



MNO Education & Training
**CULTURE &
WAY OF LIFE**

**IMPACT
REPORT
2025**

April 2024 - March 2025

Métis Nation
of Ontario 

WHAT WE DO

As the Culture and Way of Life (CWOL) team, we are committed to promoting and delivering Métis cultural programming. We play a key role in nurturing Métis pride, building connections, and offering culturally grounded resources. We support and guide cultural events and programming, develop new resources, support community wellness, host initiatives for youth and families, and engage with Elders and Knowledge Holders to ensure our work is respectful. In resisting colonial impacts, it is essential to promote our history, values, culture, languages, and traditions—so that Métis youth and families feel pride in their heritage and the stories of Métis are honoured and shared.

YOUTH CULTURE CAMPS

Our Youth Culture Camps connect Métis youth in grades 10 to 12 (ages 15–18) with Senators, Knowledge Holders, and MNO staff through seasonal, land-based gatherings that preserve and celebrate traditional and contemporary Métis culture and way of life. These immersive camps offer meaningful opportunities for participants to deepen their understanding of Métis knowledge systems, strengthen leadership and resilience, and foster a strong sense of belonging and self-determination. The program emphasizes teamwork, personal growth, and reflection through hands-on, culturally rooted activities delivered in dynamic outdoor and community settings.

"It's great to network within the nation, making life-long connections and relationships."

"These camps have helped with my knowledge of the Métis and allow me to connect with more Métis. They make me feel more confident and introduce me to new friendships. Amazing."

"I appreciate having more knowledge and understanding of my heritage."

"Incredible camp! I have learned a great deal and now understand my culture much better. I have a better understanding of my identity."

CULTURAL CAMPS

BY THE NUMBERS

50

youth attendees at Youth Culture Camps

14

youth attendees at March Break Camp

"These camps change lives. Each camp is special and awesome."

"I look forward to talking about my culture and where I come from, educating people. I'm more confident in who I am, so I'm excited to learn more and become even more confident."

"I feel this camp will allow me to understand myself better and increase my curiosity about my ancestors."

MARCH BREAK CAMP

Our Infinite Reach March Break Camp is a 5-day, 4-night land-based experience designed to empower self-identified Métis students in grades 10 to 12 (ages 15–18) through cultural connection and post-secondary exploration. Facilitated by staff, Infinite Reach Facilitators, Knowledge Holders, and Senators, the camp weaves together hands-on activities and community-building to support youth as they prepare for life and education after high school. Program themes include Métis culture and identity, post-secondary access and planning, financial literacy, mental wellness, labour market exploration, and an introduction to the Infinite Reach Student Solidarity Network and MNO programs and services. Participants strengthen their confidence, develop a deeper sense of belonging, and gain pride in their Métis culture.

CULTURE & WAY OF LIFE SUPPORT

The Culture & Way of Life team develops and delivers culturally grounded programming and support for both internal and external partners, including community councils, citizens, staff, volunteers, governments, and educational collaborators. Within the MNO, the team provides mentorship, advisory support, and cultural expertise to guide the development of resources and activities, fostering a deeper understanding of Métis histories and values.

"It was a beautiful presentation, and so insightful! Everyone loved it, and that was my first time seeing a crowd that engaged!" - Ontario Ministry of Education, Indigenous Education Office.

"This is precisely the kind of information we need. Our goal is to support parents' and guardians' knowledge so they can better support their children.. we will continue to reach out as needed." - MNO Early Learning Specialist.

ABOUT EDUCATION & TRAINING

The MNO began to offer training initiatives in 1996 with funding from the Métis Human Resources Development Agreement. Since then, the Education and Training Branch has grown and developed to include a comprehensive infrastructure that delivers a full range of programs. It supports the educational success of all Métis across Ontario, beginning in early learning, continuing through kindergarten to grade twelve, into adulthood through post-secondary education, and then into employment. We also work to retain and revitalize our languages, honour our culture and way of life, and provide ongoing learning outside formal education structures.

We take pride in our culture and history, recognize and honour the Métis knowledge holders and senators who contribute to our way of life, teaching and learning opportunities, and take pride in our Métis languages. We look forward to sharing our traditions with future generations as we aspire to achieve our highest potential.

Bryanna Scott-Kay

Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay
Director, Education & Training Branch
Métis Nation of Ontario



ABOUT THE ET BRANCH SASH

One of the most prominent symbols of the Métis Nation is the brightly coloured, woven sash. Originally used by voyageurs for both practical purposes and cultural expression, the sash has roots in Eastern Woodland finger-weaving and French-Canadian tradition. In 2022, the Education & Training Branch introduced its own special sash, featuring colours representing the different teams and important ideologies.

Light Green: Early Learning & Child Care
Purple: Kindergarten - Grade 12
Light Blue: Post-Secondary Education
Yellow: Métis Languages Initiatives
Red: Employment & Training
Dark Green: All E&T programs coming together to support a Métis person's lifelong learning journey
Dark Blue: Métis inclusion in all learning environments

CULTURE & WAY OF LIFE CONTACT US!

Culture & Way of Life Support:
E: culture@metisnation.org

Youth Camps Support:
E: youthcamps@metisnation.org

Download the **MNO Education Hub** app to stay up to date with CWOL events!





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