

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
PROPOSED PLAN FOR INDEXING
METIS HISTORICAL COLLECTION

This report deals only with the most immediate and important information of the Metis Historical Collection. That should be indexed over the forthcoming budget year. Because there are budget restrictions upon the Institution, the most valuable information was suggested to be done.

Since this is not an indepth and comprehensive report it tends to be specific only within the areas of most importance and generalizes overall in terms of the collection. In this sense a long term strategy is not specifically addressed.

Background Development Of The Research

The present Metis Historical Collection is an outgrowth of the original Aboriginal Rights Research program. Part of the collection exists as material researched from the point of view of Aboriginal Rights. As such, this part of the collection does have some gaps in it and is arranged in a different manner than in the form from which it was originally researched. The reason being that the information was structured around topics concerning Aboriginal Rights. This does pose some problems for indexing.

Near the end of the Aboriginal Rights Research we began to see that there was forming a vast amount of information concerning the social, economic and political history of the Metis people. However, this information existed in an unrelated form. Debates occurred between the Aboriginal Rights Research and A.M.N.S.I.S. concerning continuing the research towards a comprehensive information collection of Metis history. It was then decided to continue the research towards this end.

Immediate Priorities For Indexing

In terms of the most important information to be indexed over the forthcoming budget year are the following collections: the Church Missionary Society and other missionary organizations; the British Colonial Office, Foreign Office and War Office; the Hudson's Bay Company Archives; the Selkirk Papers; British Museum Manuscripts; British Parliamentary Papers; and the British House of Commons Debate.

It is within these collections that exist the most condensed information of Metis social, economic and political history. If these collections were to be indexed over the next year, then there would be a big step forward in terms of the development of the collection. The amount of predictable work to be done is from 29½ to 36½ weeks of serious disciplined work.

Potentiality Of The Collection

The Metis Historical Collection has been deemed to be a valuable archival collection by a provincial archivist. It should as well be reviewed by relevant academics from the University of Regina in order to establish it's scholarly merits. This is important in order to establish a Collection and the Institute as a centre of scholarly work.

The Collection offers potential in such areas as Third World Development, Cross Cultural Education, Curriculum Development, Scholarly research and mass education. Once indexed and microfilmed the collection can be made available to other institutions and libraries throughout the province and country. In addition, it can be made available to A.M.N.S.I.S. locals throughout the province.

There should be a strategic plan developed over the next five years or so that is consistent with the mandate of the Institute. In addition, the further indexing and development of the collection should be carried on by Native intellectuals in order that the information can become democratically related to the people.

In terms of providing an overview for the purpose of indexing of the most pressing or immediately important areas of the Metis Historical Collection. I should first begin with how it evolved into being as a collection, and second what is the content of these important areas. To compile a comprehensive documentation of the collection at this particular time would require much more time than the short period for this report allows.

Background Development Of The Research

Research began in the period 1 January; to August, 1976 in which preliminary historical/legal information was gathered around the question of Metis Aboriginal rights. It was during this period that very narrow historical questions were identified and researched into. Such information sources as the Public Archives of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta were superficially researched. As well the archives of the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon and The Glenbow were consulted. It was because the level and depth of questioning and insight was just developing that the quality of research could now be considered as being superficial. It should be pointed out that while researching the Public Archives of Manitoba, the historical records of the Manitoba Metis Federation were reproduced without acknowledging their reference sources. Together with the fact that much of the research done at this time was not retained in the form from which it was gathered from the source, but rather was rearranged according to topics. There has accordingly resulted gaps in the historical information and difficulties in referencing the information according to its sources.

This research period appears within the first dozen or so volumes of the Metis Historical Collection. It has, therefore, proved to be the subject of much difficulty in terms of indexing.

