

**Draft Memorandum of Shared Recognition and Cooperation:
Otipemisiwak Métis Government and The City of Edmonton (2024)**

WHEREAS, The Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta is mandated to represent collectively held Métis Rights, interests, and claims within Alberta, while representing its Citizens with the objective to promote Métis cultural, economic, educational, political and social development;

AND WHEREAS, The City of Edmonton is a major urban centre where services relevant to all people's quality of life can be accessed regardless of religion, colour, creed, nationality, political standing, or other forms of prejudice;

AND WHEREAS, The City of Edmonton recognizes the Otipemisiwak Métis Government as the legitimate, autonomous, governing structure of its Citizens, comprising the Métis people within Alberta, and through its representation, the Otipemisiwak Métis Government understands, advocates, and upholds the distinct identity of the Métis people as one of the three constitutionally recognized Indigenous peoples in the Canadian Constitution;

AND WHEREAS, both the Otipemisiwak Métis Government and The City of Edmonton agree, on a government to government basis to collaborate and share common values; and to celebrate the history, culture, and contributions of the Métis people of Edmonton, while working together towards lasting reconciliation for the benefit of the Métis government's Citizens and all Edmontonians;

NOW THEREFORE, the parties affirm:

- That Métis people have been part of the development of the rich and vibrant history of Edmonton, contributing to the pioneering spirit of establishing a place of harmony, balance, and commerce on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River;
- The Otipemisiwak Métis Government is acknowledged as having a unique role through its mandate, its representation, and responsibility for Métis Citizens residing in Edmonton, and that The City of Edmonton shares its boundaries with the Fort Edmonton Métis District #9 and Edmonton Whitemud Métis District #10 as established by the Otipemisiwak Métis Government;
- The success and well-being of the Métis people in Edmonton is directly linked to that of all residents of Edmonton;
- The role of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government in consultation and the consultation processes the Otipemisiwak Métis Government has in place;

Attachment 1

- The Otipemisiwak Métis Government and The City of Edmonton are intrinsically tied together with a shared vision of building a great city together;
- That shared projects and engagements are guided by principles of working in unity and harmony, fairness and respect for all people, and within the spirit of honesty, integrity and professionalism.

And commit to the following:

- **Cooperation and the Creation of an Action Plan:** Creating opportunities for ongoing engagement, through annual gatherings of staff, the creation and advancement of a Métis Action Plan that will address priorities of both parties.
- **Housing:** Ensuring the advancement of ongoing and future housing opportunities and partnerships between The City of Edmonton and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government by working together to acknowledge and address the housing needs of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government's citizens.
- **Consultation Processes:** Establishing clear connections and processes for meaningful consultation for both parties.
- **Economic Development:** Fostering opportunities to support Métis economic development in Edmonton, identifying and addressing barriers, and identifying opportunities for mutually beneficial economic development.
- **Senior Leadership Relations:** Fostering positive relationships at a senior-leadership level through an annual meeting between The City of Edmonton and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government.
- **Historical Recognition:** Recognizing each party's histories, cultures, and contributions through acknowledgments, communications, and other forms of recognition as opportunities arise.
- **Métis Week:** During Métis Week which includes November 16, the parties shall recognize the relationship created by this Memorandum; and The City of Edmonton will fly the Métis Flag in recognition of the Métis leader, Louis Riel; and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government will fly The City of Edmonton Flag in recognition of this relationship with The City of Edmonton.
- **Cultural Respect:** Ensuring that services are delivered with respect for Métis culture and traditions.