

# CHARD MÉTIS NATION 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



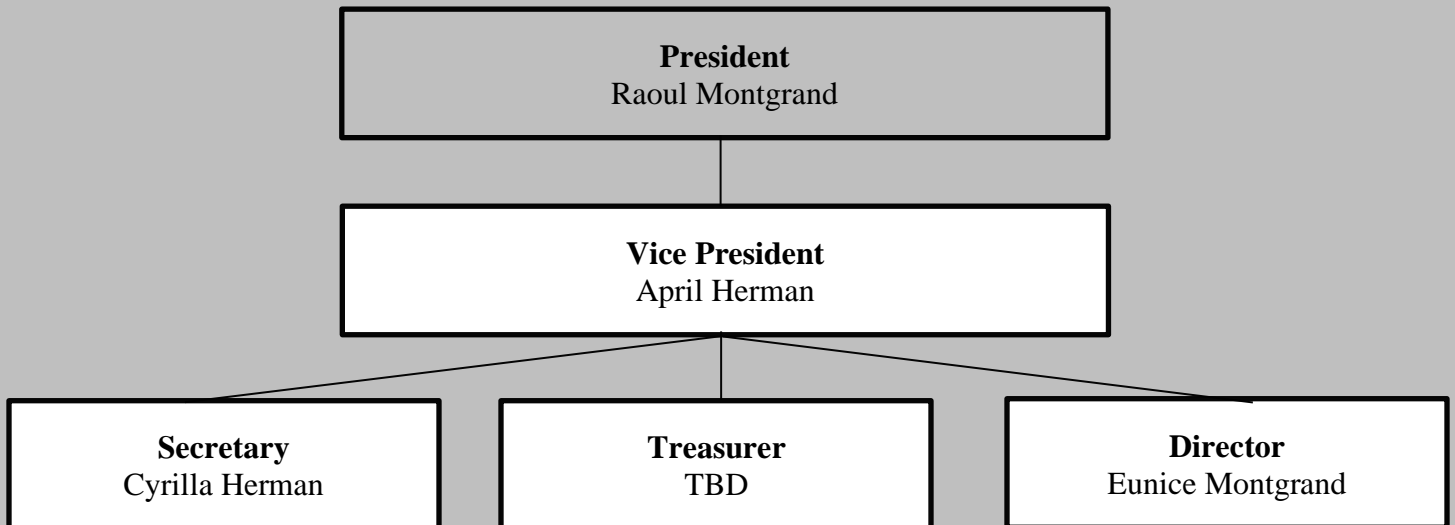
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# Organizational Structure 2019



## Board of Directors



**Chard Metis Elder  
Marie Agnes Herman**



## CMN Vision and Mission

To preserve and promote the Métis way of life, by looking to our elders, to maintain our Métis traditions, culture, spirituality and respect of Mother Earth. To ensure future generations carry on this mission, we are dedicated to educating our youth.

The Chard Métis Nation will strive to promote community enhancement, youth development, and Elder service and affiliation.

## Chard Métis 2019 Highlights

- ✚ Hiring of new CEO in June of 2019. Justin Herman was born and raised in our community and we are very fortunate that his path has brought him back home. Justin brings extensive experience in strategic partnerships, business development, business management and negotiation.
- ✚ Chard Métis Nation became one of the founding communities to form what is now the Albert Métis Federation (AMF) with the Fort McKay Métis, Willow Lake Métis, Athabasca Landing, Lake land Métis and Owl River. We have gotten very positive reviews from industry regarding the newly formed AMF and we are working the Métis National Council (MNC) and have been recognized federally as an Indigenous organization within Canada.



- ✚ The Chard Métis Nation's wholly owned companies, Chard Métis Dene Inc. (CMD) and the newly formed Chard Métis Dene Group of Companies (CMDGC) maintains the management of all Joint Venture partnerships and strategic alliances, as well as operating a staffing and resource company. Though the current economic conditions have been challenging we have still managed to grow our economic portfolio by 600% and the community should realize the economic benefits by Q2 of 2021
- ✚ CMD have seen continued success with our longtime strategic partner NCSG, though our revenue was down considerably from 2018, we were still able to realize almost 7 million in gross revenue.

