



President Robert G. Doucette Speech; Provincial Legislature,
Provincial Proclamation “2010 – Year of the Métis”

“Good Afternoon, Mr. Premier, Minister Bill Hutchison, Minister June Draude, Métis Leaders, Senators, Elders, Dignitaries, Interested Parties and Members of the Media.

124 Years have passed since the dramatic events of 1885 in the North West Territories, which lead to a low point in the history of the Métis and our Nation.

However, true to the nature of Métis people in the shadow of our despair, we looked forward to the horizon called **HOPE** based on our faith that the sacrifices of our ancestors would lead to respect and recognition the Métis have played an important role in the development of this great province – Saskatchewan, our home.

Moving forward, today, marks a turning point in the history of this province with the declaration by Premier Brad Wall, 2010 The Year of the Métis in Saskatchewan.

This Declaration signals an era of reconciliation and understanding. In this great Province, as Métis People, we cannot turn inward but must move forward with the government and citizens of this Province, seeking common ground, on common problems, working together for common solutions.

We must strengthen the bonds that unite us and we will stand by this province, its premier and share the same conviction that great things can be achieved by a people with courage and a willingness to endure.

Mr. Premier, you have set the standard high with respect to Aboriginal – Non Aboriginal relations. The rest of the provinces in Canada can learn from your example and must recognize and emulate this historic moment if this country is to move forward.

As President of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, on behalf of a humble people with a great history, we thank you for the respect and recognition you have shown Métis citizens living in the province of Saskatchewan with this unprecedented – historic declaration.

God Bless this Province, its People, and our Families. Marci Choo.”