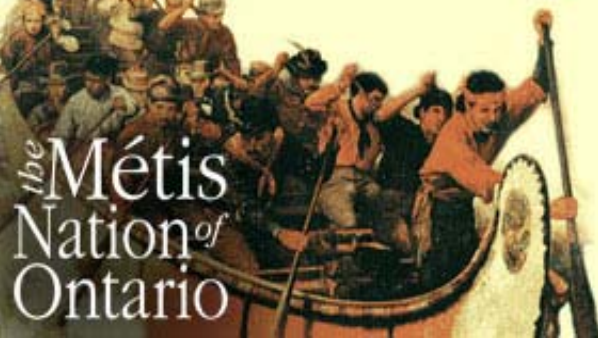




the Métis
Nation *of*
Ontario

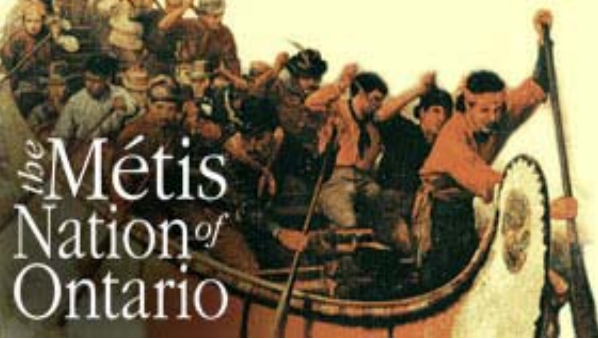
Métis 101



Background

Who are the Métis?

The Métis are a distinct Aboriginal people with a unique history, culture, language and territory that includes the waterways of Ontario, surrounds the Great Lakes and spans what was known as the historic Northwest.



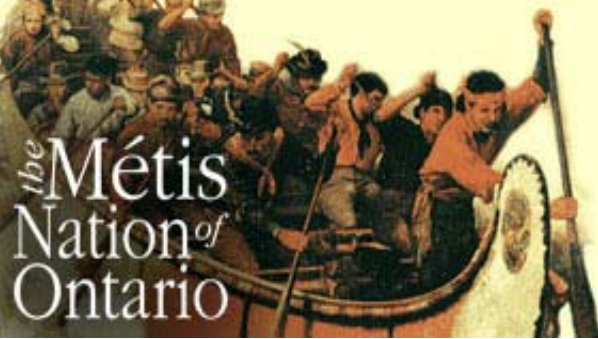
Background

National Métis Definition

"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.

Métis National Council

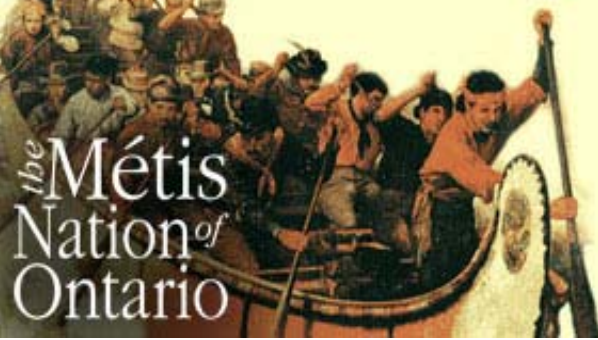
November 2002



Background

What is the Métis Nation?

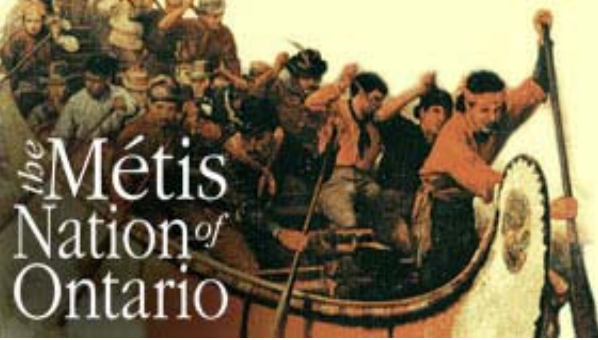
- The Métis Nation is comprised of descendants of people born of relations between Indian women and European men.
- The initial offspring of these unions were of mixed ancestry.
- The genesis of a new Aboriginal people called the Métis resulted from the subsequent intermarriage of these mixed ancestry individuals.



Background

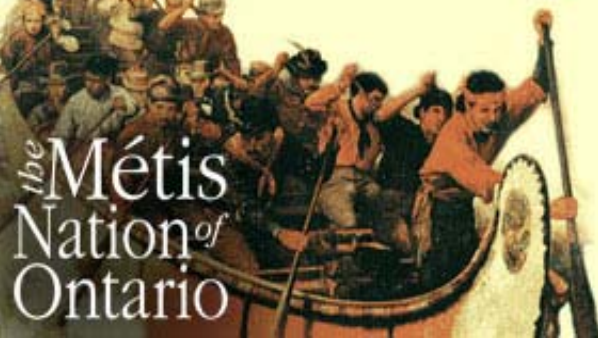
Where are the Métis?

- "Historic Métis Nation Homeland" refers to the territory in west central North America traditionally occupied and used by the Métis or Half-breeds as they were then known.
- Distinct Métis settlements emerged as an outgrowth of the fur trade, along freighting waterways and watersheds.
- In Ontario, these settlements were part of larger regional communities, interconnected by the highly mobile lifestyle of the Métis, the fur trade network, seasonal rounds, extensive kinship connections and a shared collective history and identity.