In August of 1976 I (Bourgeault) went to Ottawa originally for six months, to further research the historical/legal point of view. Such source areas as Orders - council, manuscripts of politicians e.g., Sir John A. MacDonald, and some Federal Departments e.g., Department of Interior were investigated generally around such topics as Metis scrip - Indian title and its extinguishment. During this period - the latter months of 1976 and first few of 1977 - the research was still conducted in a general manner. Although dealing adequately with the historical/legal question of aboriginal rights. The research was still lacking in specific historical depth. The result was that the information gathered was still not comprehensive in nature and still allowed for gaps to occur. It was not until preliminary investigations into the issuing of Metis scrip - in order to prove fraud - that the debate (began) towards undertaking a comprehensive information gathering project concerning Metis/history.

The Metis scrips were originally researched in order to document a few cases to prove fraud. However, once the process of investigation began it was soon found that there was a very sophisticated plan in operation between the Canadian government and large financial interests e.g. banks, land companies etc. towards the exploitation of Metis scrip. It was therefore decided, in co-operation with the Manitoba Metis Federation, to do a systematic study of the exploitation of Metis lands/scrip. This was a study that was never before undertaken by any academics or scholars, in Canada to the extent to which we undertook it. The researching of Metis scrip took more or less 4 to 5 people approximately 1½ to 2 years to complete. It was the first undertaking of its kind.

It was during this time period of about the beginning of 1977 that the Metis scrips were commenced. The research continued until approximately the end of 1978. During this period other areas of research were undertaken that complimented, or rather were done in conjunction with the Metis scrips. Such areas as the Department of the Interior, which implimented the scrips, Justice, Indian Affiars etc. were researched around the scrip issue. Additional research was continued within the political papers of leading or important political figures of the day e.g., Macdonald, Sifton, Laurier Cartier etc. It was towards the end of the research of the Metis scrips that the research was more systematically directed towards the aforementioned government documents and the political papers or manuscripts of the Canadian and British political figures such as prime ministers and governor generals.

It should as well be mentioned, that as the scrip research was being completed and a list of scrip speculators (big and small) from banks and land companies etc. was being compiled. We decided to research all incorporations of companies in Canada and Manitoba from 1867 to 1914 (World War I) and cross index the board of directors and shareholders. This was then compared to the corporate listing of scrip buyers that we had compiled.

It was around the middle of 1979, that we found ourselves in the position of having compiled a considerable amount of information and at the same time continuing to gather more; which tended towards the formation of a Metis social, economic and political history. But, it was still being researched from the point of view of gathering legal/historical information around the question of Metis Aboriginal rights. In short we started to see that we were compiling a history that was something different from the aboriginal rights information, and at the same time was starting to comprise a form of inter-related pieces of an overall historical puzzle.

Since the objective of the aboriginal rights research was coming to a close. We saw the other aspect of the research - the Metis history - which evolved into being, as being in its present form incomplete with many questions still left unanswered. If the research were stopped and the information left in its then present semi-related form, then it would have been a waste of a potentially valuable source of information. A decision had to be made. Do we end the research, or do we take it further into a deeper analysis and more comprehensive information gathering? The debate, that first began around the Metis scrip - towards a comprehensive information gathering of Metis history - started to become full blown between the Aboriginal rights research program and A.M.N.S.I.S.

There was something else that was occurring in terms of research that helped stimulate the debate towards carrying the research further and deeper. At that time I (Bourgeault) was beginning to get into the Hudson's Bay Company Archives in order to sort out the political question of 1869-70. Investigations revealed that the Hudson's Bay Company was an extremely valuable source of information. Investigations revealed a series of labour strikes by Metis voyageurs throughout the 1860's leading up to and including the summer of 1869. As well investigations revealed a rich source of information around the "free trade" struggle of 1845-49. Still further investigations going all the way back to the very beginning of the fur trade revealed indications of extremely valuable information. It was then decided through discussions with the Aboriginal Rights program and A.M.N.S.I.S. to embark on a research program of continued historical information gathering on the social, economic and political history of the Metis people.

It was identified that the time period from the beginning of the fur trade in the 1600's to confederation to be a source of valuable information. The sources to be researched were the Hudson's Bay Company, Selkirk papers, British Colonial records and House of Commons debates. A description of these sources will follow, as they are to be considered as having the greatest priority in terms of indexing.

