

AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO'S HARVESTER CARD SYSTEM (OSS_00645442)

Final Report

Submitted to:

**THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO
AND
THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO**

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DISCLAIMER

The views or statements expressed within this report do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Ontario nor of the Métis Nation of Ontario.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

The purpose of this report is to provide an objective and independent review of the Métis Nation of Ontario's (MNO) Harvester Card System. For more information on the MNO Harvester Card System and the criteria for the Independent Review please see the terms of reference in the contract "An Independent Review of the Métis Nation of Ontario's Harvester Card System (OSS_00645442)".

Independent Review Objective

The objective of the Independent Review is to assess the quality, weight and conclusions of the following:

- Review 88 Métis Root Ancestor Packages consisting of approximately 380 Métis Root Ancestors and 5,600 Métis Root Ancestor Descendants to ensure compliance with the following criteria as set out in the Assessment Criteria outlined in Section 3.2.2 in Schedule 1 of the contract that sets of the deliverables for this project:

For Métis Root Ancestors

- a) The Métis Root Ancestor is a Documented Métis, or the sibling of a Documented Métis;
- b) The Métis Root Ancestor is connected to the Historic Métis Community through documentation that establishes, or that provides the basis for a reasonable professional inference that they or their siblings were living in the Historic Métis Community prior to the Relevant Date; and
- c) The Métis Root Ancestor's extended family line (including siblings and descendants) had a documented ongoing presence in the Historic Métis Community for two or more generations.

For Métis Root Ancestor Descendants

- d) The Métis Root Ancestor Descendant(s) are documented as being ancestrally connected to the Verified Métis Root Ancestor(s).
- Identify a sample of Harvester Card holder files for each of the seven Historic Métis Communities to review by designing a simple random sampling model to the specified confidence level which resulted in sampling 328 of 1,440 Card Holder Files; and
 - Verify that the MNO Harvester Card System provides an accurate means of issuing Harvesting Cards.

Conclusions

100% of the 88 Metis Root Ancestor Packages reviewed were passed: Of these, 84 of the 88 Métis Root Ancestor Packages reviewed were passed by InterGroup Consultants Ltd. (*InterGroup*), which is 95.4%, based on documentary evidence. Each individual (excluding spouses) in those packages was verified as

connecting to a Métis Root Ancestor. InterGroup was of the opinion that the four remaining packages did not satisfy all of the criteria in Section 3.2.2 subsections (a) to (d) and/or identified where conclusions could not be drawn. Pursuant to section 3.2.4(II) of the contract that sets out the deliverables for this project, MNO and Ontario advised InterGroup to treat the four above-noted Métis Root Ancestor Packages as verified for the purposes of the Independent Review.

With respect to the second stage of the review, all of the 328 randomly sampled Harvester Card files (100%) passed based on the documentation provided within the file or with additional documentation provided by the MNO Registrar during the review, demonstrating that the individual harvester had a documented ancestral connection to a Verified Métis Root Ancestor.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

“Documented Métis” means an individual who is identified in a historic record (which may include a census, fur trade record, payroll, government document, other journal, church document, petition, or other record) as Métis, Michif, Halfbreed (or any variation such as a “Breed,” “Scotch Breed,” “SB,” “French Breed,” “FB,” “Other Breed,” “OB” etc.), chicot, bois brûlé or métisses.

“Final Index” A master index of all Métis Root Ancestors and Métis Root Ancestor Descendants, including pinpoint references in the historic records provided, to facilitate the verification of genealogical connections of Métis Root Ancestors to their Descendants

“Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS)” is a guideline for establishing the reliability (“proof”) of a genealogical conclusion with reasonable certainty.

“Harvesters Certificate” or **“Harvester Card”** means the card issued by the MNO to a citizen based on the MNO Registrar being satisfied that the requirements of the MNO Harvesters Policy are met, which the MNO asserts meets the requirements set out in Section 3.4 of the contract.

“Harvester Card File” means the materials and supporting documentation provided to the MNO Registry by a MNO citizen upon which the MNO issues a Harvester Card.

“Harvester Card System” means the process by which applications for MNO Harvester Cards are assessed and issued by MNO.

“Historic Métis Community” means those communities that are listed in more detail in Attachment A of this report.

Family Tree Maker (FTM) a genealogy software that manages individual facts, family linkages and can produce charts and reports.

“MNO Harvester Area” means one of the harvesting areas identified by the Ministry and MNO at the pre-bid meeting.

“MNO Registry” means the location and files of MNO citizens who are issued citizenship cards and also Harvester Cards based on MNO criteria, and which is located at the MNO head office at 500 Old St. Patrick Street, Ottawa, Ontario, and includes the secure offsite storage location of registry files.