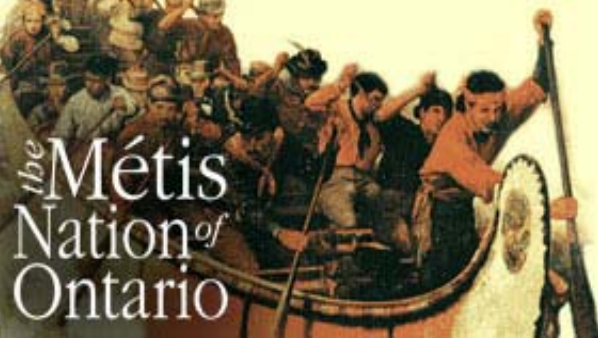
Citizenship

- The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) maintains the only recognized provincial Registry of Métis citizens in the province.
- Métis living in Ontario can make a citizenship application to the MNO.
- Applications are reviewed by an independent Registrar who authorizes citizenship when applicants meet the criteria set out in the National Definition for Métis, adopted at the Métis National Council's 18th General Assembly in 2002 and subsequently accepted by the MNO.
- As of January 2009, the MNO has received 19,000 adult applications. Over 15,000 adult applicants have been registered as citizens.
- Based on the latest census that averages 2.2 children per household, the MNO Registry represents approx. 45,000- 50,000 Métis people.

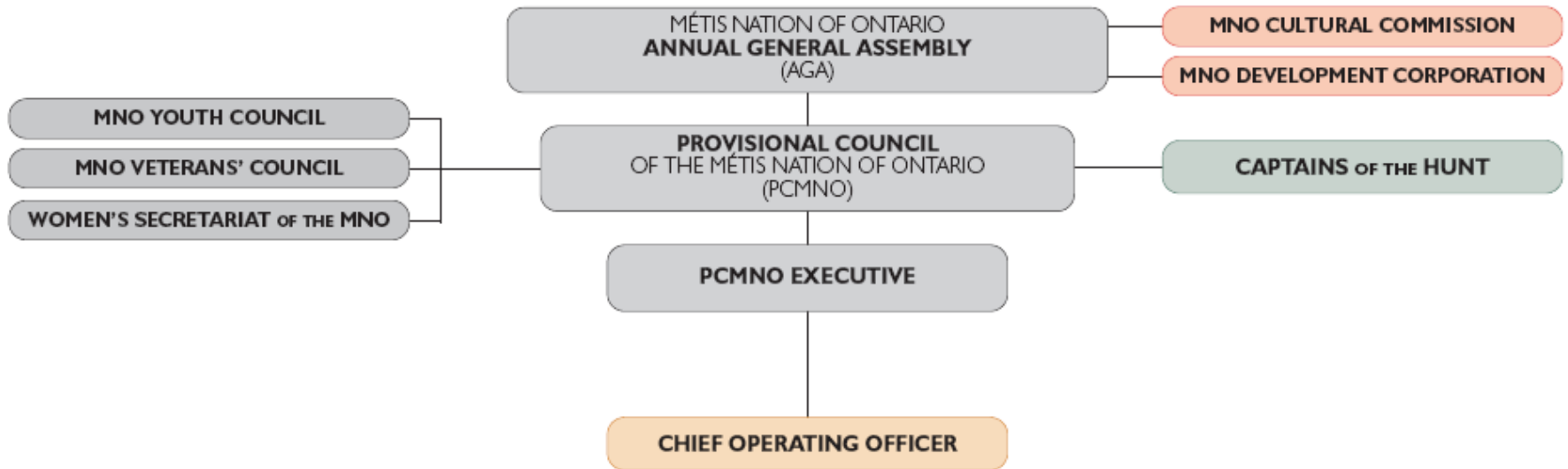


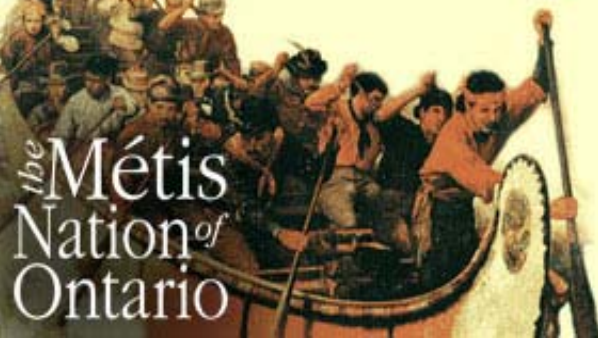
Métis Nation of Ontario

- The only recognized provincial Métis governance structure in Ontario.
- MNO advanced the Métis rights agenda through the precedent setting R. vs. Powley case heard in the Supreme Court of Canada.
- The MNO has also negotiated an accommodation agreement with the provincial government on Métis harvesting rights.
- MNO has established bilateral and tripartite processes with the federal and provincial governments.
- In November, 2008 signed an Ontario-Métis Nation Framework Agreement with the Government of Ontario.