Once the decision was made to broaden the research into a comprehensive information gathering project on the history (social economic and political) of the Metis people, the following sources were visited for research purposes together with those that were previously visited:

Ottawa: Public Archives of Canada
Library of Parliament

British Columbia: Public Archives of British Columbia, Victoria

Alberta: Glenbow - Alberta Institute, Calgary
Provincial Archives of Alberta, Edmonton

Saskatchewan: Saskatchewan Public Archives
Special Collections - University of Saskatchewan
Legislative Library
Prince Albert Historical Society

Manitoba: Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Winnipeg
Societe Historique du St. Boniface

Ontario: Archives of Ontario, Toronto
Toronto Public Library, Toronto
The United Church of Canada Archives, Toronto
Queens University Archives, Kingston

Quebec: Archives Nationales du Quebec, Quebec City
Archives de l'Archdiocese du Quebec

United States: Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minn.
National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Britain: British Museum, London, England
Public Record Office, London, England
Hove Library, Hove, Surrey, England

Immediate Priorities For Indexing And Content Of The Information

The historical research done since 1979 is the most complete and extensive. In terms of immediate tasks the most pressing information to be indexed would be from the period of pre-confederation. Such specific collections over the next year should be done as: The Church Missionary Society, The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and the Methodist Missionary Society; The British Colonial Office, Foreign Office and War Office; The Hudson's Bay Company Archives; The Selkirk Papers; manuscripts from The British Museum; British Parliamentary papers; and British House of Commons Debates.

It should be mentioned that in terms of the Roman Catholic Church, this information in the form of the Archbishop Tache correspondence from the Public Archives of Manitoba and St. Boniface, has already been indexed.

I. The Church Missionary Society and other protestant missionary societies.

These records comprise 56 micro film reels of information taken from the original documents housed in the church missionary Society Archives in London, England. This collection was researched in the Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa. These records were researched in the form of either taking photostat copies from the micro films or copying by hand.

The information gathered within the C.M.S. Archives around how the social structure within the Red River developed from the 1820's onward. Such as Protestant vs Roman Catholic etc. Religion was implemented and participated in the development of social divisions. The C.M.S. gives accurate gauge of social divisions/ racial divisions - which it helped create - infractions of social divisions, policies in support of the Hudson's Bay Company concerning education of White, Metis and Indian. How education prepared and developed the population as a source of labour for the H.B. Co. Correspondence between the H.B. Co. and secretaries of C.M.S. reviews role of C.M.S. as instrument of H.B. Co. to guarantee fur production of Indian. How the establishment of new missions was instrumental to the expansion of the fur trade. How the church maintained a division between Indian and Metis. Overall the C.M.S. gives good information on the internal establishment of colonial relations and race divisions between European and Native.

The records of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society (17 microfilm reels) were purchased outright from the United church archives Toronto. They have yet to be gone through. However, the content of information will as likely as not be similar to that of the Church Missionary Society.

In terms of indexing the Church Missionary Society by itself would constitute at least 5-6 weeks, or 25-30 working days. This of course depends upon how rapidly one move through the collection. It should, however, be noted that the collection consists in part of photostat copies of microfilm; and as such these must be typed otherwise they will fade and be unreadable over a period of time. This typing is time consuming. The other part of the collection is hand written.

An account estimation cannot be given at this time for the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society. Perhaps 2-3 weeks or 10-15 working days.

II. British colonial office, Foreign office and War office.

These records were compiled from both the Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa and the Public Records Office, London.

The Hudson's Bay Company territory of Ruperts Land was considered as being by the British Government as a colony to be administered by the H.B. Co. but responsible to the British Colonial Office, Foreign office and War office.

A. British Colonial Office

Within these records is extensive information on how the British government, through the colonial office, related to the territory of Rupert's Land as a British Colony. It was a particular type of colony within the then British empire, as there were other British colonies. As a colony it meant that the people (natives) come to comprise a population, as others were within the world, that were subjected to British political and economical colonial policies. In short they were colonized.

