



Dear President Froh, Métis citizens, Elders, youth, and distinguished guests,

It is my honour to extend greetings to everyone gathered for the 2026 Annual General Assembly of the Métis Nation of Ontario.

While I am unable to join you in person, I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the leadership of the Métis Nation of Ontario and the important work being carried forward on behalf of Métis across the province.

I acknowledge that this year's Assembly is taking place at Fort William Historical Park, in the traditional territory of the Northern Lake Superior Historic Métis Community and the Anishinaabe.

The Government of Canada is committed to advancing a nation-to-nation relationship with the Métis Nation of Ontario – a relationship grounded in the recognition of Métis rights, respect for self-determination, and meaningful partnership.

As we work to advance responsible economic development and projects of national interest, our government knows that Métis leadership, priorities, and decision-making must be central, in order to advance reconciliation, unlock prosperity, and build Canada Strong for All. Economic reconciliation is about supporting Métis governments and communities as they lead, invest, and share in the benefits of development in ways that reflect their visions for their future.

Federal initiatives, including the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program and the Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships Program at Natural Resources Canada, support Indigenous-led priorities by improving access to capital, strengthening capacity, and advancing opportunities identified by communities themselves. I commend and thank the Métis Nation of Ontario for its continued leadership in advancing economic development, strengthening governance, and supporting Métis citizens across Ontario.

As Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, I look forward to continuing our work together to advance Métis-led priorities in energy, natural resources, and beyond.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I wish you a productive and successful Assembly.

Maarsi. Thank you.

The Honourable Tim Hodgson

Minister of Energy and Natural Resources