MNO Governance Structure

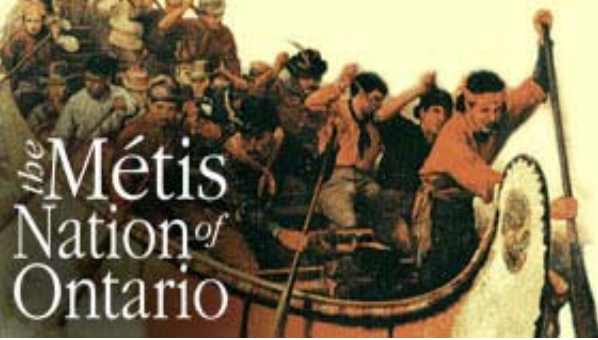




MNO Governance Structure

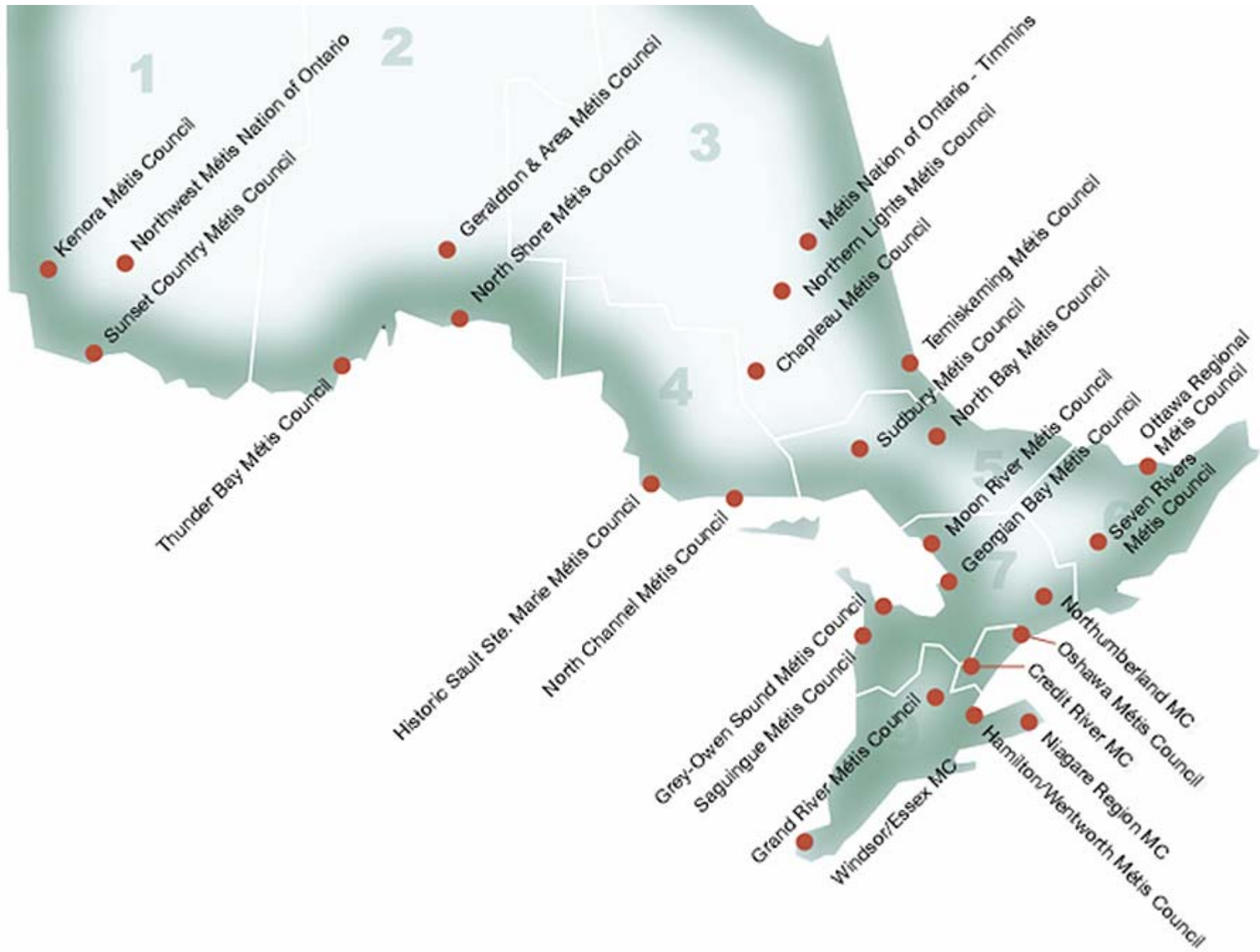


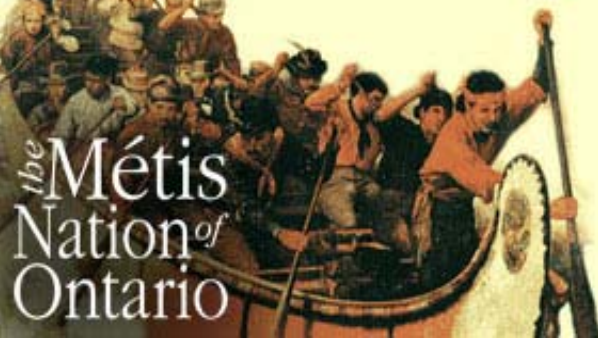
- Governed by the MNO Annual General Assembly/ Métis Citizens
- Provisional Council of the MNO consists of 19 elected representatives which include:
 - MNO President
 - Chairperson
 - Vice-Chairperson
 - Secretary Treasurer
 - 9 Regional Councilors
 - 4 Senators
 - 1 Women's Representative
 - 1 Youth Representative
 - 1 Post Secondary Rep



