

## Honouring the Métis Nation, born of the pioneering spirit

### *City of Edmonton recognizes Métis Week*

The City of Edmonton and the Métis Nation of Alberta came together to recognize the contributions of the Métis people to the establishment and development of Edmonton.

"Edmonton's Métis population is a valued part of our great city's historical and cultural legacy. Their pioneering spirit helped establish Edmonton as a cultural and economic gathering place, and their influence helps make Edmonton the vibrant, prosperous city it is today," said Councillor Tony Caterina.

Councillor Caterina proclaimed November 9 to 16, 2014, Métis Week in Edmonton. The Métis flag was raised outside of City Hall, presided over by a Métis Veterans Honour Guard, and will fly until the end of the week in recognition of historic Métis leader, Louis Riel.

The celebration builds on the formal relationship between the City and the Métis Nation. In September 2013, the City of Edmonton and the Métis Nation of Alberta entered into a Memorandum of Shared Recognition and Cooperation. Both parties pledged to work closer together to increase opportunities for positive social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people living in Edmonton.

"There are so many positive things that members of the Métis Nation are doing in, and for, Edmonton and Alberta. Métis Week is a chance to showcase our successes, honour our past, celebrate our accomplishments, and plan for the future generations of proud Métis. I am pleased to have the City standing side-by-side with us in those efforts," said Audrey Poitras, President of the Métis Nation of Alberta.

"Métis Week is an important time in the Métis calendar, especially Louis Riel day on November 16," said Cecil Bellrose, President, Region 4, Métis Nation of Alberta. "A host of events is planned throughout the week, and we look forward to celebrating them with our fellow Edmontonians."

On Wednesday, November 12, the High Level Bridge will be lit blue and white in honour of Edmonton's Métis population.

The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) was created in 1928 to serve as an advocate on behalf of and meet the needs and aspirations of Métis people in Alberta.

#### **For more information:**

Visit [albertametis.com](http://albertametis.com) or [edmonton.ca/metisweek](http://edmonton.ca/metisweek)

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