“Métis Root Ancestor(s)” means the individual(s) that MNO identifies as Métis Root Ancestor(s) within a Métis Root Ancestor Package.

“Métis Root Ancestor Descendant(s)” means the individual(s) that MNO identifies as descendants of Métis Root Ancestor(s) within a Métis Root Ancestor Package.

“Métis Root Ancestor Package” means the materials provided by the MNO to the Independent Reviewer, including a narrative and relevant supporting documents, which identify Métis Root Ancestor(s) and Métis Root Ancestor Descendant(s) that the MNO believes meet the criteria set out in Part 3 of the contract.

“Ontario” means Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario.

“Relevant Date” means the dates (between 1850 and 1906) that were identified by the Ministry and MNO in the pre-bid meeting.

“Verified Métis Root Ancestor(s)” means Métis Root Ancestor(s) that the Independent Reviewer determines satisfy the criteria in Part 3 of the contract or that the Parties determine will be Verified Métis Root Ancestor(s) for the purposes of the Independent Review.

“Verified Métis Root Ancestor Descendants” means the descendants of Métis Root Ancestor(s) that the Independent Reviewer determines satisfy the criteria in Part 3 of the contract or that the Parties determine will be Verified Métis Root Ancestor Descendants for the purposes of the Independent Review.

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1.0 VERIFICATION OF MÉTIS ROOT ANCESTORS AND MÉTIS ROOT ANCESTOR DESCENDANTS

1.1 CONTEXT

As per Section 3.1.2 of the contract that sets out the deliverables for this project, the context for the verification is as follows:

In 2003, the Supreme Court of Canada in R. v Powley confirmed that the Métis community in and around Sault Ste. Marie has a Métis right to hunt for food, which is protected as an Aboriginal right within the meaning of s. 35 of the Constitutional Act, 1982.

In Powley, the Supreme Court established criteria for the identification of other rights-bearing Métis communities, as well as important components for the identification of individuals who may exercise a Métis community's collectively-held harvesting right. Also in Powley, the Supreme Court determined that an "objectively verifiable" process was required to identify Métis rights holders to enable provinces to enforce hunting regulations.

The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) has adopted a Harvesters Policy to regulate the harvesting activities of its citizens in Ontario, and issues Harvester Cards to MNO citizens who have satisfied the MNO Registrar that the documentation in their respective files supports their claim to being able to exercise a collectively-held Métis right to harvest. MNO maintains a centralized registry of all its citizens and a Harvester Card Registry which is a smaller subset of the centralized citizenship registry.

As part of this process, seven regions have been identified as a Historic Métis Community along with an associated Relevant Date. This information was provided to the reviewer solely for the purposes of conducting the review. A general description of these regions can be found in (Attachment A).

The list of the seven Historic Métis Communities are as follows:

- Rainy River/Lake of the Woods Historic Métis Community;
- Northern Lake Superior Historic Métis Community;
- Abitibi Inland Historic Métis Community;
- Sault Ste. Marie Historic Métis Community;
- Mattawa/Ottawa River Historic Métis Community;
- Killarney and Environs Historic Métis Community; and
- Georgian Bay Historic Métis Community.

In July 2004, the MNO President and the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) agreed to points of agreement (the "2004 Harvesting Agreement") that, among other things, committed the MNO to an independent review of the MNO Harvester Card System based on mutually agreeable terms of reference.

1.2 SCOPE OF REVIEW AND KEY OBJECTIVES

The general scope of work has been outlined in three key questions as defined in the terms of reference in "An Independent Review of the Métis Nation of Ontario's Harvester Card System (OSS_00645442)". The overall objective for the review is to:

- 1) *Review and verification of Métis Root Ancestors and Métis Root Ancestor Descendants relied upon by MNO to issue Harvester Cards according to the criteria described in Section 3.2.2. of the Terms of Reference;*
- 2) *Review of a statistically sound sample of the 1440 MNO Harvester Card files to report on whether MNO Harvester Card holder ancestrally connects to Verified Métis Root Ancestors and/or Verified Métis Root Ancestor Descendants according to the criteria described in Section 3.3.2; and*
- 3) *Report on the findings of:*
 - a) *The review and verification of the Métis Root Ancestors and Métis Root Ancestor Descendants according to the criteria set out in Section 3.2.2., and*
 - b) *The review of the MNO Harvester Card Files based on the criteria described in Section 3.3.2.*

Such analysis would review the likelihood that Métis Root Ancestors and their descendants are connected to a specific Historic Métis Community prior to a Relevant Date. However, it is also understood in the scope of work that the Independent Reviewer should not provide conclusions or opinions regarding whether or not the *Powley* criteria have been met in the Study Areas. InterGroup Consultants Ltd. (InterGroup), as the Independent Reviewer, acknowledges that the review does not include opinions or analysis that would purport to modify information about the Historic Métis Communities or Relevant Dates that have been shared by the Ontario and MNO.