The information contains how the colonial office responded to upheavels within the Red River beginning with the Free Trade struggle in the 1840's, and continuing until 1869-70. It contains correspondence that supports H.B. Co. rule and the sending of troops to put down opposition to British colonial policy. The information contains correspondence between the colonial office and the Governor General in Canada, and correspondence with the British Foreign office and War office. The correspondence deals with different strategies and policies to be adopted concerning the people within the Red River or Assiniboia.

There is correspondence between the C.O. and H.B. Co., F.O. and W.O. in and around the development of confederation as it related to Rupert's land and Assiniboia in relationship to a confederated Canada. Extensive information throughout the 1860's towards confederation and resistance in the Red River to H.B. Co. colonial rule. Information in and around 1869-70 over what strategy to adopt concerning Riel et al.

In terms of indexing the Colonial Office it would take an additional 3-4 weeks, or 15-20 working days. At present at least 1/3 of the collection has been indexed. Like the church Missionary Society a good deal of the information was acquired in the form of photostat copies of microfilm. It, therefore, must be typed otherwise it will fade over a period of time.

B. Secretary of State for the Colonies.

This information was acquired from both the P.A.C. and the Public Record Office, London.

This collection consists of personal papers of various colonial office secretaries (Ministers) such as Stanley (14th and 15th Earl of Derby), Newcastle, Cardwell, Carnawon, Granvill, Kimberly.

These personal papers were researched for what they contained concerning the H.B. Co., Rupert's Land and Metis political disturbances in Assiniboia. They are cross-researched with their correspondence contained within the colonial office. Basically they contain political information in and around the disturbances in Assiniboia, the political question concerning H.B. Co. rights as a monopoly and how British colonial recognized it. Political information on the development and formation of strategy around the confederation of Rupert's Land into Canada. It is parallel information as was researched in the C.O. papers. Political information on the development and formation of strategy around the confederation of Rupert's Land into Canada. It is parallel information as was researched in the C.O. papers. Political information contained around strategy and tactics concerning 1869-70. Some of their correspondence can be cross-referenced into Sir John A Macdonald and the different Governor General's papers.

C. British Foreign Office

This information consists of primarily dispatches between London and Washington concerning the political disturbances during the 1840's, 1869-70 and 1885. Communications between F.O. and British Ambassador in Washington. Information conveyed on what was American policy and strategy over the Metis upheavels during this time period. It contains good information on American position concerning annexation of Assisniboia.

This information is not extensive. Indexing should take no more than 4 - 5 days.

D. British War Office

This collection contains information on reciprocal correspondence between war office and Colonial Office. Correspondence with H.B. Co. and C.O. around sending in British troops to Red River from 1840's - 1860's, correspondence in and around 1869-70 over military support of Canadian militia and troops to Red River.

This information is not extensive. Indexing should take no more than 2-3 days.

III. The Hudson's Bay Company.

This collection contains a massive amount of information on the modern (since the arrival of the European) social, economic and political history of the Indian and Metis people. This section in itself is worthy of a complete report. However since that is not presently possible I will give just a general overview of the main areas on which research was done (see appendix A for outline of H.B. Co. records).

Most of the research was centered in section A (Headquarters Records). B (Port Records), and D (Governors' Papers).

The areas researched were around labour, the national question (political and economic struggles) and women. Concerning labour it was looked at why and how the indigenous Indian population was turned into a source of labour producing fur. Second, why and how division or differnces of labour were created between Indian, Metis and European. Third, once labour was created or functioning within the fur trade, what was its resistance to exploitation. Or, in other words, what did Indian labour do to resist or manipulate the European in opposition to their labour being exploited in the production of fur. How and why did the wage labour within the fur trade react to their conditions, wages etc.