MNO Governance Structure

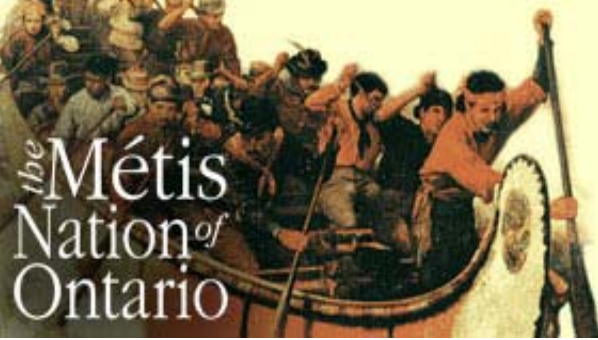
- Community Councils have been established throughout the province.
- Mandated to support local governance through signed Charter agreements with the MNO.
- Work with the MNO and other Community Councils to represent the rights and interests of regional rights-bearing Métis communities throughout the province.
- Almost entirely volunteer-operated
- Regional Councilors are elected to represent a group of Councils
- Protocol Regions which organize groups of Councils for Consultation purposes





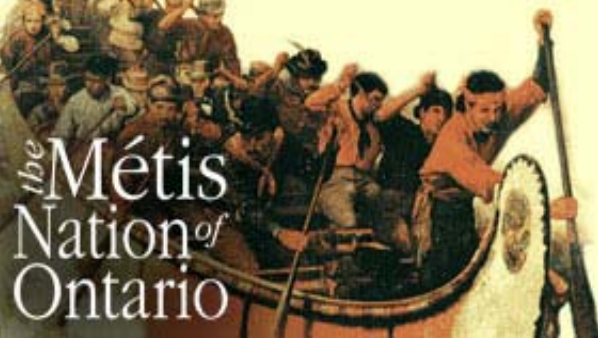
Key Differences

- MNO citizens are often applied experts in environmental sciences (forestry, mining, fisheries, energy, etc.)
- Métis citizens are tax-paying members of society
- MNO is almost entirely volunteer-operated
- Councils and Consultation Committees are not paid to consult with proponents and government
- Consultation often requires citizens to take time off work and travel long distances
- Consultation Committees can speak on behalf of their constituents and therefore do not have to report back to “Chief and Council” – you deal directly with decision-makers

