

Dear Métis Nation of Ontario,

Thank you for reaching out to the Ontario NDP campaign on behalf of Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Citizens.

Andrea Horwath and the NDP value and recognize the unique history and contributions of Métis people to the province. As your citizens will be aware, New Democrats have supported and brought forward Métis issues in the Legislature, including participating in raising the Métis flag in recognition of Louis Riel Day at Queen's Park, as well as supporting the passage of the Métis Secretariat Act. New Democrats represent ridings throughout the province, including the northeast, northwest and eastern Ontario, and we are proud to have Guy Bourgouin as the Métis and NDP MPP for Mushkegowuk—James Bay. We are committed to the principle of government-to-government collaboration between Métis people and Ontario.

In recognition of the specific relationship and obligations the provincial government has to consult and uphold the rights of Indigenous peoples, the ONDP Caucus created the Critic for Indigenous and Treaty Relations, and an NDP government will create a standalone Ministry of Indigenous and Treaty Relations. As part of our commitment we will establish a process at the Cabinet level to ensure that the issues of Indigenous peoples are reflected across ministries, and we will introduce mandatory Indigenous curriculum to ensure that Métis and other Indigenous peoples' cultures and histories in the province are taught in our schools.

It is also important to note that an NDP government is committed to honouring all existing governance framework agreements with Indigenous partners. That includes with the Métis Nation. We are also committed to renew these relationships as well as explore further government-to-government agreements through informed dialogue and engagement with our partners. An NDP government will support a biennial leadership summit between MNO and Ontario.

We are committed to improve access to culturally responsive healthcare and mental health care, to work with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities to transform and establish community control of child welfare for Indigenous communities, and we will restore the Indigenous Cultural Fund. We are committed to a for-Indigenous-by-Indigenous Housing Strategy that will create at least 22,000 culturally appropriate urban and rural housing new homes.

An NDP government will work with your leadership on the MNO-Ontario Framework Agreement, and are committed to meaningful engagement between a

provincial NDP government and rights-holding Indigenous leadership on resource revenue sharing.

An NDP government will be committed to recognize and uphold the full rights of Indigenous Peoples, and to advancing the relationship between the province and Métis people.

Sincerely,

Dan O'Brien (he/him)

Director of Policy

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