

ISSUE 05
Summer 2026



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103-150 Henry Avenue
Winnipeg Manitoba

MÉTIS MOMENTS

RIEL HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
330 RIVER ROAD, ST. VITAL
WPG, MB

AUG 15
2026

CORN ROAST,
CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS,
LIVE RED RIVER MÉTIS MUSIC,
KIDS ACTIVITIES!

CORN ROAST



LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage



Red River Métis Circle of Educators

Red River Métis Circle of Educators

A collective of diverse skills, knowledge, and lived experience,
reflecting shared leadership and the strength of community voices.

On June 20, the Red River Métis Circle of Educators came together at historic Riel House for a day of connection, culture, language, music, and shared learning. Educators from across Manitoba gathered to strengthen relationships, deepen their understanding of Red River Métis history and traditions, and celebrate the growing community of Red River Métis educators. We thank the Rideau Hall Foundation for their generous support, which helped to make this gathering possible, and will continue to strengthen opportunities for Red River Métis educators to learn, connect, and grow together.



Learn More About the Red River Métis Circle of Educators

Email: circleofeducators@lrilearn.ca

OFFERING:

**Online and In-Person Events
Professional Development Opportunities
Culture and Heritage Workshops
Teaching Resources**



Bringing Red River Métis Educators Together

The day on June 20th began with a heartfelt opening by Elder Shirley Langan, whose wisdom and guidance set the tone for the gathering and concluded with a meaningful closing that brought everyone together in reflection and gratitude.

Live music by Ryan Spence and René Jobin created a warm, and welcoming atmosphere.

A highlight of the afternoon was an engaging Michif French language learning experience led by Elder Dave Lavallee, alongside Marj Lavallee, Rebecca Lavallee, and Anik Lavallee. Through stories, conversation, music, and language, they encouraged educators to continue exploring and incorporating Michif French into their classrooms.

Participants also had the opportunity to immerse themselves in Red River Métis culture through finger weaving, and jigging workshops, and guided tours of historic Riel House, all facilitated by the Louis Riel Institute's Cultural Program team.

These hands-on experiences provided educators with a cultural experience of Red River Métis traditions, history, and cultural practices while offering ideas to bring back to their classrooms, or to bring their students to the historic Riel House!



ALC Graduation 2026

To the Adult Learning Centre Class of 2026: congratulations on earning your diplomas! This moment is a celebration of your hard work, determination, and bright future. Whether your next chapter takes you into the workforce, further studies, or simply taking time to reflect on your success, know that we are cheering you on every step of the way. You earned every bit of this accomplishment.

Congratulations, Graduates of 2026!

The Louis Riel Institute Adult Learning Centre is dedicated to empowering Manitoba learners by providing accessible, self-paced, and flexible high school credit programs designed for mature students looking to complete their diploma or upgrade for post-secondary education.

Grounded in the Louis Riel Institute's mission to promote education, culture, and heritage, our center supports students every step of the way toward achieving their personal and academic goals.

Rewrite your story. Graduate, grow and go further than ever before.



ALC - New Admissions

lrilc@lrilearn.ca | louisrielinstitute.ca

Adult Learning Centre NEW ADMISSIONS

Education that fits your life — and reflects your story.



Online registration open now for the following courses:

- Essential Mathematics 40S
- Applied Mathematics 40S
- Chemistry 30S
- Chemistry 40S
- ELA: Comprehensive Focus 40S
- ELA: Transactional Focus 40S
- Life/Work Transitioning 40S
- Physical Education 40F
- Psychology 40S
- Credit For Employment 45G
- Physics 40S
- Biology 40S

Contact us at lrilc@lrilearn.ca to request your registration form and get started!



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LRI - Cultural Programming

Riel House



Celebrate 2026 at the Riel House Annual Corn Roast!

You're invited to a day of family fun, culture, and community at the annual Corn Roast at Riel House National Historic Site!

Join us in 2026 for a lively summer celebration featuring sweet, fresh-roasted corn, live Red River Métis music, and engaging cultural activities that honour the vibrant heritage of the Red River Métis. Plus, we've got hands-on kids' activities running all day long, making it the perfect outing for the whole family!