2.0 METHODS

2.1 INFORMATION SOURCES

Ontario and MNO provided the relevant documents for review including:

- MNO prepared Métis Root Ancestor Packages (n=88) containing an associated genealogical chart, historical source documentation and rationale for the identification of the Métis Root Ancestor(s), in both electronic and hard copy;
- A Final Index of names of relevant Métis Root Ancestors and their descendants;

- Historic Métis Communities with identification of key place names; and
- Relevant Dates.

Additional information was sought in order to provide context to the review. These included applicable literature on Historic Métis Communities in Ontario available through the MNO website (MNO 2017), the *Ancestry* online database; research regarding Census enumeration district names, HBC post locations, and maps to identify place names in relation to each Historic Métis Community.

2.2 GENEALOGICAL PROOF STANDARDS

Proof is a fundamental concept in genealogy. In order to merit confidence, each conclusion derived from documentary sources about an ancestor must have sufficient credibility to be accepted as "proved." Acceptable conclusions, therefore, meet the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS). The GPS consists of five elements as outlined in "Genealogy Standards" by the Board for Certification of Genealogists (2014):

- Reasonably exhaustive research;
- Complete, accurate citations to the source or sources of each information item;
- Tests—through processes of analysis and correlation—of all sources, information items, and evidence;
- Resolution of conflicts among evidence items; and
- A soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion.

According to Elizabeth Shown Mills "Sources give us information, from which we identify evidence. All undergo the evaluation process to produce proof" (2001). There are three types of sources referring to the provenance of the record 1) Original record which has been created at the time of the event or shortly after and has not been derived from other sources 2) Derivative records are those copied, abstracted, transcribed or summarized from previously existing sources or hearsay and 3) Authored works which provide interpretations, conclusions or thoughts. Original sources usually carry more weight than derivative sources.

Information garnered from these sources can be categorized as Primary, Secondary or Undetermined (whereby the identity of the informant is undetermined). These refer to the quality of the information contained within a particular record. Primary information comes from records created at or near the time of an event. Secondary information, by contrast, is information created a significant amount of time after an event occurred or contributed by a person who was not present at the event. Primary information usually carries more weight than secondary information.

Evidence applies to a direct question and then consider whether the information found in a particular record answers that question (i.e. when was the Root Ancestor born) without a need for other evidence to explain or interpret it. Indirect evidence is circumstantial information that requires additional evidence to convert

it into a reliable conclusion. Conclusions drawn when meeting the five elements in the GPS can be considered to be proved and will generally continue to hold true even if new evidence is uncovered.

Of particular importance to the MNO project is 'Identifiers'. Professional standards discuss the need for multiple identifiers from which to draw reasonable and defensible conclusions. For example an individual listed on a document that has the same name as a person of interest to the research project, does not necessarily mean they are the same person. A sufficient number of identifiers that correspond with known characteristics of our subject is needed in order to make a "convincing identification". In the book *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers Writers editors Lecturers and Librarians* (Elizabeth Shown Mills 2001:327-342) states that "If both name and age are given in the document, and they correspond with the name and age of our subject, there is a greater probability that it applies; but, at best, it's only a probability." Identifiers commonly sought in documentary materials include:

- Name and date of birth;
- Names of parents, spouse, children, and collateral relatives;
- Occupation;
- Location;
- Place of birth;
- Handwriting, signature, or mark; and
- Physical characteristics or conditions.

The documents in the Métis Root Ancestor Packages were thoroughly examined. In the majority of cases, there were multiple sources for each Forbearer, Métis Root Ancestor or Métis Root Ancestor Descendant, which taken as a whole, provides higher confidence levels. So it should be noted that each individual document of the Métis Root Ancestor Package was not held to these specific standards. However, the modern Harvester Card Files, due to their smaller nature and less documentation, were subject to these standards.

As described in Section 2.3 below, *Family Tree Maker* (FTM) software was used to create profiles of the individuals in the Métis Root Ancestor Packages, based on the documents provided. The profile of the individuals built in FTM follows the GPS by testing various source documents, through the process of analysis and correlation, in order to come to a reasonable conclusion. The facts about an individual in one document must reasonably match the facts about the same individual in another document, if indeed they are the same person. Additionally, there is an attempt to identify and resolve conflicts in the evidence. For example, this may include multiple documents for the same individual listing different birth dates or places of residence. The profiles built in FTM, using all the available source documents, enable the reviewer to draw reasonable conclusions about whether or not the individual could be verified.