In terms of labour and division of labour the early period of the H.B. Co. was researched relying heavily upon the records of the different posts and the Board of Directors in London. (Section A)

The same reference sources were consulted for women. In the case of women the records were researched to determine how Indian women were used by the European in order to gain access to Indian society. How and why women were made dependent upon men. How and why divisions were created within Indian women in their relationship with European men. Certain forms of oppression and exploitation were caused to occur upon Native women (Indian and Metis) that were not the same as for European women.

In terms of the national question was meant the struggle of all the people against the political and economic colonialism that was imposed upon them by the British via the Hudson's Bay Company. It includes the struggle of the Metis, both the workers and middle class, for political and economic democracy. This entails the free trade struggle of the 1840's and the struggle for democracy that started in the late 1850's which ultimately led to 1869-70.

This area of research relies heavily upon the documents during the 1800's up to 1869-70. This information is found primarily in Sections A and D with correspondence between the Board of Directors and the H.B. Co. Governor of Ruperts Land, the correspondence between the H.B. Co. and the colonial office and vice versa (this information can be compared to that in the C.O.).

In terms of indexing the Hudson's Bay Company information would probably take anywhere from 5-6 weeks, or 25-30 working days. The majority of the information has already been typed. The Hudson's Bay Company Archives does not allow reproductions of their material to be made. So, any research that has to be undertaken must be done by hand. In my situation I did it by typewriter. There is a minimal amount that is handwritten and should be typed.

The H.B. Co. information is an extremely valuable collection of information and as such reproduction should be made so that the originals may be preserved and not lost. As well, there has been many publications of Hudson's Bay Company information by historical scholars in the form of the Hudson's Bay Record Society. These publications are housed in the Gabriel Dumont Library. This research collection can be integrated with these publications for the purpose of scholarly research.

IV. The Selkirk Papers

The Selkirk papers as housed in the P.A.C., Ottawa is an vast collection of information. Because of its exceptional size the collection was researched in a broad and general manner. The index was gone through and anything pertaining to the Metis, Indian, H.B. Co., Red River Settlement and Selkirk Settlers was xeroxed without going through its content in any great depth. Time restraints would not allow for the collection to be completed. Its' continued research could still continue through correspondence with the P.A.C. and be integrated into the information with no difficulty even after the indexing was either commenced or completed.

The information was extracted around the general question of the disturbances and conflicts between the H.B. Co. and N.W. Co. in Assiniboia and the interior. The Metis as a distinct group economically, politically and culturally - and what information reveals this. The Metis are looked at in terms of an emerging labour force and middle class. The judicial inquiries into the conflicts between the H.B. Co. and the N.W. Co. The politics around the merger of the N.W. Co. with the H.B. Co. The reasons for the importation of the Selkirk Settlers and the establishing of the colony. The creation of divisions - social class etc. - between Native (Indian and Metis) and Selkirk Settlers (Europeans). The establishing of a labour pool in the Red River for Buffalo hunters, wage workers etc. The question of the church is looked at, the reasons why it was brought in and how it functioned in the early days of the Red River Colony.

The collection in its present form stands approximately 2 linear feet in length. An accurate estimation of indexing time could only be guessed at. A rough estimation would be 4-5 weeks or 20-25 working days.

V. Manuscripts from the British Museum, London.

Three collections of papers that have extreme importance to the fur trade struggle of the 1840's and 1869-70 were located in the manuscript room of the British Museum and the Hove Library, Hove, East Sussex. The papers of Sir W.E. Gladstone; Prime Minister of Britain in 1869-70 and Sir Stafford H. Northcote First Earl of Iddlesleigh, secretary of the colonial office. These Northcote papers are entirely different than those contained in the Public Records Office. At Hove was located the Wolseley Papers. The commander of British troops sent into the Red River in 1870.

In the Gladstone papers in some correspondence A.K. Isbister - a Metis living in London who was a political contact and lobbyist for the Red River Metis in the 1840's - and others from the Hudson's Bay Company Board of Governors concerning the free trade struggle in Assiniboia 1848-1850. Isbister is seeking support from Gladstone during the 1830's and 1840's was a champion of free trade against the old British trading monopolies. Basically it was political support from the rising British industrialists (Gladstone) versus the old British monopoly trading class. At that time the British industrialists and bankers had no designs on Ruperts' Land hence the H.B. Co. was allowed to rule.

