

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION



CHEF DE L'OPPOSITION

18th Annual Riel Day Commemorative Ceremony

It is a distinct honour for me to send greetings to everyone attending today's ceremony at Queen's Park to mark the eighteenth annual Louis Riel Day. I would like to thank the Métis Nation of Ontario for their hard work in organising these events and ensuring that we pay proper respect to our past as a country.

This has also been proclaimed as the Year of the Métis in Ontario, just as across the country we are celebrating the Year of the Métis Nation, a motion that was tabled in the House of Commons by the Liberal Party of Canada. This was done in recognition of the 125th anniversary of the historic events of 1885 in Saskatchewan, and to further recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of the Métis to Canada.

I had the great honour of attending some of the ceremonies to commemorate the Battle of Batoche this summer and I know, just as the Reconciliation Event served as a powerful reminder of what has happened in the past, how far we have come and where we need to go as a country, so to do today's ceremonies help us in this quest.

Please accept my warmest regards and best wishes for today.

Meegwetch!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Michael Ignatieff'.

Michael Ignatieff
2010