

# August 2022 Newsletter



**Taanishi kiiyawow? (How are you?),**

## Current Events

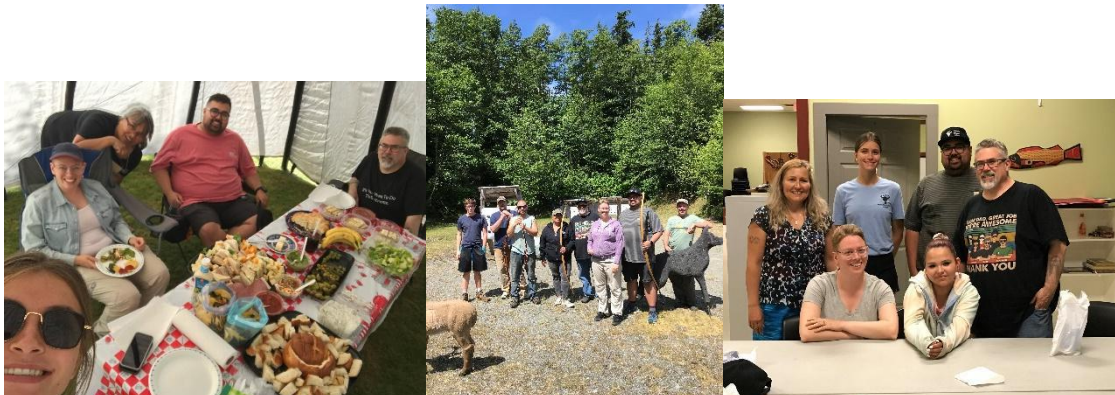
NIMA hosted a tipi set up session at the Robron Centre on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Elder Bruce Dumont for sharing his knowledge to our members. We are looking for community members who are interested in stepping into the role of setting up the tipi for future events. If you are interested in volunteering with the tipi, please contact the office.

On July 16<sup>th</sup> Filomi Day in Port Hardy, NIMA shared a booth with MNBC's Family Connections Navigator for Vancouver Island. It was a beautiful day full of connecting with many of our members.

NIMA hosted multiple sessions of the new Try-A-Sport program. River Fishing was run by member Tulsa Masee on July 16<sup>th</sup>. There was also a walk around the Beaver Pond Trail in Beaverlodge Lands and a hike on the Canyon View Trail.

Six Family Fitness Fun Nights were hosted by NIMA. The evenings were full of fun games that connected families together.

NIMA was in Port McNeil and Port Hardy on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. We hosted free archery lessons at the Broughton Sports Club near Port McNeil. Two exercise movement sessions and a dinner were held at the Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre in Port Hardy. Members of our community set up a tipi with the knowledge of Dean Wilson. Thank you to all who attended, it was wonderful to connect with you.



To stay up-to-date on resources and future events by visiting our website and following our social media.

Website: [www.nimetis.com](http://www.nimetis.com)  
Facebook: @Northislandmetisassociation  
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## Upcoming

As mentioned earlier, we have a new program that will be running all year called Try-A-Sport. Throughout the year, NIMA will be hosting sessions of different types of physical activities. This is a great opportunity for you to come and try a new activity as well as connect with other members of our community. All equipment will be provided by NIMA. Starting in September, for each session you attend you will be entered into a chance to win a Fitbit watch. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to win other prizes at each session. We hope to see you there.

Don't forget that Orcafest 2022 is happening in Port McNeill on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you there.

On August 20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Métis Healing Journey event will be hosted on Cortes Island. This journey will empower our members to connect to the land, our culture and other members of the community.



The next Mamawi gathering will be September 11<sup>th</sup>. Mara Kersey will teach us the art of hair tufting. Everyone is welcome. The event starts at 1:00 pm and will take place at the Robron Centre in Campbell River. We welcome any Métis women and 2SLGBTQIAA+ community to attend. Children who wish to participate are welcome. If you require childcare, please let us know. At the October gathering, we will be creating fish scale art.

In September, NIMA will be hosting an Elders lunch. This will be an opportunity to bring together and connect our Elders within our community. Please stay tuned for more details to come.

The MNBC Annual General Meeting will be hosted on September 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. All MNBC members are invited to attend. For more information, please go to [www.mnbc.ca/agm](http://www.mnbc.ca/agm).

The Vancouver Island Métis Rendezvous is happening on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Cowichan Exhibition Park in Duncan. There will be live music, events and vendors.

NIMA will be conducting a phone survey around housing needs starting in September. We are putting together a questionnaire for our members that will assist us in determining the specific and current housing needs of the community so we can make sure our building plans meet the needs of our members. Make sure your information is up to date so that we can contact you for input.

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## Housing and Childcare

Work on the development continues and we plan to have contractors doing basic survey work on the property in September. We now have a NIMA sign on the property fence next to the MNBC sign, so look for those if you are trying to see which property we are building on. Make sure to participate in the housing survey when we call to have your feedback included.

Please note that no decisions have been made about specific details for the housing development. This is a long process so decisions about eligibility for potential renters and childcare attendees are further in the future. We are not keeping lists of names. Once a process is in place, we will make sure to notify people and give lots of information and lead up time.

## Did You Know?



The infinity symbol is often used to represent the Métis. One interpretation is that the Métis people will go on forever; no matter what happens our culture is unending. It can also be seen as the Métis joining ancestral First Nations and European traditions to create our own distinct culture.

The Métis sash is known as en sayncheur flayshii (arrow belt) in Michif language due to the zig-zag pattern. Traditionally, sashes are handwoven, which takes hundreds of hours. Today, sashes are often worn as ceremonial dress and they are given as gifts to honour a person's achievement.



## Michif Words

Summer - l'itii

Sun - li salay

Interested in learning more Michif? Check out this great new website - <https://michif.org/>

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