

MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO

QUICK FACTS

Registry and Self-Government Readiness Process

- The MNO was created in 1993 by Métis representatives from rights-bearing Métis communities across Ontario coming together to establish a province-wide, Métis- specific and democratic self-government representative body.
- The MNO's foundational purpose—as set out in the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose—is to advance Métis rights and self-government in Ontario. Central to this is ensuring that the MNO Registry is able to verify that MNO citizens are Métis rights-holders and the MNO knowing “who” it represents for the purposes of self- government and Métis rights negotiations.
- Since its creation, the MNO has maintained a centralized Registry in Ottawa to identify Métis citizens, however, since 1993, there have been significant political, legal and administrative developments, including changes to the MNO definition of Métis, which have impacted whether all existing MNO citizenship files are complete.
- The MNO currently has over 20,000 registered citizens. It is the MNO's position that all of these citizens are Métis rights-holders. Through the RSRP and issuance of new MNO Citizenship Cards, MNO citizens will have certainty that these files complete and they are a verified Métis rights-holder consistent with constitutional requirements and the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in R. v. Powley.
- Individuals with complete citizenship files will automatically receive a new MNO Citizenship Card in the mail—at no cost to them. Individuals with incomplete files will receive a letter identifying why they current citizenship file is incomplete and what they need to provide in order to receive a new MNO Citizenship Card.
- In early 2017, the MNO and Canada signed a Memorandum of Understanding to Advance Reconciliation that contemplates arriving at a Framework Agreement that will set out a formal negotiations process to address Métis rights and self-government.