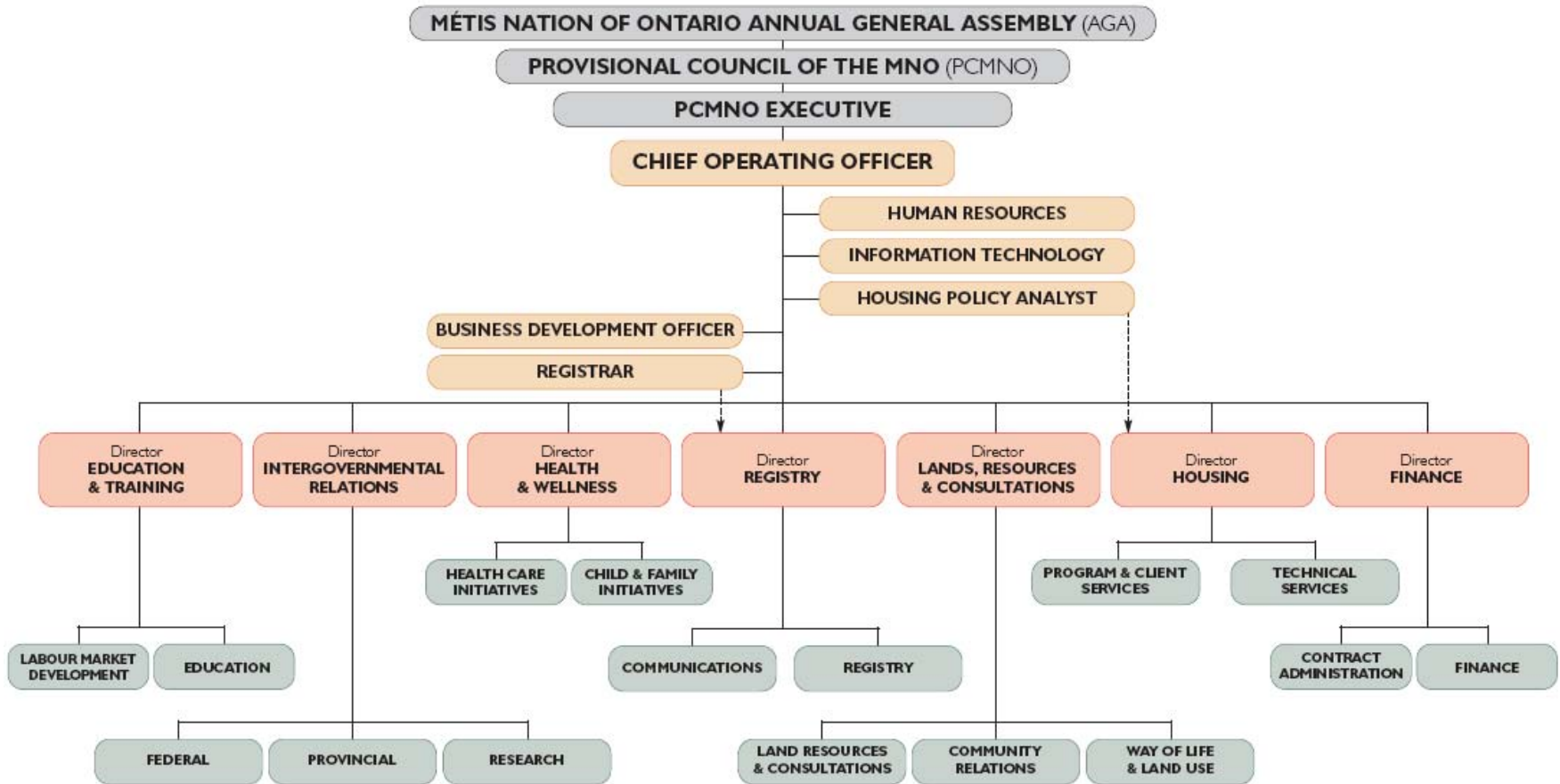


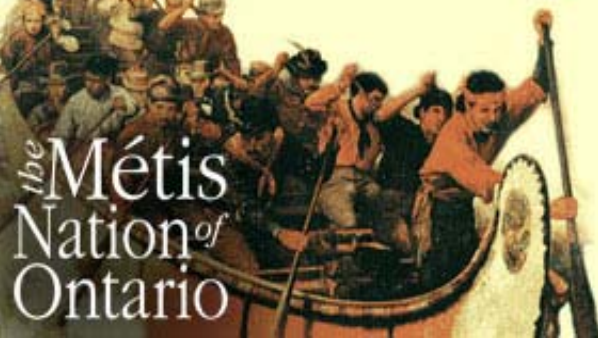
Services to Métis Communities

- Through its province-wide infrastructure, MNO delivers a range of programs and services in the areas of health, labour market development and housing.
- More than 130 people work for the MNO in 26 offices throughout the province.
- The Métis Voyageur newspaper is published quarterly and is distributed to over 14,000 individuals and organizations.
- The MNO has video-conferencing capability with each of its Community Councils throughout the province.

