



## MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO - FACT SHEET

# Registry and Self Government Readiness Project “The MNO Registry Review”

### Background

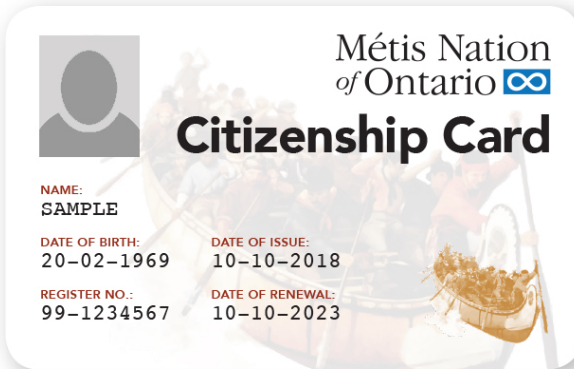
- In October 2017, the Métis Nation of Ontario (“MNO”) launched a review of all MNO Registry citizenship files in order to prepare for the issuance of new MNO Citizenship Cards that will verify each new card-holder is a member of a rights-bearing Métis community and a Métis rights-holder under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.
- The Registry and Self-Government Readiness Project (the “RSRP” or the “Registry Review”) was undertaken in anticipation of formal self-government and Métis rights negotiations beginning with Canada and Ontario. For more information on the MNO's continued progress on rights and self-government read visit the MNO's website.
- It has long been that the MNO's position that **all** of its citizens are Métis rights-holders—not just Harvester Card holders. However, due to changes to the MNO citizenship definition over time and a lack of capacity for the MNO Registry prior to 2004, some citizenship files are incomplete and may not currently meet the requirements.

### The Registry Review Process

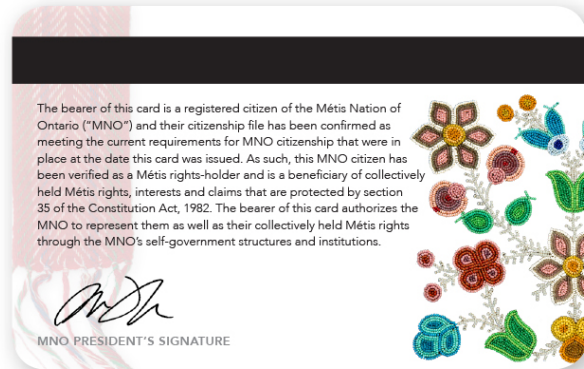
- The RSRP involved a review of all existing MNO citizenship files to determine whether they meet the requirements for MNO citizenship as set out in the MNO Bylaws and MNO Registry Policy, which aligns with the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in *R. v. Powley* for the identification of Métis rights-holders.
- Since the RSRP was initiated, the MNO has been providing citizens with regular updates and additional information through direct correspondence as well as through the Métis Voyageur newspaper and other MNO communication venues.
- When a citizenship file is complete, that MNO citizen will receive a letter from the Registry indicating their file is complete. They will receive a form with the letter that must be completed so that they can be issued a new citizenship card. This form must be accompanied by a new picture and there is a specific designated area on the form that they will need to sign so that their signature can be incorporated into their new citizenship card.

## Sample of new MNO citizenship card:

FRONT



BACK



- If documentation is missing in a MNO citizen's file, a letter will be sent to the citizen informing them of what is necessary to complete their file. They will be provided a reasonable amount of time to provide the necessary documentation to the MNO Registry. The MNO retained the independent firm Know History to assist with the RSRP.
- In order to show leadership on this issue and provide MNO citizens certainty that they are being represented by Métis rights-holders at the regional and provincial levels, the review of all citizen files started with the elected leadership within the MNO, beginning with the PCMNO.

### Status Report on the Registry Review

- As of November 2020, the MNO has over 22,000 citizens whose files have all been reviewed through the RSRP. It is anticipated that the report on the Registry Review will be released in late 2020 or early 2021.