Come for the food, stay for the music, and connect with history.
See you there!

Read and Jig with the Red River Métis



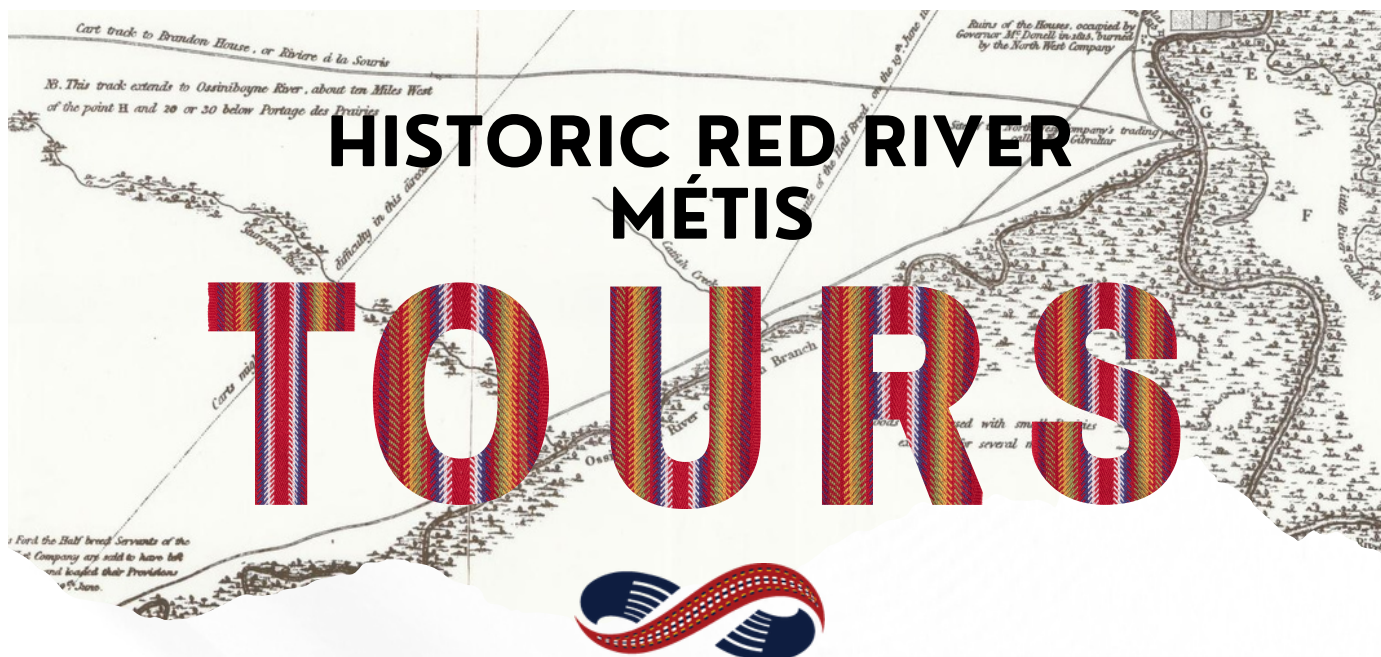
Join the Louis Riel Institute for Read and Jig with the Red River Métis, a fun and interactive morning series celebrating Red River Métis culture through storytelling and movement.

Hosted at the historic Riel House National Historic Site, this family-friendly event features engaging reading circles where staff share Métis-themed children's books, alongside lively jigging sessions where participants can learn about the history of Red River Métis jigging and practice basic steps.

Designed for elementary-aged children and their families, sessions run every Tuesday in August (August 18 and 25) from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Entry is completely free with no pre-registration required, making it a perfect summertime cultural experience.

Historic Red River Métis Tours



**TAKE A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME
AND LEARN ABOUT THE RICH RED
RIVER MÉTIS HISTORY IN MANITOBA.**

Explore the heritage of the Red River Métis through three unique experiences: the Louis Riel Tour, the Cuthbert Grant Tour, or a Custom Tour, tailored to your specific learning interests. Led by cultural experts, these 3-hour journeys uncover the landmarks, leaders, and stories that shaped Manitoba.