- ✚ CMD formed a new partnership with TerraPro Inc. TerraPro is one of the largest matting companies in western Canada, through this partnership we will be able to execute matting, surface rentals and ground screws.
- ✚ CMD has formed a new partnership with X-Calibur Ground Disturbance. X-Calibur is owned by a Métis Entrepreneur and has been in business for over 20 years. Through this partnership we will be able to provide ground disturbance solutions, line locating and land administration.
- ✚ CMD formed a new partnership with Sureway Construction. Sureway has been in business since 1973 and is one of the premiere construction companies in western Canada. Sureway has over 1000 pieces of equipment and can execute any large project that requires earthworks, underground utilities, industrial, mining, and mechanical services.
- ✚ CMD has formed a partnership with Convergent Technologies. Convergent is a global service-based systems integrator with over 7000 employees worldwide. This partnership will be the first Indigenous partnership of its kind. Through this partnership we will be able to provide electronic security, fire and life safety, communications, financial safety, healthcare technologies, building automation, facility efficiency solutions and mechanical solutions.
- ✚ CMD has also formed a new partnership with Scarlet Group of Companies. Scarlet specializes in the provision of integrated security solutions. Through this dynamic partnership we will be able to execute anything and everything security related.
- ✚ CMD has formed a partnership with Ultratest. Ultratest has been in business since 1985 and is a nondestructive testing, Integrity, QA/QC and inspection company.
- ✚ CMD is also in the process of finalizing a partnership with CEDA. This partnership will be one of the largest Indigenous partnerships within our region and will position our community to be one of the largest Mechanical, dewatering, dredging and fluid management companies in western Canada.
- ✚ Thanks to Industry partners we were once again successfully able to

run multiple social programs for our members in 2019. These programs include our Home Repair Program, School Bus Program, Firewood Program, Road Clearing, Employment and Training as well as the Christmas Hamper Program. Also, the Chard Métis have continued to sponsor community events, as well as emergency relief for medical and bereavement. We were also able to sponsor 4 post-secondary students to realizing their dreams of continuing education.

## Community Events and Programs

### School Bussing Program

The Chard Métis are now sharing a School bus with the children from Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation, and any costs of transporting high school students to Bill Woodward School in Anzac. CPFN recently purchased a new larger School bus through TDN Contracting, so that the children from the Métis side can fit as well. The School bus transports our children to and from Janvier to Anzac, to attend Bill Woodward School, which is approximately a one-hour drive, one way. While our members do have the choice to attend our local School, we continue to support their decisions to enroll their children in a School that meets their educational needs. This is a very important program in the community to steward to the safety and education of our youth and central to the mandate of the Local. The program is responsible for funding the cost of Bus/Transportation, driver's yearly salary, insurance, gas, vehicle maintenance, etc.

### Firewood/Road Clearing

The firewood delivery program was once again successful, and this is the third year funding this program. Wood had been provided by various operators in the region, through local laborers. Any members homes relying on wood heat this winter were supplied, as was access to elder's driveways after the heavy snowfalls. This is a critical service to several families in Janvier/Chard, made possible through the support of our energy partners. We ask that all energy partners involved in any clearing activities to think of our community as a

recipient of any non-merchantable timber.

### Health

The Chard Métis have continued to help support its members with costs associated with medical and dental travel which requires leaving the community. Our organization is dedicated to helping and assisting the people of our community, especially when it comes to their health. 2019/2020 has been a groundbreaking time as our community has started the process of independently managing our health and wellness. In February of 2020 the Chard Métis Nation purchased our first medical transport vehicle to help provide transport to the Northern Lights Regional Hospital for our community members.

### Home Repair Program

This Home Repair Program is primarily funded through the revenue from our corporate entities CMD and CMDGC. Homelessness and disrepair of homes still remains as one of our community's largest issues as we believe that our youth need a safe and reliable home base to help them reach their potential. Though home repair resources remained scarce in 2019, due to the lack of economic activity in the area we were still able to complete home repairs for our members in need, and we will continue to prioritize safe homes for our people.