There is further correspondence around 1869-70 and up to 1815, when Gladstone is Prime Minister, concerning the Red River Rebellion and the pardon of Riel. It also contains correspondence from A.K. Isbister and the colonial office executives.

With the Northcote correspondence it was centered around 1869-70 as colonial office secretary correspondence with the H.B. Co. Governor, Governor Generals of Canada over strategy to be developed against Riel in support of Canadian government. Some correspondence from Isbister around confederation of Ruperts' Land.

The principal contents of the Wolseley Papers is some correspondence with the War Office and Wolseley's diary on the march to Red River. Some information on the planning of the expedition from Wolseley's other campaigns in West and Southern Africa.

In terms of indexing a rough estimation would be from 1 to 1½ weeks or 5-8 working days.

VI. British Parliamentary Papers

The British Parliamentary Papers are published inquiries into the status of the Hudson's Bay Company monopoly jurisdiction over the fur trade. These inquiries contain a great deal of social, political and economical information concerning Britains colonial policy over Ruperts Land as administered by the H.B. Co. These inquiries are reflective of Britains changing colonial policies. They contain as well, published inquiries into the origin and causes of disturbances in Assiniboia (Red River) at different times. The investigation of free trade and its rights within the monopoly territory. Published documents concerning the confederation of Canada and the territory of Ruperts' Land during the 1860's and most important 1869-70.

Gabriel Dumont Institute
Archival Development Project

Project Steps and Requirements:

1. GDI will engage a qualified archivist/curator and the necessary support staff.
2. The archivist will be entrusted with providing for the security of the collection. Towards this end the archivist will, either secure an appropriate existing location for the archives, or oversee the development of a physical plant which will provide the required temperature/humidity control for the protection of the collection.
3. Archivist will work towards expanding the collection and coordinating community input and support.
4. The collection will then be restored, sorted and classified.
5. The collection will be electronically catalogued.
6. Archival catalog will be placed on GDI provincial library Internet.
7. Record Archives on CDROM for distribution to Universities, high schools and the Metis community.

VII. British House of Commons Debates

The British Hansard debates were researched primarily from the 1820's to 1870. They contain debates in the British Parliament in and around the H.B. Co. and their monopoly charter in Ruperts' Land. Debates in and around the disturbances in Red River i.e., 1800's and 1860's. What the British Parliament and different political positions thought of these disturbances and their relationship to H.B. Co. monopoly rule.

Intermittent debates in and around Britain's varied colonial interventions or moves around the world e.g. India, Africa, Caribbean, China, etc., in order to create a colonial background to their political colonial policies in Ruperts' Land and the colonies of Canada.

Debates concerning the Canadas (Maritimes included) as colonies of Britain. This includes railroad policies and development within the colonies. Tariff rates between Canadas and Britain and the United States of America.

Debates concerning the confederation of Canada, including as different colonies the Canadas, British Columbia, Maritimes and Ruperts' Land. What their "status" would be within a confederated nation. This means what democratic rights the people would have within the nation as different from what they had under colonial status, it raises the question of national oppression of Native and French, particularly the native in Ruperts' land as they were originally guaranteed no democratic status.

In terms of indexing both the Parliamentary Papers and Hansard Debates they require no great breakdown of information. It is just a question of doing a superficial index. Time period no more than 1 week or 4-5 working days.

Summary of Research And Development Plan

The development of the Metis Historical Collection has brought together a wealth of information in primary documentation regarding the history of the Canadian northwest (see appendix B, statement from P.A.S. on M.H.C.). The collection is of great importance to the Institute because its priorities lie in the area of Native Studies and applied research. The broad scope of the collection will present researchers in the areas of economics, history, political and social science at the Institute; and in the academic community as a whole. The first opportunity to examine the history of the Canadian northwest from a native perspective using primary documents.

