

2026 MMF ANNUAL REPORT



RECOGNIZING OUR PLACE IN HISTORY



Sixties Scoop Portfolio

Recognition, Healing and Justice

Minister Denise Thomas | 2025–2026 Annual Report

Sixties Scoop Work - Minister Denise Thomas

SURVIVOR DIRECTION, RECOGNITION, HEALING AND JUSTICE

The 2025-2026 work remained centered on Red River Métis Survivors, families and communities.

- Lived experience and Survivor leadership informed program delivery, priorities and responses to continuing harms.
- Major Sixties Scoop work focused on the Bridge to Justice Fund, legal proceedings, policy development, and Survivor-informed supports.
- The department maintained a clear distinction between immediate financial support, legal redress, and healing programming.
- Work was rooted in cultural connection, trauma-informed practice, Red River Métis self-determination, and accountability.
- Engagement included Survivors, families, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Youth, MMF leadership, Regions, Locals and community partners.



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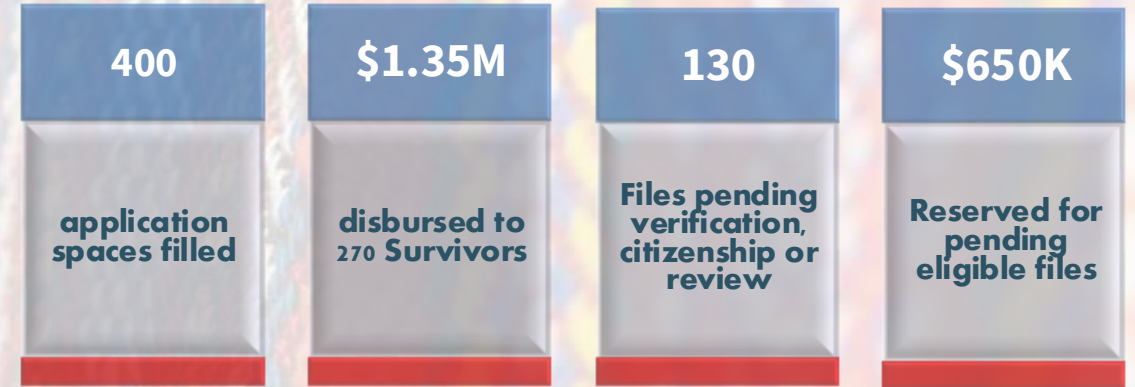
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Bridge to Justice Fund - Delivery Results

IMMEDIATE SUPPORT WHILE BROADER REDRESS CONTINUES

The Fund provided immediate, tax-free advance payments of \$5,000 to eligible Red River Métis Sixties Scoop Survivors.

- The Fund was capped at \$2 million and 400 application spaces; all 400 spaces were filled during the reporting period.
- Five additional applicants were placed in an official queue after the application limit was reached.
- The queue was managed by date, time and method of submission, with applicants notified by email and letter.
- When an approved-allocation file could not proceed, the next queued applicant could be considered in order received.
- Not all funds were disbursed by March 31, 2026, because some files required verification, MMF Citizenship, or review board processes.



Legal Proceedings And Redress Work

TWO RELATED LEGAL STREAMS; CLEAR SEPARATION FROM THE FUND

The MMF advanced legal and policy work seeking recognition, accountability and redress.

Collective Action FILED NOVEMBER 18, 2025

- Addresses collective harms to Red River Métis identity, culture, Michif language, family and community connection, collective continuity, and rights.
- Brought against Manitoba and Canada.
- Seeks recognition, declarations, damages and accountability.

Manitoba Class Proceeding FILED DECEMBER 5, 2025

- Advanced by Albert Beck and the MMF against the Government of Manitoba.
- Addresses individual Red River Métis class members apprehended by Manitoba or its agents and placed with non-Red River Métis foster or adoptive parents.



Important Distinction

- The proceedings remained separate from the Bridge to Justice Fund.
- The legal strategy addresses both collective Red River Métis harms and individual Survivor or Class member harms.
- The department maintained clear lines between active legal proceedings, Survivor support programming, and advance payments.

Kitchen Table Talk Program - Healing, Prevention and Connection

JOINT SURVIVOR PROGRAMMING SUPPORTING THE SIXTIES SCOOP PORTFOLIO

KTT provided culturally grounded, trauma-informed healing opportunities for Red River Métis Survivors and families.

