

YEAR IN REVIEW

MNO 30th Annual General Assembly 2022-23

Name:	Council/Title:
Andrew Dufrane	REGION 6

Introductory Message about work the Council did in 2022/23

Highlights and Key Achievements

OTTAWA REGION Métis Council:

- This past year the Ottawa Region Métis Council held a number of events to include a Powley Day celebration that included a talk by the MNO's first President, Mr. Tony Belcourt, a Métis flag raising on Parliament Hill that had participation by Ministers Miller and Hajdu from the Canadian Government and the MNC's President Caron, a very successful Annual General Meeting in February and participation in the 2023 Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival. The Council's number of verified citizens grew by about 11% over last year and its social media presence grew as well.
- Members of the Council volunteered time with health groups, story tellers, schools and Indigenous Advisory Groups.
- Much of the Council's effort was spent on supporting MNO Self-Government activity explaining to citizens what it all meant. The Council also tried to meet the demand for Métis elders and knowledge keepers to support local school boards and local health groups. In this last endeavor, the Council feels that it was only partially successful because our number of identified elders is small and sadly often of ill-health. The Council needs MNO support to identify more elders and knowledge keepers to strengthen the ties to the community through the Council.
- The Ottawa Region Métis Council has a strong group of volunteers to call upon but continues to look for ways to reach more citizens. In July, the Council will publish its first official Communication Plan to work towards this end.

PETERBOROUGH & DISTRICT WAPITI Métis Council:

- council elections were held in April/May 2023
- opened a community food pantry in collaboration with MNO Ptbo staff
- participated in Trent U convocation ceremonies and Elders Gathering
- Canoe Museum construction site tour
- drum/music workshop
- medicine bag workshop, beading workshops
- Axe throwing & pizza party
- virtual workshop/tour of Toronto Zoo & Turtle Trauma Center in Peterborough
- Frauds and scams workshop; sex trafficking awareness workshop
- we were busy moving into our new office location throughout the second half of 2022, & held an open house
- Emergency preparedness workshop with City of Peterborough
- Christmas & Halloween parties for MNO families

- Flag raising in various areas
- tree planting with Otonabee Region Conservation Authority
- held a funny photo contest
- bat and bat house making workshop
- cooking workshops
- mini canoe launch event at Beavermead

HIGHLAND WATERS Métis Council:

Highland Waters Métis Council has supported the following initiatives over the last 6th months:

- We have opened our Council Office!!! At 113 Richmond Blvd Napanee
- We have established a relationship with CFB Kingston
- Presented Métis 101 to the 1st year Nursing students at Queen's University.
- Planning self-defense and kick boxing lessons for our citizens!
- As part of Region 6 continue our work towards Self-Government!
- We are attending and participating in environmental testing around a nuclear plant in Region 6. Ensuring the safety of our environment.
- We continue our consultation work alone with Region 6 and the MNO land resource committee
- Supported citizens of domestic violence
- Assisted with food security and have issued \$100.00 grocery gift card to citizens
- Established a fund for individuals fleeing abusive relationships
- Have assisted with the creation of the Two Spirit-organization
- Have worked with MNO to support the Métis Two Spirit and also the "No more Stolen Sisters" campaign
- We have supported the orange shirt campaign
- We have attended the "Les Femmes Michigan Organization
- We are proactive with first aid training for our citizens
- We established a youth swimming program with the YMCA
- We have established and are supporting a food garden plot in Napanee
- We have created a food bank for our citizens, located at our office
- We have organized gatherings of our citizens to educate themselves on the following:
 - Dot art workshop
 - Beaded earring workshop
 - Doll dressing workshop
 - Moccasin workshop

Our council is very fortunate to have amazing volunteers that make the above mentioned initiatives happen.

Meetings / Projects / Partnerships / Committee Participation / Other Activity

Other Comments

