

Michif-Fransè

A language spoken by Métis in Ontario

Michif is a term commonly used to refer to the traditional language or languages of the Métis people. In practice, what is often called “Michif” includes three distinct but related Métis languages spoken across the Métis homeland: Southern Michif, Northern Michif, and Michif French.

Michif-Fransè is the variety of Michif French found in Ontario. It is named to distinguish it from a related variety spoken in Manitoba, particularly in the Saint-Laurent area.

Michif French reflects the history of the Métis during the fur trade. It shows influences from Algonquian languages and preserves features of the Old French spoken by Métis voyageur ancestors.

To learn more visit: bit.ly/MetisLanguageInitiatives