13

**activities
delivered**

200

**approx.
participant
attendances**

3+

**regions
expanded into**

2

**wellness
retreats**



Program focus

- Intergenerational trauma, social isolation and wellness
- Family violence prevention and healthy relationship practices
- Cultural identity, reconnection, kinship and community belonging
- Culturally safe spaces where Survivors and families could share, heal and reconnect

Delivery Model

- Talking circles and cultural gatherings
- Financial literacy and wellness sessions
- Land-based teachings and community gatherings
- Programming inclusive of women, men and 2SLGBTQ+ participants

Specialized Workshops

- Violence prevention: root causes, protective cultural factors, accountability and safety
- Curiosities About Coping: practical coping skills and personalized wellness plans
- Trauma-informed practices: safety, trust, choice, collaboration and empowerment

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Work Ahead - Healing, Fairness and Accountability

NEXT STEPS FOR THE SIXTIES SCOOP PORTFOLIO

The next phase is to complete files fairly, keep Survivors informed, and continue building pathways to redress.

1

- Complete remaining Bridge to Justice Fund files through verification, MMF Citizenship and review processes.

2

- Operationalize Review Board decision-making so disputed or exceptional files are handled transparently and compassionately.

3

- Continue advancing legal proceedings while protecting clear distinctions between litigation, advance payments, and supports.

4

- Maintain plain-language communication with Survivors, including status updates, decisions, and appeal or review options.

5

- Continue culturally grounded healing and prevention programming through Kitchen Table Talk in partnership with Minister Carrier.

6

- Strengthen tracking, documentation and reporting so Cabinet, Regions and Survivors can see progress and remaining pressures.

7

- Keep recognition, healing, cultural reconnection and accountability as the central message of the portfolio.



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Engagement & Consultation

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Department Overview

Resolution No. 8 was passed unanimously at the 2007 Annual General Assembly.

Engagement and Consultation formed in 2013 to ensure Citizens are consulted on projects or plans that potentially impact the Community.



**Natural
resource
projects**



**Social
initiatives**



**National
strategies**



**Legislative
changes**



**Energy &
infrastructure
projects**



**Education
projects**



**Health
strategies &
initiatives**



... and more

- **Phase I: Notice and Response;**
- **Phase II: Research and Capacity;**
- **Phase III: Engagement or Consultation;**
- **Phase IV: Partnership and Accommodation;**
- **Phase V: Implementation.**

Ancestral Remains And Sacred Entities

IN ALIGNMENT WITH UNDRIP ARTICLES 11 & 12 AND MMF RESOLUTION NO. 7

2025 Consultation:

Approximately 130 Citizens reflected on past harms, shared experiences, and identified challenges, gaps, and culturally appropriate approaches grounded in Red River Métis values, kinship, and community responsibility.

A report was produced in March of 2026 that outlines your expectations and insights regarding the handling of sacred remains, while also incorporating supporting historical and scientific evidence.

2026 Traditional Knowledge Interview Project:

Undertaking traditional interviews with Citizens on sacred entities, ancestral resting places, and their histories.

Asserting our right to maintain, protect, and access to our religious and cultural sites, to the use and control ceremonial objects, and to the repatriation of our human remains.

Next steps:

Document oral histories and inform approaches to protection, repatriation, and governance.