### Home Repair Photos





## Lac St. Anne Pilgrimage

We are pleased to have participated in the annual Lac St. Anne Pilgrimage 2019. This is an annual tradition for our People, and a wonderful cultural experience! Our members look forward to being able to attend this three-day annual event. The site of the annual Lac St, Anne Pilgrimage is one of the most unique and memorable spiritual Gatherings in North America. The Chard Métis supported our members by helping cover travel costs, and provided each of our respected Elders with honorariums.



## Education

The Chard Métis sponsored our students for multiple field trips and health and wellness camps. We understand that travel outside of the community is quite costly, especially for large households, and we have helped to alleviate some of the financial strains for our families.

We are proud to announce that two of our members graduated from High School in 2019. We were also able to provide available funding to 4 members pursuing their post-secondary education. In 2019 we helped members cover the costs of tuitions, books and accommodations and look forward to the achievement of each of their programs. The Chard Métis looks forward to continuing our Education Funding Programs.



## Chard Métis Christmas Hamper Program

We would like to thank all of our sponsors for helping us with the Christmas Hamper Program of 2019. We received generous donations from our energy partners and thanks to them we were able hold a small community Christmas party, give gifts to children and families and to provide hampers to all of our community members, and gift our respected Elders with honorariums.



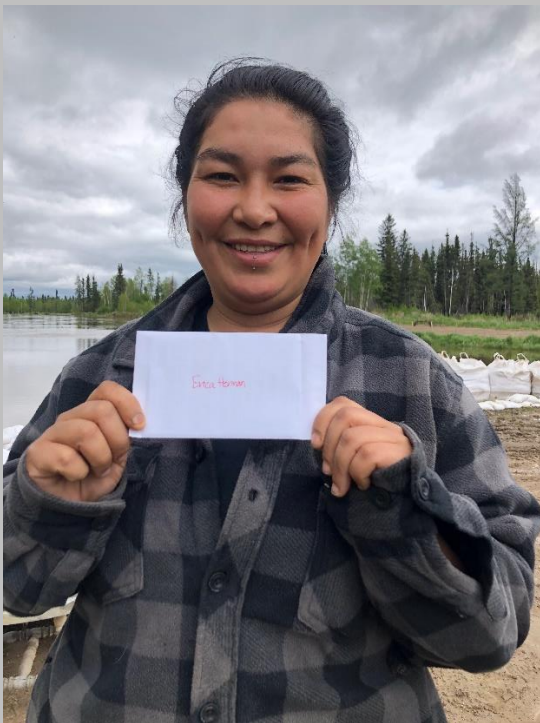
The Chard Métis are pleased to have sponsored several important Community Events and Programs for our members, none of which would be possible without the support of our Joint Venture partners and our Industry partners. We sincerely thank NCSG, TerraPro, X-Calibur, Sureway Construction, Convergint Technologies and Scarlet Group of Companies for their partnership. Additionally, Devon Energy, MEG Energy, CNRL, Cenovus Energy, Conoco Phillips, Enbridge, and CNOC Nexxen are to be commended for their efforts to exhibit best practices in all aspects of energy development and support of our community.

We are very grateful and humbled to have the opportunity to be a provide invaluable support and much needed resources to our community on your behalf, we take your faith in our mandate and work very seriously and again, thank you.

## Covid-19

Chard Métis faced a number of challenges due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Due to the restrictions put on to the community to ensure the residents were safe from an outbreak, the Nation along with CPFN made the decision to supply families with grocery hampers so that we could limit the amount of people leaving the community and possibly transmitting the virus. We also were generous donations from industry to be able to distribute grocery gift cards to families.

Chard Métis also experienced some challenges with medical transportation due to Covid-19. We have many members that are without personal transportation, this makes medical and dental appointments in town a challenge. We are happy to say that we have purchased our own medical van! This has been a goal for many years and are beyond happy to be able to offer this service to our membership.



## Spring Flooding

Along with the rest of the region, Chard was hit hard this year with spring flooding. We were fortunate to have the Municipality step in and donate sand bags to help save homes on the north end of the community including Elder Marie Agnes Herman's home. The community truly came together and showed what can be accomplished when working together as one.