It is also understood that more documents on an individual may not exist, given the unique and sometimes incomplete nature of historical documentation on Indigenous peoples. As evaluators, there is a need to review all the documents collected and presented in the Métis Root Ancestor Packages, so that the profile

built of an individual prior to the verification of the family line and cardholder audit process is as comprehensive as possible.

3.0 ROOT ANCESTOR PACKAGE REVIEW AND VERIFICATION

The Métis Root Ancestor Packages (n=88), containing approximately 380 Métis Root Ancestors and 5,600 Métis Root Ancestor Descendants, comprised the bulk of the review process (Attachment B). The Métis Root Ancestor Package review was especially important to ensure their completeness due to the fact that the verification of each individual within the family genealogy charts provided the baseline for the Harvester Card File audit (discussed in Section 5.0). As the Harvester Card Files selected for audit were drawn by random sample, there was no way of knowing which Ancestor's profile would be needed for the on-site audit of the Harvester Card Files. Any fact about a Métis Root Ancestor in the document collection could be critical to proving a Harvester Cardholder's linkage to a Verified Métis Root Ancestor.

Each of the Métis Root Ancestor Packages include 1) an overview narrative, 2) biographies for selected ancestors, 3) ethnicity chart for selected ancestors, 4) timelines of Important Events, 5) details on kinship with other Métis Root Ancestor families, and 6) relevant primary sources and genealogical charts.

Criteria for Métis Root Ancestor Packages

The objective of the Métis Root Ancestor Package was to confirm the following, as per the assessment criteria outlined in Section 3.2.2, Schedule 1 of the contract that sets out the deliverables for this project:

For Métis Root Ancestors

- a) The Métis Root Ancestor is a Documented Métis, or the sibling of a Documented Métis; and*
- b) The Métis Root Ancestor is connected to the Historic Métis Community through documentation that establishes, or that provides the basis for a reasonable professional inference that they or their siblings were living in the Historic Métis Community prior to the Relevant Date; and*
- c) The Métis Root Ancestor's extended family line (including siblings and descendants) had a documented ongoing presence in the Historic Métis Community for two or more generations.*

For Métis Root Ancestor Descendants

- d) The Métis Root Ancestor Descendant(s) are documented as being ancestrally connected to the Verified Métis Root Ancestor(s).*

A variety of records are provided in the Métis Root Ancestor Packages and the types of documents appear to be fairly consistent across the various packages. Generally the source documents in the packages contain census records, registers or certificates of vital statistics (birth, marriage, death), church records of baptisms, burials, marriages, petitions, correspondences regarding scrip or treaty annuity payments, as well as secondary sources such as obituaries or sections from a report or book. Sources for the documents have been included on the upper left corner of each page and a page reference on the bottom right corner. The page reference numbers are used throughout the Métis Root Ancestor Package narratives to direct the

reader to the document that purports to substantiate conclusions. The documents do not provide specific notation as to which lines or entries are relevant, although the reviewer was generally able to infer from the names in the package as to which entries are of interest. In addition, a Final Index of the names of Métis Root Ancestors and Métis Root Ancestor Descendants was provided which lists the individual's birth year and page number(s) of the document(s) showing the individual's connection to a parent, and, if applicable, the page where the individual is documented as a Métis person. A sizeable number of the documents in the document collection are not cited in the Métis Root Ancestor Package narrative or the Final Index, however. The systematic review of all the documents in the document collection included assigning each page to one or more Métis Root Ancestor or Métis Root Ancestor Descendant.

The source documents for each of the Métis Root Ancestor Packages were reviewed and information such as date of birth, marriage, residence, occupation, retirement, military enlistment, ethnicity, baptism, and death of individuals and families were entered into a *Family Tree Maker* file (FTM). Other notes were included in the person's FTM profile if they appeared relevant and were not easily captured as a 'fact' that could be logged into the program.

The determination of Métis ethnicity or other pertinent ethnicity of an ancestor was made by locating various terms in the historic documentation. The term 'Halfbreed' was used and modified in various ways in records (French Breed, Other Breed, English Breed etc.). Examples of such contextual evidence that were used to determine Métis ethnicity includes ancestors listed in petitions of Métis land grants, signatory to Treaty 3 Halfbreed Adhesion etc.

The resulting FTM genealogy tree created during the audit was searchable by a person's first or last name and contained an easily viewable list of facts, derived from the source document review, from which to apply to the Métis Root Ancestor Package genealogy charts and assist in the verification process, along with relevant notes taken about the individual or family.

