



# PROCLAMATION

## MÉTIS CROSSING DAY

**September 25, 2024**

- WHEREAS: the Métis are a post-contact Indigenous nation, born from the unions of European fur traders and First Nations women who through the generations formed, a culture and identity distinct from both the Europeans and First Nations; and
- WHEREAS: the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada, located within the Smoky Lake County, constitutes a mini-history of the Canadian settlement experience, including First Nations trading, missions, development of the fur trade, establishment of Métis river lot system, agricultural development, and Prairie immigration at the beginning of the 20th Century; and
- WHEREAS: the Métis Nation contributes significantly to the heritage and development of the Smoky Lake area, including homesteading and fur-trade families such as McGillivray, Norn, Flett, Cromarty Buchanan and Howse-Livingston, and renowned guide Peter Erasmus of the Palliser Expedition (1857 to 1860); and
- WHEREAS: Métis Crossing is located on Victoria Settlement River Lots 10, 11, 12, and 13 within the Victoria District and is rapidly becoming a source of inter-cultural understanding, knowledge, and friendship, as well as a gathering place, drawing visitors from across the Smoky Lake County, Province of Alberta, Canada, and beyond; and
- WHEREAS: today, Métis Crossing is a place of inspiration, sharing the warmth and strength of the rich and distinct Métis culture, offering legendary experiences that elevate the spirit and enrich lives.
- NOW THEREFORE: I, Reeve, Jered Serben of Smoky Lake County, hereby proclaim September 25, 2024 to be Métis Crossing Day in Smoky Lake County.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jered Serben", is written over a horizontal blue line. Below the line, the text "Smoky Lake County Reeve" is printed in a blue, sans-serif font.

Smoky Lake County Reeve