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Statistics Canada

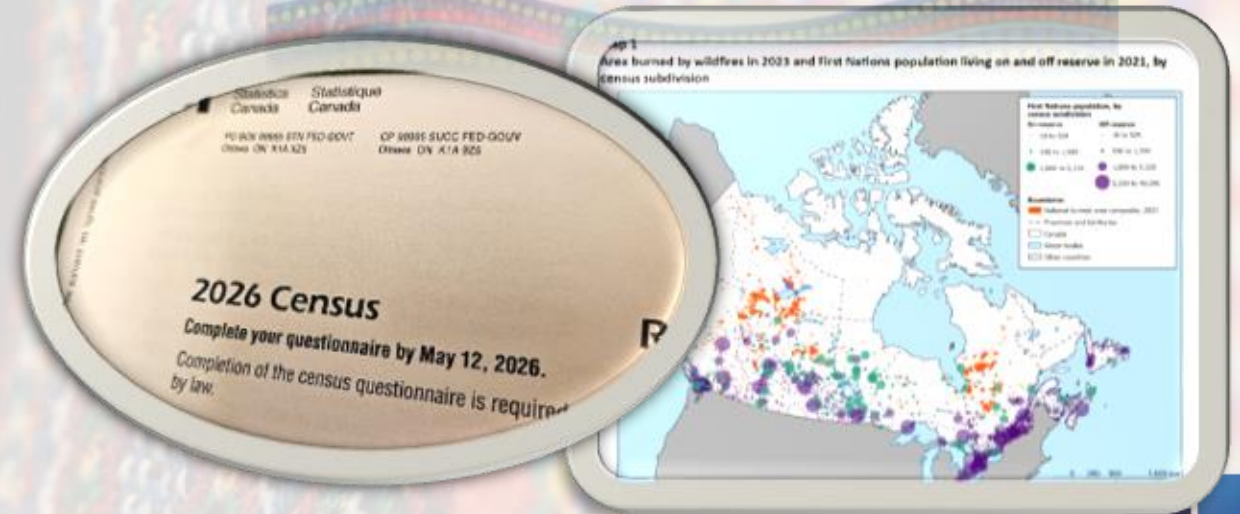
ENSURING ACCURATE REPRESENTATION OF THE RED RIVER MÉTIS

Over the last fiscal year, the department held several meetings with Statistics Canada's Centre for Indigenous Statistics & Partnerships (CISP) on topics including:

- The Indigenous Peoples Survey,
- Census of Population,
- Wildfire Experiences among Indigenous Peoples,
- Police Reported Crime in Canada, and
- Health Care Access Experience Among Children and Youth.

Engagement and Consultation continues to advance this work by:

- ensuring appropriate reporting standards are consistently applied to all surveys.
- aligning data collection practices across all surveys to ensure accuracy in reporting.
- examining record linkage opportunities.



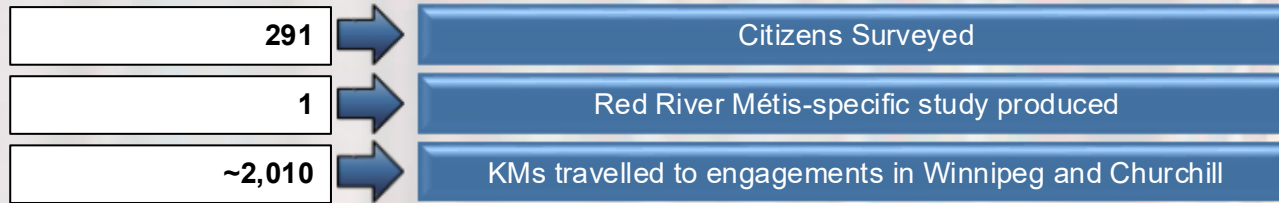
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Suicide Prevention And Life Promotion Strategy

IMPROVING THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF ALL RED RIVER MÉTIS



Manitoba is developing a Suicide Prevention and Life Promotion Strategy while working to improve mental health services in the province.

In partnership with MMF Health and Wellness and the Infinity Women Secretariat, we asked you about:

- suicide prevention services,
- aftercare support, and
- bereavement support for relatives and friends.

Based on the findings, Health and Wellness conducted a study to support the development of a Red River Métis-specific suicide prevention strategy.



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Community Health Engagements

PARTNERING WITH MMF HEALTH AND WELLNESS TO BRING RED RIVER MÉTIS VOICES TO THE TABLE

CancerCare Manitoba is in planning for a new facility at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg

Feedback from 76 participants on a 10-question survey supported the development of a Red River Métis-specific report that will inform CCMB's project planning and implementation.

HSO Cultural Safety & Humility Standard

Undertook a Red River Métis-specific review of the Standard by gathering input from Red River Métis healthcare clinical staff.

Internal analysis identified key concerns and recommendations including:

- Funds dedicated to supporting the capacity of Indigenous partners,
- The co-development of operational plans, and
- Data sharing agreements with organizational leaders and to co-develop approaches for sharing data.

The department is encouraging broad adoption and implementation of the Standard across healthcare organizations.

\$40K

Amount of funding procured from HSO and CCMB to undertake analyses



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Land Acknowledgements

The department continues to reform existing language of various Land Acknowledgements to accurately reflect the National Homeland of the Red River Métis, following the signing of our Red River Métis Self Government and Implementation Agreement on July 6, 2021, and our Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty on November 30, 2024.

Letters have been addressed to school divisions, entertainment industries, private companies, non-profit organizations, and more, to update their Land Acknowledgements, create partnership opportunities, and ensure accurate representation of the Red River Métis throughout the National Homeland.

205

Organizations contacted



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