The Metis Historical Collection has been developed in a manner that integrates it with other scholarly works and publications that have been done using the same primary documents. In addition, the Metis Historical Collection provides good documentation comparing the history of the Native population with other indigenous peoples within the Americas. In this sense, the Metis Historical Collection can be used in relationship with Third World Development and Cross Cultural education. As a support reference the library is being developed with publications that bridge the gap between the indigenous peoples of the North America and those peoples of the "Third World."

The Curriculum Development program is to be producing Native Studies units for use in the Saskatchewan elementary school Social Sciences programs, and perhaps other levels. They will need access to the primary documentation held in the Metis Historical Collection in order to develop curriculum. ✓

There is the whole question of Native Studies and its content as taught in post secondary education i.e., SUNTEP. The use of materials from the collection should be made available for reading assignments, essays and original research work. In addition, faculty teachers of Native Studies who offer these courses to students of the Gabriel Dumont Institute should be required by the Institute to consult and study the material as a means of offering an update version and interpretation of Native Studies based upon primary documentation.

The documents to be indexed are by now in excess of 30,000 items. The collection a few years ago has been viewed by an archivist from The Public Archives of Saskatchewan and declared to be a serious archival collection. The M.H.C. is now in excess of information from the time in which the judgement was made. Since the Gabriel Dumont Institute is affiliated with the University of Regina, interested academics should be invited to persue or study the collection from the point of view of establishing its scholarly merit. This "certification" along with its archival approval can be used as a reference for applying for grants as a scholarly/archival institution towards the further development of the collection.

The process of indexing is technical and because of its particular design this process has become lengthy. As for the documents, within the most pressing and immediate areas of the collection, they are arranged, more or less, in the same manner in which they were deposited within their original sources. There is no re-arrangement necessary to take place. The length of time for indexing is dependent upon reading the documents for their content and the technical process involved for coding. In total, there is predictably, 29½ to 36½ weeks of serious work to be done within the next year.

Although what is described within this report is for a period of one year and is perceived to be the most immediate and important information to be indexed. It is by far not the completion of the collection. What should apply to the collection is an overall plan of its development and integration into all facets of the Gabriel Dumont Institute's programs of education and scholarly research. That plan should be consistent with the overall five year plan outlined in the Institutes recently developed mandate (see appendice C). In short, the collection cannot be adequately developed within the next year. There must be a strategy and plan that continues over the next few (5) years or less if that is the case.

The further indexing and development must be done by Natives. This should be considered as a priority. Also, the structure of responsibility or management of the collection should rest in relationship with the Director of the Institute and those working on the development of the collection. This structure should exist until which time the collection is indexed and the process commenced of its integration into the programs of the institute. At which time the collection can become a part of the overall library.

Once completed the indexing and microfilming of the collection will make the information more accessible to the University communities, the general public, the Institute and the local areas of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan. The Institute library is a participant in the province-wide library network in Saskatchewan. Since the existing Institute library catalogue is already arranged in the same manner proposed for the collection, the index will ultimately be compatible and integrated with the library catalogue and therefore made accessible to the province and the nation through the province-wide library network.

Appendix A

MG 20

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY ARCHIVES - ARCHIVES DE LA HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

CONTENTS OF SECTIONS

Records of the Hudson's Bay Company and affiliated ventures, concerning the period 1670-1870. Microfilmed between 1950 and 1967 from the originals in the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, London, England. A shelf list is available in Finding Aid No. 65 - MG 20, or in registers noted below.

SECTION A - Headquarters Records

Correspondence, minutes, ledgers, lists of servants, legal papers and other records relating to the activities of the London office. The register for this series is on reel HBC 515.

SECTION B - Post Records

Journals, correspondence, account books, reports and other papers concerning the posts in North America. The register for this series is on reel HBC 1M993.

SECTION C - Ships' Logs, Books and Papers

Logs, journals and other papers pertaining to ships in the service of the Company. The register for this series is on reel HBC 2M140.

