



Recent Events

MEDF/LRCC conference planned in March was cancelled.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the MEDF/LRCC conference planned in March was cancelled. We plan on hosting an event for Metis entrepreneur to have an opportunity to connect when the governing bodies allow for larger gatherings. Stay tuned by connecting to one of the social media outlets.

Exciting News

Prime Minister announces support for Indigenous Businesses

Source: <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/18/prime-minister-announces-support-indigenous-businesses>

Ottawa, ON, April 18, 2020: Indigenous businesses provide jobs, goods, and services to communities, and are an important part of the Canadian economy. Right now, they are facing challenges and economic hardships due to COVID-19. That is why the Government of Canada is taking action to make sure that Indigenous business owners have access to the support they need to get through this crisis.

The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, today announced up to \$306.8 million in funding to help small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses, and to support Aboriginal Financial Institutions that offer financing to these businesses.

The funding will allow for short-term, interest-free loans and non-repayable contributions through Aboriginal Financial Institutions, which offer financing and business support services to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis businesses. These measures will help 6,000 Indigenous-owned businesses get through these difficult times.

Today's announcement is part of the Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan. We will continue to monitor and respond to the wide-ranging impacts of COVID-19, and take additional actions as needed to protect the health and safety of Canadians and stabilize our economy.

[Read more at the source listed above](#)

Metis Emergency Business Loan Program

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Louis Riel Capital Corporation, through assistance provided by the Government of Canada, is taking action to ensure that Metis business owners impacted by Covid-19 have access to the support they require.

The Metis Emergency Business Loan (MEBL) is designed as an emergency measure to support small business owners in meeting their immediate operating cash flow needs. These funds are not intended to replace or duplicate government or other bank/lender emergency financing/funds that are available to businesses in Canada.

Guidelines:

Maximum assistance is \$40,000.00 comprised of 75% interest-free loan (up to \$30,000.00) and 25% non-repayable contribution (up to \$10,000.00). Loan and contribution are issued together.

Loans are:

Up to 48 months term; Interest free; No payments in first 12 months; Loan payments begin in month 13 and are fully amortized over the remainder of the term; Principal repayments can be made voluntarily at any time after six months of issuance, without fees or penalties.

The LRCC Equity Contribution Fund

Aimed at entrepreneurs that need financial assistance to mobilize their business to the next step of being a reality.

Funding

Maximum contribution towards a business for an individual is \$99,999 and \$250,000 for a community-based (i.e. no-shareholders) business.

Who is eligible?

Metis, Inuit and Non-Status Indian people residing in Manitoba.

A business that has a minimum of 51% Indigenous ownership (Metis, Non-Status or Inuit - individually or combined).

COVID-19 supports for businesses

Check out the following links for additional COVID-19 supports for businesses:

Province of Manitoba Information for Businesses

<https://manitoba.ca/covid19/business/index.html>

Government of Canada COVID-19 Economic Response Plan

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#businesses>

Addressing the Toughest Challenge in Remote Conferencing

Source: Hub Technology Solutions

<https://www.hub.ca/blog/addressing-the-toughest-challenge-in-remote-conferencing>

Video conferencing is a crucial technology for businesses, especially now. Although, while it has the benefits of accessibility, it certainly is different from your run-of-the-mill in-person meetings... due to this, it has a challenge that an in-person meeting does not. Let's go over what this challenge is, and how to overcome it.

The Biggest Challenge in Video Conferencing

Unfortunately, there's a big disadvantage to video conferencing and that's the inherent lag that so commonly takes place during meetings. While this may not sound like much, it matters a lot.

Based on the length of time that we've spent communicating face-to-face and communicating remotely, the latter is barely a blip on the timeline. We've had telephony, the first form of voice-based telecommunications, for about 100 years. Conversations, on the other hand, have taken place for 70,000 (give or take). As our brains developed, they adjusted to make these conversations as efficient as possible.

This meant that, while we wouldn't talk over one another by default, we would leave a little pause after the other person finished speaking to respond as possible. We've all experienced what an awkward silence is like. This precedent is what makes that moment of quiet so uncomfortable.

Video conferencing isn't instantaneous, which makes these pauses an inescapable reality. Even if they are minuscule delays, conversations can still devolve into the pauses and interruptions that so many workplace jokes have capitalized on.

Despite this, however, implementing remote conferencing still offers far more benefits than drawbacks. As your team adjusts, their productivity and collaborative success will rise.

HUB Technology Solutions is here to help your team collaborate with the solutions that power your business' operations. We may even be able to help reduce the latency your team is dealing with on your conference calls. To find out what we can do to help your specific needs, give us a call at 204-772-8822 or 1-833-847-0725.

