

VIA EMAIL

November 17, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada Langevin Block Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

RE: Exoneration of Louis Riel

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

On behalf of the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council (the NBAPC) I am writing to urge the Government of Canada to support the exoneration and over-turn the longstanding injustices committed against Louis Riel.

As a member organization of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples to represent the interests of Métis and non-status Indians, the NBAPC (formerly known as the New Brunswick Association of Métis and Non-Status Indians) is a community of Indigenous peoples that is open to anyone of Indigenous ancestry living on their traditional ancestral homelands throughout what we now refer to as the Province of New Brunswick.

Each year on November 16, we recognize the untimely death of Louis Riel as a moment of reflection on how difficult the struggle has been for our Métis brothers and sisters to preserve their rights and culture. For a long time now, Louis Riel is known as an honourable warrior among our people and as an Indigenous rights activist among Canadians.

In the spirit of reconciliation, we recognize the hard work and efforts put forward by the national coalition led by Paulette Duguay, President of the Union nationale métisse Saint- Joseph du Manitoba to declare Louis Riel innocent.

NBAPC is proud to support the call of the national coaliation to exonerate Louis Riel.

Sincerely,

Barry LaBillois

President and Chief

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