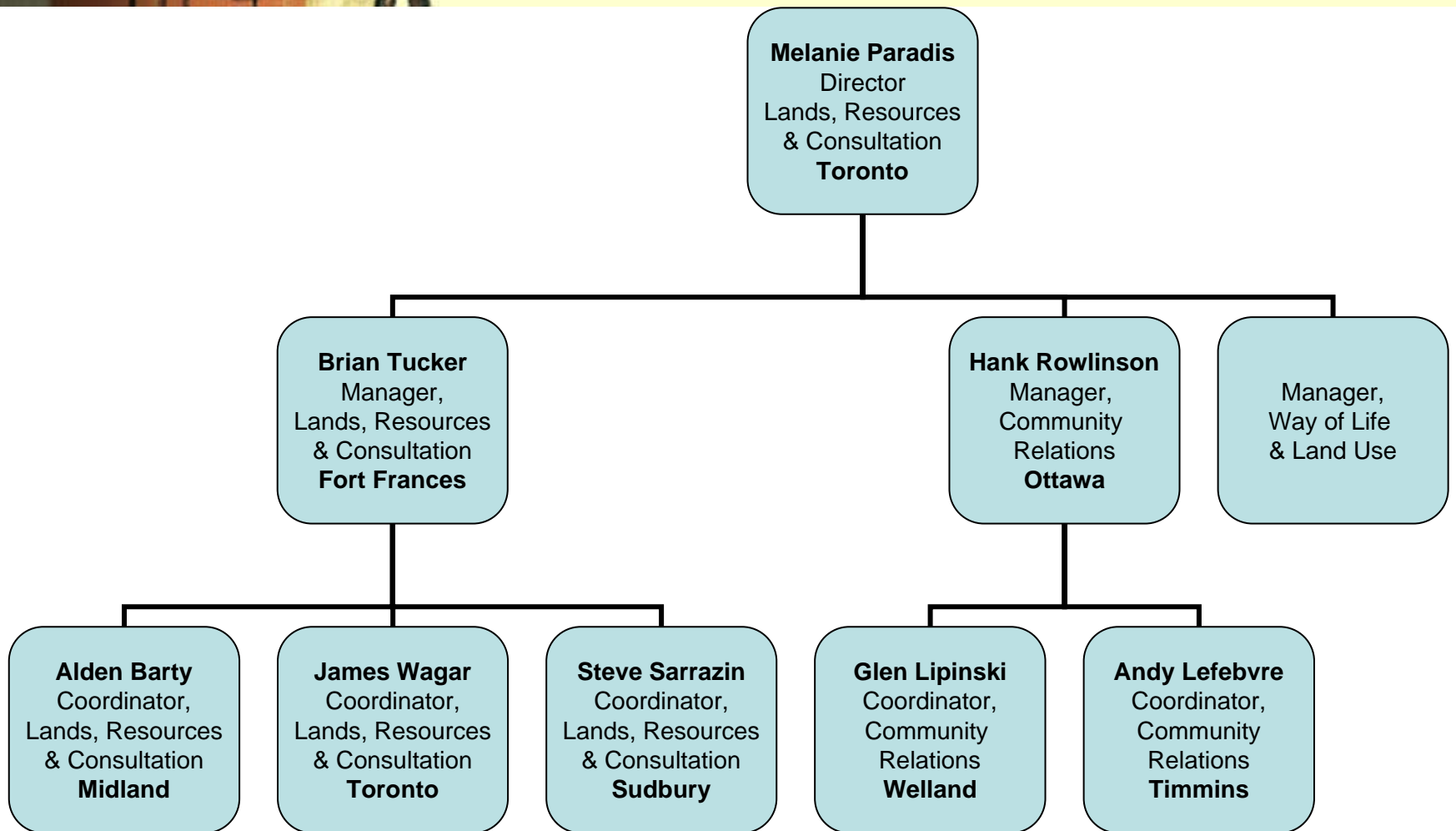


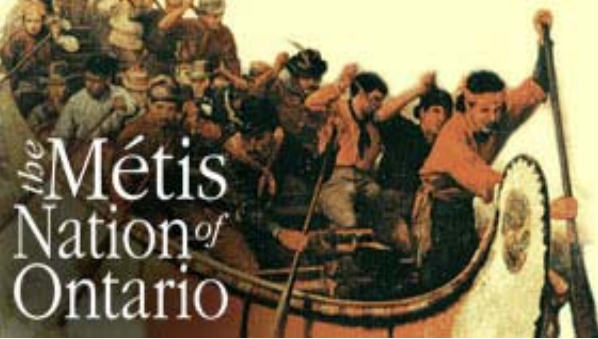
Services to Métis Communities





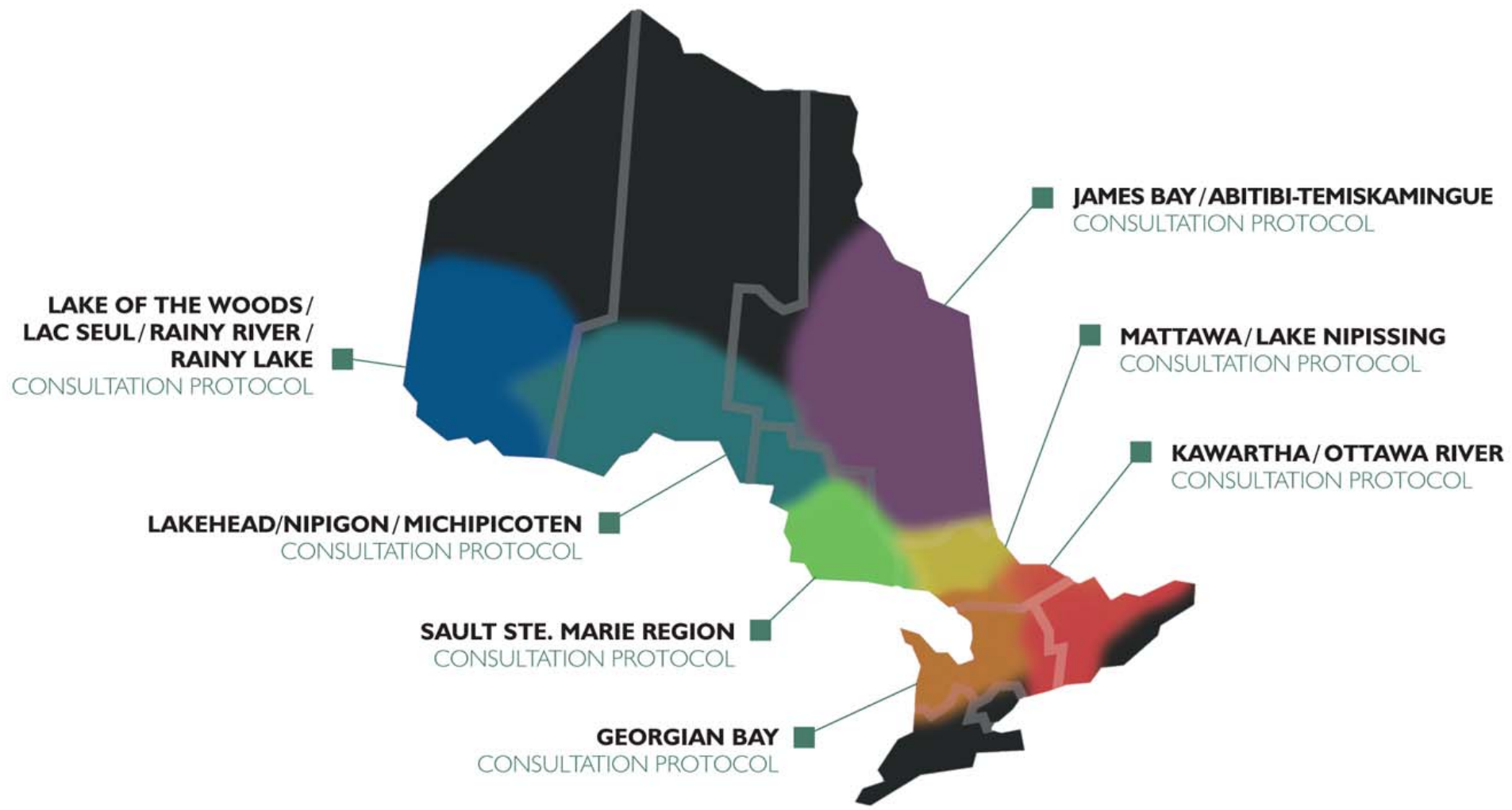
L.R.C. Branch



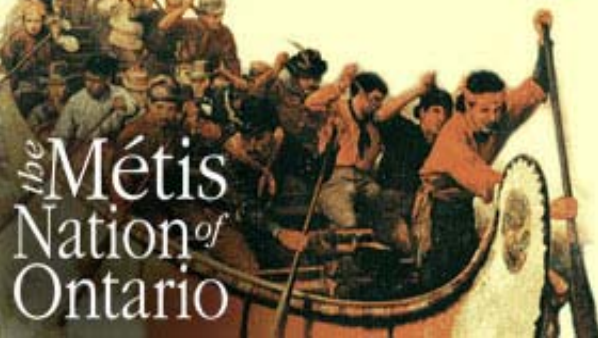


Duty to Consult and Accommodate

- In 2004 the Supreme Court of Canada set out a new legal framework – the Crown’s duty to consult and accommodate.
- This requires governments to consult Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples and accommodate their interests when activity on traditional lands is considered.
- MNO in partnership with the Community Councils established Regional Consultation Protocols to facilitate effective consultation with the Métis in Ontario.
- For more information:
www.metisnation.org/consultations