The verification method involved printing all 88 genealogy charts from the Root Ancestor packages and "checking-off" each individual in the lineage (excluding spouses) against the Assessment Criteria in Section 3.2.2, relative to whether they are a Métis Root Ancestor or a Métis Root Ancestor Descendant. The "checking-off" involved reviewing the profile constructed in FTM for each individual and then writing on the chart if that individual 1) connected to the family line, 2) was either a documented Métis, or had documentation indicating mixed-heritage and/or 3) if they had a documented presence in the Historic Métis Communities. In the case of Forbearers and Métis Root Ancestors, general notations were made in the chart about the year(s) they were present in the Historic Métis Communities.

In order to meet the Assessment Criteria in Section 3.2.2, an individual must have been a Documented Métis and in the Community prior to the Relevant Date to be considered a Métis Root Ancestor. The family must then have stayed in the Community for at least two generations. If these were met, the family was considered a Verified Métis Family Line.

Additionally, each Métis Root Ancestor Descendant(s) in the genealogy chart must be documented as being ancestrally connected to the Verified Métis Root Ancestor(s). In the process of verifying all the individuals in each Métis Root Ancestor Package, a small number of inconsistencies were found between the information presented about an individual in the genealogical charts (parentage, name, or birth year) and

the information in the document collection. These inconsistencies were listed in an excel sheet and submitted to the MNO and their consultant for review. It is understood that if the MNO and their consultant agreed that the documentation presented evidence addressing the information in the genealogy chart, that their genealogical chart would be amended accordingly. The MNO and Ontario have requested the submission of the Independent Reviewer's genealogy charts (Attachment C).

3.1 RESULTS OF THE MÉTIS ROOT ANCESTOR PACKAGE REVIEW

The results of the Ancestor package compilation, review and analysis of individuals, family lines, places of residence and ethnic designations is provided in this section for each of the seven Historic Métis Community regions.

Throughout the review process, a few challenges were encountered while matching the various historic and geo-political boundaries in the historic documents to the modern place equivalency. The boundaries of the Historic Métis Communities were noted by the MNO to be fluid and less well-defined in the past and therefore limits to boundaries and an exhaustive list of places could not be provided. In a small number of instances the locations where a Métis Root Ancestor or Métis Root Ancestor Descendant resided were not listed in the 'Chart of Historic Communities' (Attachment A). After reviewing historic reports for the Historic Métis Communities available on the MNO website, and discussions with MNO and Ontario, InterGroup drew its own conclusions about the locations and if they were within or outside one of the Historic Métis Communities.

In addition, over the course of reviewing the source documentation and creating the FTM profiles for each Métis Root Ancestor Package, it was noted that a number of the pages in the document collections appeared to be irrelevant, were illegible, or the entry for the relevant individual was not readily apparent. These pages were cross-checked with the Final Index and the narrative footnotes and reviewed multiple times in an attempt to place them as evidence. Over the course of the review, lists of unclear pages for each package were submitted to the MNO and their consultants in an excel document to understand the relevancy of the document. The clarified pages were reviewed against the FTM trees. In some cases, the responses to the questions about unclear pages contained critical information needed to verify an individual. Building upon this process, if questions about an individual, family line, place location within the Historic Métis Community or other noted issue were identified within the overall package, requests were made to the MNO and attempts were made to resolve the issue with supplementary information. The Independent Reviewers also conducted additional research to assist in locating historical documentation or secondary literature.

- Within the Rainy River/Lake of the Woods Historic Métis Community, 15 of 15 packages, or 100% of Root Ancestors and Root Ancestor Descendants were verified. Fourteen of 15 packages were determined by InterGroup to have met the Assessment Criteria. One package, FL1013 was referred to MNO and Ontario per Section 3.2.4 of the contract that sets out the deliverables for this project due to contradictory and inconclusive historic documentation that does not meet Assessment Criteria b) of Section 3.2.2. It was directed to be treated as verified by MNO and Ontario.
- Within the Abitibi Inland Historic Métis Community 12 of 12 of the packages, or 100% of Root Ancestors and Root Ancestor Descendants were verified. Eleven of the 12 packages were

determined by InterGroup to have met the Assessment Criteria. One package, FL3002, was referred to MNO and Ontario per Section 3.2.4 due to a lack of documentation placing the Métis Root Ancestor in the Historic Métis Community prior to the Relevant Date as per Assessment Criteria b) of Section 3.2.2, and some additional uncertainty regarding Assessment Criteria c) the presence of the family in the Historic Métis Community. It was directed to be treated as verified by MNO and Ontario.