Proof of Indigenous heritage will be required to determine eligibility. For Non-Status Indian applicants will be required to complete an Indigenous Declaration form signed by a Commissionaire of Oath.

The proposed or existing business must operate full-time and result in job creation in Manitoba. The applicant or majority shareholder must be actively involved in the business on a day-to-day basis.

The intent of the program is to act as an "equity-builder" for those entrepreneurs who have a limited amount of cash to invest but need more financing in the form of equity to attract third-party commercial financing. As a result, each applicant is assessed against a needs-test.

MMF First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP)

This Investment in a Housing program for Metis Citizens in Manitoba will provide funding by way of a grant for the purchase of affordable housing for first time home buyers.

Improves access to affordable housing that is safe, sound, suitable and sustainable for Metis households across Manitoba by:

Providing increased opportunities for Metis citizens in Manitoba, to become home owners where they may not otherwise have this opportunity. The MMF First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP) is designed to help Metis citizens overcome the challenge of trying to save sufficient funds that financial institutions require for a down payment to purchase a home which will be their principle residence.

The program provides non-repayable funding for the 5% down payment up to a maximum of \$15,000.00 towards the purchase of a home plus a portion of closing costs of 1.5% of the purchase price up to a maximum of \$2,500 to address Metis housing needs in the Province of Manitoba.



For more on these LRCC programs, visit www.lrcc.mb.ca and/or call local 204-589-0772 or toll-free 1-800-387-6004 and speak to one of the representatives.

Featured Success



Nonsuch Brewing Co.

Company Size: 20 Employees
Industry: Manufacturing Beverage Breweries
Executive: Matthew Sabourin, CEO
Investment Date: August 2017

Nonsuch Brewing Co. is a micro-brewery crafting beer in the heart of Winnipeg founded in 2016. We share our name with The Nonsuch - the first trading ship to reach the Hudson Bay and establish Manitoba's trading history. The name means "none such", i.e. "unequaled".



Make the most of life

That's the spirit of our brewery & the reason for our beer. As brewers, making the most of life means we're compelled to craft beer we're proud of - beer worth celebrating.

Belgian brewers have earned a world-renowned reputation for their unique style of beer and we're excited to bring our interpretation to the prairies. We craft high ABV European-style beers with a focus on Belgian ales.



When we imagine the future, we dream of a Winnipeg even richer in culture, its citizens happy to call it home and eager to explore all it has to offer. Our company contributes to our great city's culture and our brewery's reputation in North-America makes all Manitobans proud. We constantly strive to become a better company instead of just a bigger one.

Our mission is to make beer worth brewing and deliver it in an experience worth remembering. If we don't deliver on that, nothing else matters.

La Brasserie Nonsuch Brewing Co.

125 Pacific Avenue
 Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0M1
 204 NON-SUCH (204-666-7824)
www.nonsuch.beer

Word Search

Metis

C	N	G	L	J	U	G	B	U	F	F	A	L	O
R	E	M	O	E	I	S	L	C	L	B	S	N	I
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 FIDDLE
 GRASSROOTS
 BUFFALO
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 CART
 RED RIVER

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1267434/>

About MEDF

The Metis Economic Development Fund (MEDF) stimulates the economic development of Manitoba Métis businesses & entrepreneurs by providing equity and/or debt financing creating equity partnerships. MEDF concentrates on businesses and entrepreneurs which are in growth, expansion, or acquisition phases. The Fund may also invest in start-up ventures when the viability of the business outweighs the increased investment risk.



MEDF offers up to \$500,000 in capital in the form of equity or commercial debt to qualifying Metis entrepreneurs and businesses.

If you are interested in learning more about our services and how MEDF may be able to help you grow and expand your business, give us a call at (204) 589-0772 or email us at info@medf.ca.

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About LRCC

Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) delivers various programs available for the Manitoba Metis entrepreneurs & businesses. LRCC supports start-ups, expansions & growth, and mergers & acquisitions.



The business equity contribution program offers capital up to \$99,999 that qualifying Metis businesses can obtain. We also offer commercial financing up to \$250,000 to help support entrepreneurs in various industries and sectors.

LRCC began delivering the Manitoba Metis Federation First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP) in February 2019. The intent of the FTHPP is to provide our Metis citizens with the equity necessary to fund the 5% down payment (up to \$15,000.00) and a portion of closing costs (up to \$2,500.00) required to obtain a default-insured mortgage through a financial institution and purchase their first home.

If you are interested in learning more about our services and how LRCC may be able to help you grow and expand your business, give us a call at (204) 589-0772 or email us at info@lrcc.mb.ca.

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www.medf.ca | www.lrcc.mb.ca



The programs & services offered by MEDF are made possible through the economic development initiatives of the Manitoba Metis Federation