BOOK NOW

LRICULTURE@LRILEARN.CA



LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE
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Archives & Special Collections

Department announcements:

The Louis Riel Institute Archives and Special Collections are now searchable through the Manitoba Archival Information Network (MAIN). New records and materials are being added regularly, making it easier than ever to discover the rich resources available in our collections.

Whether you are researching Red River Métis events, exploring your family history, or looking for archival resources, we encourage you to browse our collections online:

[mainlibumanitobalouis-riel-institute-archives-and-special-collections](#)

Our archival staff have also been busy digitizing audiovisual and digital media, including VHS tapes, DVDs, floppy disks, and cassette recordings. Selected digitized materials will be made available online through our website, helping to preserve and share these important historical records with a wider audience.

[lriarchives/digital-heritage](#)

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Manitoba Heritage Grants Program, which has helped make this digitization project possible through funding for digitization equipment and supplies.

The LRI Archives and Special Collections is starting a blog series. The series features content in English, French, and Michif French. We also acknowledge the support of the Government of Canada in funding this initiative.

Check out our first blog here:

[Digitizing reel-to-reel media / Louis Riel Institute Archives and Special Collections](#)

Visit the Archives

The LRI Archives and Special Collections are open by appointment only. To schedule a visit, please contact us at: archives@lrilearn.ca

Donate to the Collection

Do you have archival materials that could help preserve Red River Métis history and culture? We welcome inquiries about potential donations.

**Please contact our Head Archivist to discuss archival donations:
bbryan@lrilearn.ca**

This day in History

Honouring Powley Day: A Milestone for Métis Rights



Every year on September 19, Métis communities across Canada mark Powley Day, a historic milestone that fundamentally reshaped the legal and cultural landscape for the Red River Métis and all Métis people.

The Origin of the Case

The story began on October 22, 1993, near Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, when Steve Powley and his son Roddy harvested a moose for winter food. Because they lacked a provincial hunting license, they were charged under provincial wildlife laws. Armed with their Métis identity and supported by the Métis Nation of Ontario, the Powleys defended their actions, arguing that Métis people had a constitutional right to hunt as Indigenous people.

A Landmark Ruling

After a ten-year legal battle, the case reached Canada's highest court. On September 19, 2003, the Supreme Court of Canada delivered a unanimous decision in *R. v. Powley*. The Court ruled that Steve and Roddy Powley had an Indigenous right to harvest food under Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. Crucially, the Powley decision:

- **Recognized Métis Identity:** Affirmed that Métis communities were distinct, self-governing societies prior to European legal control, with unique cultures and traditions.
- **Established the Powley Test:** Set clear legal criteria to define Métis rights and identify rights-bearing Métis individuals and collectives across Canada.
- **Dismantled Colonial Assumptions:** Confirmed that Métis rights are equal in status to those of First Nations and Inuit peoples.

Why We Commemorate

Powley Day is far more than a legal anniversary; it is a celebration of resilience, sovereignty, and survival. It opened doors for self-government agreements, resource negotiations, and federal recognition. As we reflect this September 19, we honour the courage of the Powley family and celebrate the ongoing journey toward full recognition of Métis rights.

Staff Spotlight - Summer Students

This summer, the LRI Archives and Special Collections was lucky to have 3 summer employees and an intern. They have been busy digitizing the collection, processing archival material, and making the archives more accessible to patrons. As a non-profit, we are grateful that all these positions were funded through various grants from the Province of Manitoba, the Canadian Government, and Métis Employment and Training.



Emma:

My name is Emma Hutchinson, and I am a recent graduate of the Archival Studies stream of the Joint Master's Program in History at the University of Manitoba and University of Winnipeg. I received my undergraduate degree in History from The King's University in Edmonton, Alberta in 2023, before moving to Winnipeg in 2024 for grad school.

In the last couple of years, I've worked archival internships at the University of Manitoba Archives and Special Collections, and the Kishaadigeh Collaborative Research Centre at the University of Winnipeg, and I'm very excited to be putting my skills to work as the Archive Intern at LRI.