- For the Georgian Bay Historic Métis Community 20 of 20 packages passed, or 100% of Root Ancestors and Root Ancestor Descendants were verified. Eighteen of 20 packages were determined by InterGroup to have met the Assessment Criteria. Two packages were referred to MNO and Ontario per Section 3.2.4 of the contract that sets out the deliverables for this project. The first package, FL7025 does not meet criteria a) of Section 3.2.2 "The Métis Root Ancestor is a Documented Métis, or the sibling of a Documented Métis" as there is no documentation establishing the Métis Root Ancestor as Métis. Inferences must be made based on the available documentation. The second package, FL7017, does not have clear, conclusive documentation linking the family to either Parry Sound or Penetanguishene, which are listed in Attachment A as locations within the Georgian Bay Historic Métis Community. Due to the lack of documentation, criteria b) and c) of Section 3.2.2 are not met. Both packages were directed to be treated as verified by MNO and Ontario.
- Within the Northern Lake Superior Historic Métis Community 7 of 7 packages, or 100% of Root Ancestors and Root Ancestor Descendants were verified, as InterGroup determined that they all met the Assessment Criteria.
- For the Sault Ste. Marie Historic Métis Community, 12 of 12 packages, or 100% of Root Ancestors and Root Ancestor Descendants were verified, as InterGroup determined that they all met the Assessment Criteria.
- Within the Mattawa/Ottawa River Historic Métis Community 17 of 17 packages, or 100%, of Root Ancestors and Root Ancestor Descendants were verified, as InterGroup determined that they all met the Assessment Criteria.
- For the Killarney and Environs Historic Métis Community, 5 of 5 packages, or 100% of Root Ancestors and Root Ancestor Descendants were verified, as InterGroup determined that they all met the Assessment Criteria.

As noted above, the specific aspects where the packages did not meet criteria were submitted to the MNO and Ontario for the following reasons:

- Two of the packages did not meet the Assessment Criteria as per Section 3.2.2, Schedule 1 of the contract that sets out the deliverables for this project.
- Two of the packages did not meet the Assessment Criteria due to inconclusive documentation. The recommendation was provided that further research be undertaken.

In both cases, the final decision was deferred to MNO and Ontario as per Section 3.2 of Schedule 1 of the Contract sets out the Deliverables for the review and verification of Métis Root Ancestors and Métis Root Ancestor Descendants, that includes a process outlined in Section 3.2.4 for addressing Métis Root Ancestors

or Métis Root Ancestor Descendants who, in the opinion of the reviewer, do not meet the assessment criteria set out in Section 3.2.2. Section 3.2.4 reads:

I. If the Independent Reviewer, following its review of the Métis Root Ancestor Packages, is of the opinion that one or more Métis Root Ancestor or Métis Root Ancestor Descendants does not meet the criteria set out in Section 3.2.2, the Independent Reviewer will provide a Preliminary Report to the Ministry and MNO about those Métis Root Ancestors or Métis Root Ancestor Descendants.

II. The Ministry and MNO will communicate with the Independent Reviewer in writing about how the proposed Métis Root Ancestor or Métis Root Ancestor Descendant should be treated and the Independent Reviewer will be bound by that decision for the purposes of the review of the Harvester's Card Files and the Final Report.

Pursuant to Section 3.2.4(II) of the Agreement, MNO and Ontario advised InterGroup to treat the four Métis Root Ancestor Packages as verified for the purposes of the Independent Review.

4.0 STATISTICAL SAMPLING OF HARVESTER CARD HOLDER FILES

To determine the sample size of harvester card files to review, InterGroup used the *Simple Random Sampling* approach, a current and wide-spread model which reduces bias and ensures that every member, or in this case a Métis Harvester Card holder, has an equal probability of being selected in the sampling process, regardless of a person's status, sex or age. In general, for a statistical sampling methodology to be employed successfully, factors should be considered such as the purpose of drawing the sample, overall sample size, as well as how the data obtained from the sampled units will be utilized.

The MNO provided a chart of 1,440 MNO Harvester Card holders as represented by a unique MNO citizenship number. This chart subdivided Harvester Card holders into the seven Historic Métis Communities. To ensure anonymity and to reduce sampling bias, names associated with MNO Harvester Card Files were not provided. InterGroup used these MNO Citizenship numbers to conduct the statistical sampling.

4.1 DESIGN AND EMPLOYMENT OF STATISTICAL RANDOM SAMPLING MODEL

InterGroup used a *Simple Random Sampling* approach with a margin of error of $\pm 4\%$ and a confidence level of 90%. Following the sample size determination approach, as used in Statistics Canada's *Survey Methods and Practices (2003)*,¹ it is estimated that with the given sampling targets, the sample size for the 1,440 MNO Harvester Card files would consist of 328 Harvesting Card files to be verified.²

¹ Survey Methods and Practices, Statistics Canada [originally published in October 2003; Catalogue no. 12-587-X ISBN 978-1-100-16410-6]. Available at: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/12-587-x/12-587-x2003001-eng.pdf> [accessed on May 4, 2017].