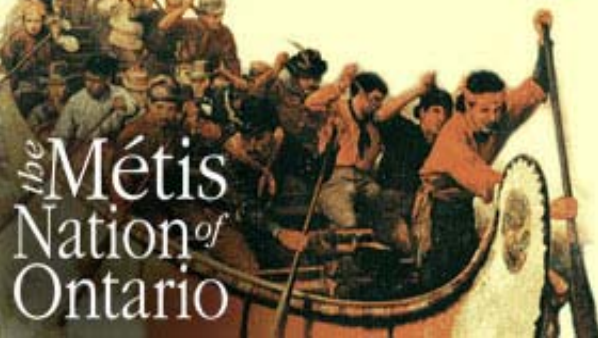


Métis Nation of Ontario Regional Consultation Protocol Areas

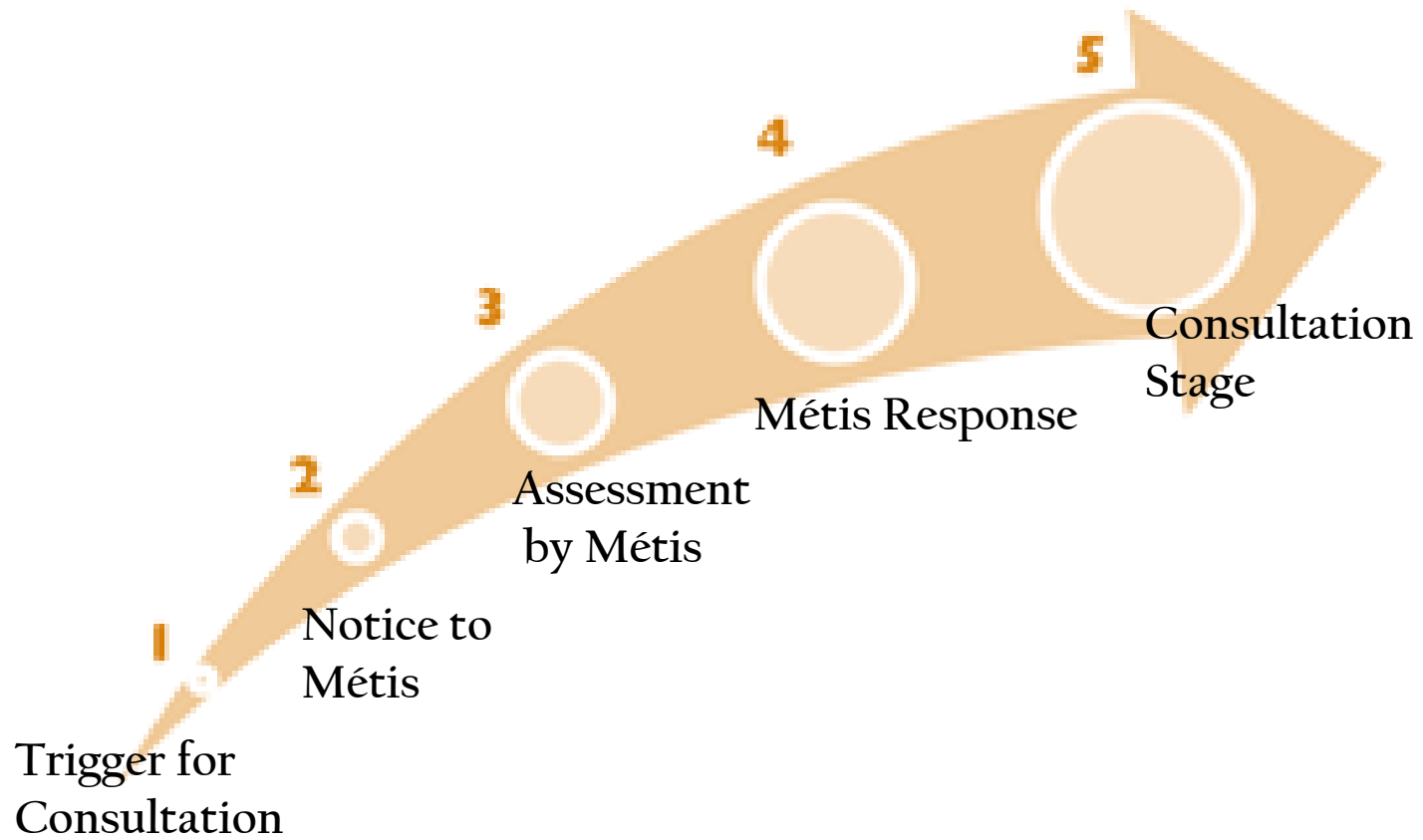


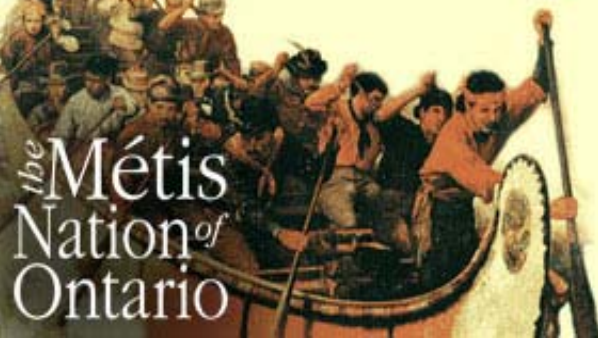
Consultation Framework

- Based on consultations, MNO has developed a Consultation Framework which includes 3 Phases (Pre-Consultation, Consultation & Accommodation)
- Throughout these 3 Phases, MNO model works to ensure all Métis Citizens (i.e., Elders, Youth, Women, Men, Citizens living out of their traditional territory, etc.) have the opportunity to be consulted through a fair, inclusive and transparent process
- MNO recognized as a leader in this area throughout the Métis Nation



Duty to Consult: Phase One





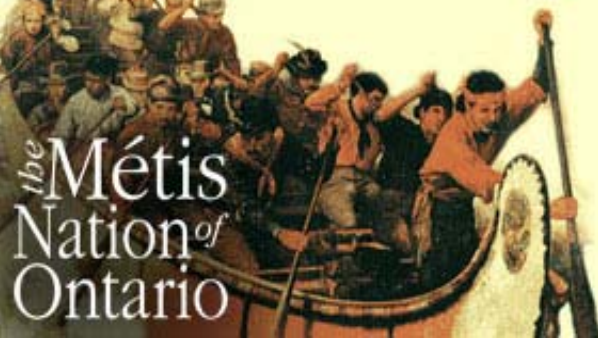
Duty to Consult: Phase Two

Step #1: Funding and Capacity

Step #2: Information Exchange

