



NOTES D'ALLOCUTION – PIERRE ASSELIN

Cérémonie commémorative en hommage à Louis Riel

Mercredi le 16 novembre 2022 à 11 h

Législature albertaine

Chers dignitaires,

President Poitras

Elders et membres de la communauté métisse,

Membres de la communauté francophone,

Distingués invités,

Bonjour! Hi!

Je suis très heureux d'être parmi vous aujourd'hui et de pouvoir partager quelques mots au nom de l'ACFA, l'organisme porte-parole de la francophonie albertaine. Je vous remercie de l'invitation.

I am pleased to be with you today and to be able to share a few words on behalf of the ACFA, the spoke organization for Alberta's Francophonie. I would like to thank President Poitras for the kind invitation.

This morning we gathered together to honor the memory of a great Francophone and Métis from Western Canada, Louis Riel, who was executed fighting against linguistic, cultural and religious assimilation and oppression. The claims of this visionary remain valid after more than a century. All together, Métis, Francophones, and Albertans, let's ensure that the next generation can grow up in a caring, inclusive and equitable environment, while respecting our respective languages and our shared heritage.

Au nom de la communauté francophone de l'Alberta, je vous transmets nos plus sincères salutations. Je réitère notre engagement à bâtir la solidarité et à renforcer les liens entre la Nation métisse de l'Alberta et la francophonie albertaine. Nous aspirons à établir des liens encore plus forts entre nos communautés et, notamment, à développer des projets structurants qui pourront mettre en valeur notre histoire commune.

On behalf of the Francophone community of Alberta, I send you my greetings and reiterate our commitment to building solidarity and strengthening the ties between the Métis Nation of Alberta and the Alberta Francophonie. We aspire to establish even stronger ties between our communities and, in particular, to develop structuring projects that could highlight our common history.

I wish to recognize and applaud the most recent efforts of president Poitras, in moving the Metis Nation of Alberta towards a constitution. This is a laudable goal, whose ambition we can all be proud. As a francophone, I can

sympathise with the desire, and imperative, to have the metis nation recognized in the canadian constitutional narrative. On a day like today, where we reflect upon the role that Louis Riel played in our current understanding of the place of the metis people in the canadian constitutional narrative, let us all remember him, as even though we were not there, we still remember. J'étais pas la, mais je me souviens.

Merci! Thank you!