² For the calculation 50-50 split is assumed consistent with Survey Methods and Practices as there is 50%/50% change for each file to be accurate.

InterGroup distributed the sample size for each Historic Métis Community. For example, if one of the communities had 571 out of the 1,450 total card holders, a total of 130 card holders from that community would be used $[571/1440*328]$.

Once the sample size for each Historic Métis Community had been identified, InterGroup used *Microsoft Excel* to conduct sampling for each Historic Métis Community. The sampling included the following steps:

- A list of all Harvester Card numbers (n=1440) for the Historic Métis Community was inserted into Excel;
- RAND function was used to return an evenly distributed random real number greater than or equal to 0 and less than 1. This was used for each row that contains a unique number [each unique number got a random number];
- The random numbers were then sorted from highest to smallest;
- The top random numbers were selected based on sample size for each Historic Métis Community; and
- The list of Harvester Card File numbers selected for review was prepared based on the selected random numbers.

InterGroup provided this list of randomly selected Harvester Card Files by Historic Métis Community to the MNO Registrar who then pulled the files from the MNO registry for the on-site review and verification.

5.0 MÉTIS HARVESTER CARD REVIEW

The aim of the on-site audit process was to review the source documents contained within the Harvester Card File to confirm that appropriate documentation was included which met genealogical standards of proof and showed linkages between the documented Métis Root Ancestors or Métis Root Ancestor Descendent and the MNO Harvester Card holder.

The Harvester Card Files were verified to ensure they contained the following documents:

- a) A copy of the Harvester Card holder's signed declaration wherein they self-identify as Métis;
- b) Photo identification of the Harvester Card holder (i.e., driver's license, firearms license, etc.);
- c) A genealogy chart that illustrates how the Harvester Card holder ancestrally connects to a Verified Métis Root Ancestor or a Verified Métis Root Ancestor Descendant in a given Historic Métis Community;
- d) Documents that support the genealogy chart (i.e., birth certificate, baptismal certificate, marriage certificate, and in the case of verification of maiden names, obituaries, etc.) to link each generation from the Harvester Card holder through to a Verified Métis Root Ancestor or Verified Métis Root Ancestor Descendant in a given Historic Métis Community; and

- e) A copy of the issued Harvester Card that identifies the MNO Harvesting Area which correlates to the Historic Métis Community that the Harvester Card holder ancestrally connects to.

To corroborate the documents in the Card holders' files to the Métis Root Ancestors in the packages, the review applied a standard second identifier or fact, (e.g. spouse name, birth date, year of birth, additional relative(s) etc.), in addition to a correct name match. For card holders who link to a Métis Root Ancestor with only one document included in the Métis Root Ancestor Package, the referenced document at times did not have the additional indicator needed to affirmatively link the Ancestor in the cardholder's file to the Verified Métis Root Ancestor in the package. For the Harvester Card Files that required additional information, a request was made to the MNO and the required information was provided.

In total, the audit reviewed 328 Harvester Card Files and the Independent Reviewer was able to pass all of them.

Historic Community	% of Community Sample	% Pass Rate
Georgian Bay	23%	100%
James Bay Inland	23%	100%
Killarney and Environs	24%	100%
Mattawa/Ottawa River	23%	100%
Northern Lake Superior	25%	100%
Northwestern Ontario	23%	100%
Sault Ste. Marie	23%	100%
Total		100%

6.0 REFERENCES

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ATTACHMENT A:
Historic Métis Community Descriptions

<http://www.metisnation.org/registry/citizenship/historic-métis-communities/>

Rainy River / Lake of the Woods Historic Métis Community

- The inter-connected historic Métis populations in and around: Lac La Pluie (Fort Frances); Rat Portage (Kenora), Eagle Lake (Dryden/Wabigoon) and Hungry Hall (Rainy River). The Lake of the Woods area includes Rat Portage, White Fish Lake, Northwest Angle, Wabigoon and Long Sault.

Northern Lake Superior Historic Métis Community

- The inter-connected historic Métis populations north of Lake Superior, including the Métis people who worked for period of time or settled at: Michipicoten, Pic River, Fort William, Nipigon House and Long Lake.

Abitibi Inland Historic Métis Community

- The inter-connected historic Métis populations at the inland posts between New Post and Timiskaming, including: Frederick House, Abitibi House, Kenogamissi, Flying Post, Mattagami and Matachewan as well as the historic Métis population at the Moose Factory Post and environs, several families of which were inter-related to members of the historic Abitibi Inland Community and migrated south to become a part of this community.