## 2020 Goals

The Chard Métis Nation is committed to both sustainability and growth in 2020. Our corporate entity CMD & CMDGC will continue to move toward its mandate of economic independence for our community. Our priorities for 2020 are as follows;

- ✚ To maintain and forward our Vision of community enhancement, youth development, Elders teachings and Cultural education.
- ✚ To purchase or build a new community office/community hall in the community.
- ✚ To organize and raise funding for new initiatives such as; Chard Métis Playground, Family Cultural Trips, Parenting Programs, Culture Camps, Traditional Ceremonies and more.
- ✚ To raise funding for a proper and fully functioning health care system/program;
  - Emergencies needs
  - Medical transport
  - Home care system
  - Housing- health inspections- mold etc.
  - Addictions services and support programs etc.
- ✚ Bolster our employment and training programs.
- ✚ Complete current negotiations with prospective partners, expanding local and society benefit while providing valuable references for best in class performers.
- ✚ Develop collaborative relationships with community and municipal groups throughout the region

- ✚ To continue successfully running the firewood supply program. This program is a critical service to our members relying on wood for heat in the winter and must be maintained. Any contributions of timber from our neighbors will be put to good use here.
- ✚ Finalize the community land transfer with the RMWB.

The Chard Métis would again like to thank our neighboring resource developers for their acknowledgement and support of our community and their pursuit of best practices in all that they do.

We thank all of our JV partners, for their commitment to work with Chard towards the sustainability and success of our community and Métis way of life. With our best efforts, we will continue to promote your good efforts, and return the support and friendship you have offered us.



## 2020 Overview

The Chard Métis Nation were pleased to have been chosen to participate in the Cenovus Energy's Indigenous Housing Initiative. In January of 2020, Cenovus Energy launched the Cenovus Indigenous Housing Initiative. The largest community investment initiative in Cenovus's history, this initiative is aimed at addressing one of the most pressing issues facing Indigenous communities in Canada - homelessness, overcrowding, poorly built homes that are in disrepair which cause unsafe conditions for families.

The program, announced in January 2020, involves a plan to commit \$10 million per year for at least five years to build much needed new homes in six First Nations and Métis communities closest Cenovus's operations in northern Alberta, with the potential to extend the project to 10 years. Cenovus views this initiative as an important way to contribute to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Cenovus also plans to work with the communities to develop training programs, so that local residents can participate in the building and maintenance of the new homes.

The Chard Métis are incredibly humbled and thankful to be a part of this initiative, we are excited for the opportunities that it will bring to the community, not only housing but also the training that will be available to our members.

The community also successfully negotiated the first ever nominal land transfer in RMWB for 5 lots in the Hamlet of Janvier to the Chard Métis Nation.



## Message from our CEO

Though our community saw the realization of many milestones in 2019 and we are very proud of what we have accomplished we understand that we have a lot of work left to do.

Our leadership team and board members remain more committed and vigilant than ever to ensure that the Chard Métis community and its members continue to prioritize our traditions and maintaining our connection with the land while understanding that our best chance of preserving our ways is through economic independence.

2020 has been a challenging year for our community as it has been for the rest of the world. With the global pandemic COVID-19 affecting everyone directly or indirectly we have never been more grateful for our connection with the land our fight to preserve our traditional way of life. We are humbled and grateful to announce that thus far we haven't had any of our members test positive for Covid-19, we accredit this to our members not only taking this pandemic seriously but mostly to our members putting in more effort to return to the land during these trying times. The land has been our safe haven away from Covid-19, and there is no better place to isolate and reconnect with our roots. This has been made possible through the hard work of our leadership working collaboratively with the Alberta Métis Federation, the municipal, provincial, federal leadership and our industry partners.

Our goal is to break “the cycle” for our community, for the Chard Métis this means changing the mentality from “**Surviving to Thriving**” and we believe that we are well on our way to doing so, thanks to the relationships and support from our Industry partners and our strategic JV partners.

This may be a time of uncertainty but we have never felt more confident about our relationships and our future!

Mahsi cho,



Justin Herman  
Chief Executive Officer  
Chard Métis Nation & Chard Métis Dene Group of Companies

