

Association des Acadiens-Métis Souriquois Newsletter

www.acadiens-metis-souriquois.ca

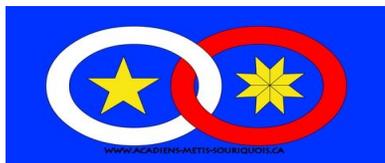
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Acadiens-Metis Heritage

In the Summer of 2012, a very special visitor came to Southwestern Nova Scotia to study the Acadiens-Métis. Katie Macleod, Anthropology student at Carleton University, in Ottawa, Ontario, spent the summer working on her Masters thesis by interviewing many Acadiens-Métis in the region. Her questions, while being very insightful, attempted to identify a local Metis culture related to customs, traditions, language and past identity denial. The final report could be significant for Acadian-Metis recognition. Special thanks to Gilbert and Kristanne Chandler for providing lodging for Katie at their beautiful camp in Hectanooga, NS.



Idle No More !!!

As you have surely all heard by now **Idle No More** has been making it's way across Canada and the World. First Nations have been joined by grassroots people of all colors and ages in song, dance and drumming.

Why be **Idle No More**? It's for the preservation and protection of our country, of our planet. We are one people on one planet. "We are the ones we've been waiting for". May Creator guide us well, look for facts, educate yourselves, on why it is important, especially for the young generations that are to come. What shall they be left with?

There has been voluntary participation by AAMS Members in Yarmouth, Bear River and Halifax, NS as well as in other parts of Canada and the USA. **IDLE NO MORE !!!**

A A M S Annual General Meeting
will be held in March 2013
more details coming soon

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President's Report

Another busy summer for AAMS has come and gone. The highlight of the summer was the 'Festival Acadien de Clare' where the AAMS float (traditional hay wagon) again won the Grand Prize in the parade. Special thanks to James LeBlanc (AAMS 2nd Vice president) and P'tit Laurie Melanson for their huge hand made efforts on the hay wagon and trailer.

Plans are being drawn up for AAMS' participation in other Southwest Nova festivals in the New Year. Look for our float in the Yarmouth and Weymouth upcoming parades plus much more...

In 2013 AAMS is offering another \$500.00 bursary to a student member who is furthering their education in a community college or university. **Please check our web site for application information.**

On a sad note, a proud and very active AAMS member from Louisiana, USA, Bernie David passed away October 23/2012. I can honestly say that a dear friend of many will be sadly missed at summer festivals in Nova Scotia. At his request; his name is not to be spoken for one year after his passing. I ask all members to give due diligence to this old and honourable Aboriginal tradition.

I invite all AAMS members to participate in support of our association, be it by attending events, sharing info with friends, inviting people to verify their ancestry, and/or participating as a volunteer. May the AAMS continue to expand it's membership!

Yours in Acadiens-Metis Fellowship,
Joseph Jacquard, AAMS President

Congratulations are sent out to Marie Christine Melanson-Mallet (Kingston N.B.) and Nicole Thimot (Petit Ruisseau, Clare, NS) for each having won a **\$500.00 AAMS Bursary** for their postsecondary education.

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<< STUDENTS send in your applications for the 2013 AAMS \$500. Bursary, see website for further details >>

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On the subject of bursaries, over forty thousand dollars in student bursaries has been awarded to AAMS postsecondary students from the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF recently renamed Indspire) **Please see www.indspire.ca for student bursary applications** and past recipients.

~~~ AAMS President & Directors are **VOLUNTEERS**, to date, receive no payment for their time ~~~

## Federal Court Decision...

The latest Federal court case decision summary: Quote: Lawson Lundell LLP, John Olynyk, Trevor C. Ference and Michelle S. Jones , January 14 2013

On January 8, 2013, the Federal Court released its decision in Daniels v Canada, 2013 FC 6, a case involving the scope of the word "Indian" under section 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867. The plaintiffs sought a declaration that Métis and non-status Indians ("MNSI") are "Indians" for the purposes of section 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867.

... The Court concluded that the balance of the evidence supported that MNSI comprised part of the class of aboriginal peoples that the federal government was assuming responsibility for and governed under the constitutional division of powers. As a result, the Court declared that MNSI are "Indians" for the purposes of section 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867.

The decision is significant because to date neither the federal nor provincial governments has accepted responsibility for these groups. The decision holds that MNSI fall within the same scope of federal responsibility under the Constitution Act, 1867, as do Indians and Inuit. The decision is likely to have significant implications for the federal government as it will now face MNSI expectations for programs and services (education, health care, etc.) comparable to those currently provided to status Indians and Inuit.

The decision will not have any immediate implications for private third parties like project proponents. The decision was focused on constitutional jurisdiction over MNSI, and not on Aboriginal rights or consultation requirements for MNSI. There may be indirect impacts in provinces that have enacted legislation in relation to MNSI. For example, Alberta has passed legislation establishing a land base for Métis settlements and providing for governance of those settlements. If, as the decision suggests, MNSI fall within exclusive federal legislative jurisdiction, legislation like the Alberta Métis Settlements Act, and rights granted to third parties under that legislation, may be put into question. However, this issue was not addressed in the decision.

It is widely expected that Canada will appeal the decision to the Federal Court of Appeal and, if necessary, the Supreme Court of Canada. While the Daniels decision therefore clarifies constitutional responsibility for MNSI, it is not likely to be the final word on the matter. End quote.

**WANT TO JOIN AAMS**  
visit the **BECOME A MEMBER** section on our website

## A "Doucet" Surname DNA Project

A member of AAMS, Marie Rundquist, is the founder and administrator of a project called "Amerindian Ancestry Out of Acadia" at Family Tree DNA. She has recently written a paper about the results of DNA research in relation to ancestry of the Doucet/Doucette surname.

The research involved the testing of Y-Chromosome DNA (Paternal DNA) that exists only in male descendants and remains unchanged through many generations as it is transmitted from father to son in the same direct line as their Doucet/Doucette surname.

History tells us that Germain Doucet (1595) first came to Acadia from France in 1632 and transmitted his surname to descendants via two sons; that is, Pierre and Germain Jr. (1641).

When present day male descendants (that are in a direct line to Pierre Doucet) were Y-DNA tested they were found to have a European marker (R1b1a2) as expected. However, when a direct descendant of Germain Jr. Doucet (1641) was Y-DNA tested, namely Keith Doucet from Louisiana, the result revealed an unexpected Native American marker (C3b). Did this mean that the father of Germain Jr. (1641) was not Germain Doucet (1595) as reported, but rather a North American Native? Or did this result suggest a mistake in Keith Doucet's genealogical line?

To solve the mystery, eight (8) different and direct male descendants of the various sons of Germain Jr. Doucet (1641) were asked to voluntarily agree to Y-DNA testing. Three (3) of these qualifying volunteers were locally found in the genealogical files of AAMS. All eight (8) results came back as C3b and thus proved that the father of Germain Jr. Doucet (1641) was definitely a North American Native. Therefore, this particular Amerindian lineage to Germain Jr. Doucet (1641) has significance for AAMS as proof of Acadian-Metis ancestry.

Ongoing DNA research will continue to reveal historical unknowns.

### Did You Know That.....

This Spring proud AAMS member Joline Boudreau will be entering the Miss Nova Scotia and Miss Maritimes International Pageant as Miss Wedgeport, N.S. She is a former Wedgeport Tuna Tournament Queen and is currently finishing her Bachelor of Nursing at the University of P. E. I. GOOD LUCK Joline !!



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**Read up on the information available, learn about YOUR Association  
and SHARE with your Acadiens-Metis friends!**