Sault Ste. Marie Historic Métis Community

- The historic Métis population at Sault Ste. Marie and environs, which the courts recognized extended as far as "Batchewana, Goulais Bay, Garden River, Bruce Mines, Desbarates, Bar River, St. Joseph's Island, Sugar Island and into Northern Michigan."

Mattawa/Ottawa River Historic Métis Community

- The historic Métis population centred at Mattawa and spanning the Ottawa River from Lac des Allumettes (Pembroke) to Timiskaming and environs.

Killarney Historic Métis Community

- The historic Métis population at Killarney and environs.

Georgian Bay Historic Métis Community

- The inter-connected historic Métis populations at Penetanguishene and Parry Sound and environs.

ATTACHMENT B:
List of Root Ancestor Packages Provided

No.	Family Line ID	Family Line Name
1	FL1001	Begg-Spence
2	FL1002	Calder-Gibson
3	FL1004	Chatelaine
4	FL1005	Crowe-King
5	FL1007	Finlayson-Davies
6	FL1008	Harrison-St. Matte
7	FL1010	Jourdain-Mainville
8	FL1012	Kavanagh
9	FL1013	Linklater-Muskego
10	FL1014	McPherson
11	FL1015	Loutit
12	FL1017	Goodwin-Mistigoose
13	FL1019	Sinclair-Swain
14	FL1021	Young-Thompson
15	FL1024	Peebles
16	FL2001	De Laronde
17	FL2003	Fisher-Netawassang
18	FL2005	Morriseau
19	FL2011	Louis-Vizina
20	FL2014	Weigand-Corcoran
21	FL2015	Rose-Arthur
22	FL2017	Desmulons
23	FL3002	Dallaire
24	FL3003	Fraser-MacDonald
25	FL3005	Hunter-MacDonald
26	FL3006	Udgarden-Moar
27	FL3007	Moore-Beads
28	FL3008	Polson
29	FL3010	Favell-Titameg
30	FL3013	McLeod-Moore
31	FL3018	Neveu
32	FL3019	Linklater-Potts
33	FL3020	Vincent-Renton
34	FL3023	Mecowatch-Puskewiatch
35	FL4001	Boissonneau
36	FL4002	Cadotte
37	FL4003	Cadrant-Clermont
38	FL4004	de Lamorandiere-Sheperd
39	FL4006	Causley-Riel
40	FL4007	King-Prisque Legris
41	FL4010	Roussain-Turner

No.	Family Line ID	Family Line Name
42	FL4014	Sayer
43	FL4015	Solomon
44	FL4019	Corbiere-Roy
45	FL4020	Corbiere-Nolin
46	FL4021	Lesage-Schwink
47	FL4026	Desjardins-Prisque
48	FL4027	Lesage-Legarde
49	FL5001	Bastien-Sibikwe
50	FL5002	Bernard-Papineau
51	FL5003	Dorion-McDonnell
52	FL5004	Ferris-Good
53	FL5005	Commandant-Kijikasowekwe
54	FL5006	Laronde-Sauvage
55	FL5007	Laronde-Lanthier
56	FL5008	Montreuil-Kakwabit
57	FL5009	Montreuil-Mic Mac
58	FL5010	Romain-Brisebois
59	FL5011	Atkinson-Moore
60	FL5012	Langevin-Mijakwat
61	FL5015	Tchimanens
62	FL5016	Belair-Laronde
63	FL5024	Stoqua
64	FL5025	Thomas
65	FL5026	Recollet-Ignace
66	FL5027	Tranchemontagne-Pitawechkamod
67	FL5028	Mclsaac-Poitras
68	FL5029	Taylor
69	FL7001	Brissette-L'Hirondelle
70	FL7003	Gendron-Hallio
71	FL7004	Delaronde
72	FL7005	Craddock
73	FL7006	Gordon-Landry
74	FL7008	Charpentier-Martin
75	FL7010	Gaudaur
76	FL7011	Payette-DeValley
77	FL7012	Perrault
78	FL7013	Vasseur-Longlade
79	FL7014	Laramée-Cloutier
80	FL7015	Berger-Beaudoin
81	FL7016	Cadieux-Evans
82	FL7017	Coture-Jones
83	FL7018	Labatte
84	FL7020	St. Onge

No.	Family Line ID	Family Line Name
85	FL7023	Dusome-Clermont
86	FL7024	Longlade
87	FL7025	Chevrette-Souliere
88	FL7026	Trudeau-Papanaatyhianencoe