SECTION D - Governors' Papers

Correspondence, journals, reports, and other papers of William Williams, George Simpson, Eden Colville, Alexander Grant Dallas, and William Mactavish. The register for this series is on reel HBC 3M129.

SECTION E - Miscellaneous Records

Correspondence and journals of various individuals as well as records of the Red River Settlement, 1811-1890 and of Vancouver Island Colony, 1848-1861, and of Arctic expeditions, 1824-1866. The register for this series is on reel HBC 4M31.

SECTION F - Records of Allied and Subsidiary Companies

Records of various companies including the North West Company, 1786-1851; Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, 1838-1932; International Financial Society, 1859-1869; the Russian American Company, 1821-1903; Assiniboine Wool Company, 1829-1836; Red River Tallow Company, 1832-1833; Vancouver Island Steam Saw Mill Company, 1852-1856; Vancouver Coal Mining Company, 1861-1900; the Buffalo Wool Company, 1822-1824. The register for this series is on reel HBC 5M50.

MG 20 HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY ARCHIVES - ARCHIVES DE LA HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

SECTION G - Maps, Plans, Charts, etc. (Not microfilmed)

Manuscript and published maps, charts and plans of Hudson's Bay Company forts, coal mines, various American and British territories and Canadian cities and towns, together with architects' drawings, specifications and Atlases. *This section has not been microfilmed in Series I.* A catalogue is available at the Public Archives on reels A-889 and A-890.

SECTION H - Western Department Land Records

Deeds, registers, ledgers, accounts and other documents relating to Company land sold on the coast of British Columbia and Vancouver Island. The register for this series is on reel HBC 6M2.

ADDENDA

Material forming an integral part of sections A, B, D, and E, but filmed as addenda.

SUPPLEMENTARY

A series of extracts and selections from the Hudson's Bay Company Archives relating to the ships PRINCE OF WALES I and II, 1792-1885, an authorization to the Company for exclusive trade with the Indians, 1821-1857, and extracts from records pertaining to the dispatch of troops to Red River, 1844-1846. Presented by the Company in 1925 and 1936.

5.5 Descriptor: Archives

Action Plan

1. Operational Issue

Native people have been denied access to the history of (British) North America as documented and retained within existing archives.

2. Functional Objective:

To develop the archival research collection (as obtained through the AMNSIS Ab-Rights research project) into a fully useable research tool.

3. Information and Assuptions

1. Archival documents have been collected which contain valuable information about Native history.
2. Documented evidence of a great demand by Native researchers and students to discover their historical roots.
3. Expressed need by the Native population for knowledge of their own history, especially as it relates to the role of Native people.
4. Requests by Native and non-Native graduate students for information on Native history.
5. Expressed need within the entire educational system (K-12, post-secondary) for an accurate revised Native history.
6. Need by non-Native Canadians for revised accurate history of Canada.

4. Significant Intentions (Functional objective sub-elements)

1. Indexing of the archival collection to make it into a useful research tool for researchers, curriculum developers, writers and students.
2. Expanding the collection where necessary.
3. Microfilming the collection to make it more accessible.

5. Objectives and Criteria

The objective is to index, further develop and microfilm the archival collection housed at the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

1. To design and implement a comprehensive but simplified indexing system for the collection, hereby providing researchers, graduate and undergraduate students, curriculum developers and particularly Gabriel Dumont Institute/AMNSIS staff and students with access to the collection.
2. To develop and implement a work-plan for indexing, expanding and microfilming the collection.
3. Where necessary, to provide further research and footnotes, etc. to develop the collection.
4. To microfilm and distribute the microfilm of the collection.

6. Activities Schedule

7. Management Method and Policy

A task team (planning) will be established by the AMNSIS researcher responsible for the collection, consisting of library, curriculum development, research and administrative staff and student representatives as required. The committee will establish a plan of action for indexing the collection, for "filling in" missing portions, and for distributing responsibilities.

8. Resources

Both human and material resources will be determined by the task team, and a budget prepared.

9. Reporting Evaluation:

Progress reports will be made bi-monthly to the Executive Director by the Researcher.