check out your Santa photos by clicking the button to view them all! Thank you for making this celebration one to remember. We are already looking forward to next year's gathering!

[See All Event Photos](#)

[See All Santa Family Photos](#)

 [Share This Email](#)

 [Share This Email](#)

 [Share This Email](#)



# Metis Programs

METIS NATION OF ALBERTA



The images below are each a different program, service, or support for all Métis citizens from the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA). Click on the images below to **Learn More** about each one.



Adult Dental



Business



Support Groups



Mental Health



Medical Stay



Transportation



Quit Smoking



Recovery



Therapy



Training



Mental Health



Harvesting



Reconciliation



FASD



Environment



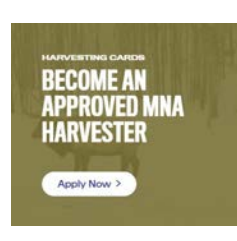
Housing



Climate



Apply Today



Apply Today



Education



Benevolence Fund



MNA Store

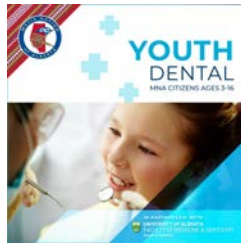


Culture



Financial

## PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR YOUTH ONLY



Adult Dental



Readers



Scholarships



Podcast



Activities



Free Courses



Metis Youth



Hunters



[Citizen Application](#) | [MNA](#) | [Programs + Services](#) | [Upcoming Events](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Métis District 21 Lesser Slave Lake | 353 Main Street NW | Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A1 CA

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