



**Improving the Quality of Life of
Métis Cancer Patients, Survivors,
and their Families:
Increasing Opportunities for
Community Partnerships**

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Introduction: History of Métis

[10] The term “Métis” in s. 35 does not encompass all individuals with mixed Indian and European heritage; rather, it refers to distinctive peoples who, in addition to their mixed ancestry, developed their own customs, way of life, and recognizable group identity separate from their Indian or Inuit and European forebears.

(R v. Powley [2003] 2 S.C.R. 207)





Introductions

- The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) is the democratically- elected government structure for all Métis Albertans.





Cancer Care for Métis Albertans

Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) met with MNA citizens to discuss barriers to cancer screening participation for Métis Albertans:

- Métis are specifically excluded from accessing non-insured health benefits through the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNHIB);
- Majority of participants were required to leave their communities; &
- Driving, connecting to relevant supports, and finding affordable accommodations were all significant challenges.



MNA Health Committee

The MNA Health Committee is made up of regionally appointed representatives that advocate for the health needs of Métis Albertans in their respective regions.



Combatting Barriers: MNA Cancer Volunteer Transportation Program

The MNA, in collaboration with the *CANHelp* Working Group and the University of Alberta, will facilitate a volunteer-driven cancer transportation program targeting MNA citizens residing in northern rural communities.

It's More Than
Just a Ride.

Volunteer today for our
Appointment Assist Driving Program

The Métis Nation of Alberta is recruiting volunteer drivers to transport Métis citizens to and from cancer related appointments in Calgary and Edmonton*.

Volunteer Eligibility:

- ∞ 21 years of age or older
- ∞ Have at least 5 years of excellent driving experience
- ∞ Live in Athabasca, Boyle, Lac La Biche, Wood Buffalo, Fairview, Grande Prairie, High Level, Peace River, Valleyview, Edmonton and surrounding areas, or Calgary and surrounding areas

**Volunteers will be reimbursed for mileage, fuel, and accommodation.*

For more information or to apply to become a volunteer driver, please contact **Heather Curtis** (hcurtis@metis.org or 780-455-2200 Ext. 326)

[@ABMetis](https://www.facebook.com/ABMetis) [@Albertametis](https://www.instagram.com/Albertametis) [@Albertametis](https://www.twitter.com/Albertametis)
#100 - 11738 Kingsway Avenue | albertametis.com | (780) 455-2200



Campus Alberta Meeting

Attendees:

- CancerControl Alberta
- Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC)
- *CANHelp* Working Group (University of Alberta)
- Thrive Centre (University of Calgary)
- Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund



Meeting Outcomes

- Creation of multiple community partnerships:
 - University of Calgary
 - Ronald McDonald House Charities



Conclusions

- Connected to organizations who have been successful in recruiting, engaging, and retaining diverse groups of volunteers;
- Assisting new partners in ensuring programming and services are culturally-appropriate for Métis Albertans; &
- Additional guidance in recruiting and retaining volunteers for the upcoming MNA Cancer Volunteer Transportation Program.



Questions?

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