What has been your favourite part of working for LRI?

My favourite part of working at LRI so far has been that I am never bored—there are so many projects to do in the archives, and a wide range of material to work with (topics ranging from Rooster Town to Michif, and media types from photos and maps to VHS and cassette tapes), so this keeps work interesting every day. Since we currently have five staff in the archives, it's been fun to get to know everyone else, and very rewarding to see how much we can accomplish as a five-person team.



Ryan:

Hi, my name is Ryan. I have nearly completed my Bachelor of Arts at the Université de Saint-Boniface, with a double major in History and International Relations. In my spare time I enjoy reading about history, playing historical video games, biking, skiing and swimming. I also work as a lifeguard with the City of Winnipeg.

What has been your favourite part of working for LRI?

My favourite part of working at LRI has been seeing the progress we have made. The LRI archives staff has been organising and rearranging the archives, and the difference is noticeable.

Items are easier to find, so that in the future, researchers will be able to use our collection to further their own projects.

I have been most proud of our growing digitalization catalogue. We have been taking old VHS, DVD, cassettes, floppy disks and other old media and making digital copies. This will allow their continued use, as the old forms of media degrade. We are at almost 400 entries, and this number will keep growing!



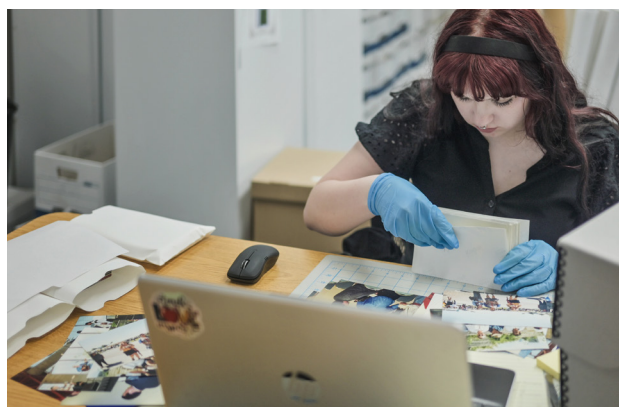
Emily:

Hi! I'm Emily, I'm currently in my last year at the University of Manitoba working on my Bachelors of Anthropology (Co-Op). My major field of interest is archaeology; I plan to pursue a MSc in Maritime/Underwater archaeology post-BA.

What has been your favourite part of working for LRI?

My favourite part of working for LRI so far is how kind and welcoming the atmosphere is. Everyone I've met has been lovely, it's a great environment. As for working in the archives, I've enjoyed being able to learn more about the history of Manitoba through the many materials available.

I have enjoyed digitizing the various forms of media and working to make them accessible to the public. I believe archival materials should be easily accessible for everyone in the same way museums are.



Kay:

I am Kay Los, a Métis student. I am passionate about archives, library science, history, and art. I discovered and deepened these passions through my three years of hands-on internship experience working in collections management at the Winnipeg Art Gallery during my high school years. This experience inspired me to pursue a career in historical archives and collections.

What has been your favourite part of working for LRI?

As a Métis student with a passion for archives and history, I enjoy my work at the Louis Riel Institute. I am grateful for the opportunity to be surrounded by and learn more about Metis history while contributing to the preservation of Métis culture and history for future generations. Beyond being able to explore my passions, LRI has a welcoming work environment full of friendly and helpful people. I also appreciate the opportunity to be able to participate in Métis centered workshops which have allowed me to learn more about Métis culture and history in practice.

Photo Gallery



Minister Beaudin and Minister Remillard
at the Victory of Frog Plain event



Victory of Frog Plain event



Victory of Frog Plain - Beading Workshop



Circle of Educators - Live music by Ryan
Spence & René Jobin



Circle of Educators - Gathering at Riel
House



Circle of Educators - Opening & closing
prayer with Elder Shirley Langan



Did you know that Louis Riel Institute is a registered charity?

Generous donors help make our work possible, preserving Red River Métis culture, language and heritage for future generations, and supporting learners of all ages across Manitoba.

Help support our cause by making a donation today!

DONATE HERE

THANK YOU

www.louisrielinstitute.ca

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