Step #3: Assessing Effects on Métis

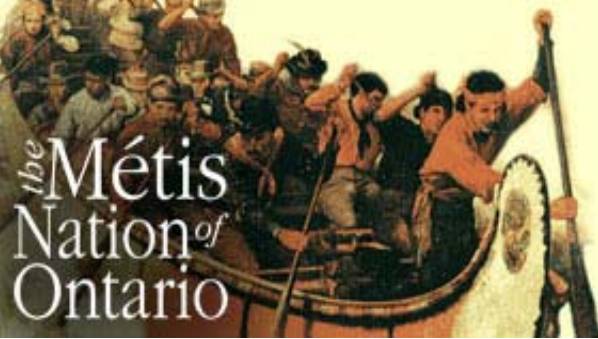




Duty to Consult: Phase Three

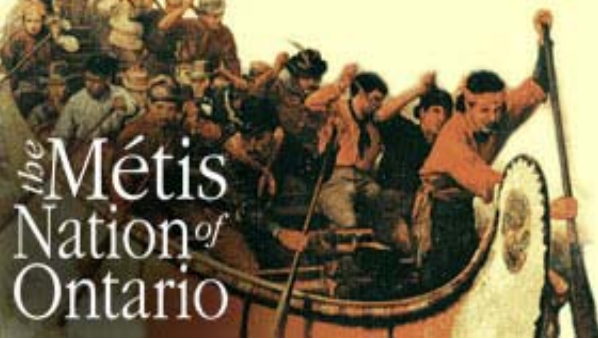
Accommodation





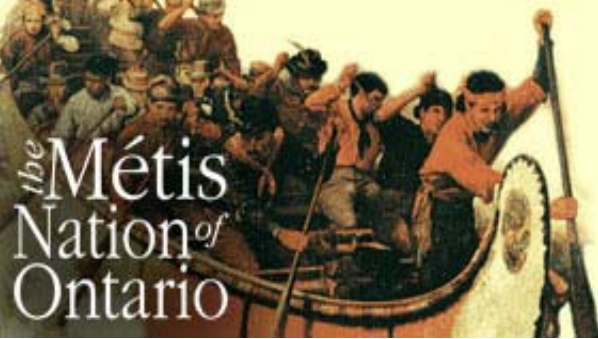
Best Practices





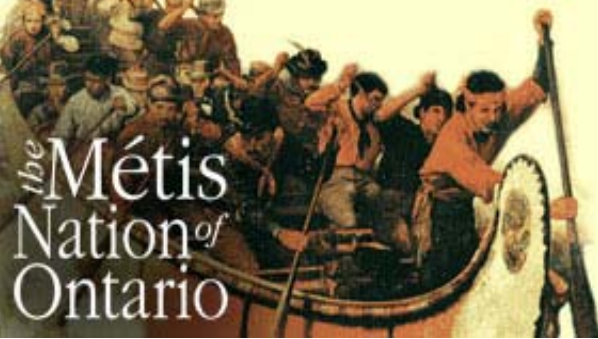
EA Training

- Training workshop for PCMNO in March 2009
- Training workshop for Council Presidents in November 2009
- Guide books developed in November 2009 for Consultation Committees to understand the process and their roles
- Proponent and government support needed



Website

The MNO maintains a website at: www.metisnation.org. Included on this site are recent Métis news and events, video postings, copies of relevant MNO documents as well as historical and cultural information.



Contact



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