

RED RIVER MÉTIS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

E-NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 - Issue 2



Support the Growth of the Red River Métis Business Association **CALL TO ACTION CONTINUES!**

The Business Association continues to support Red River Métis entrepreneurs & businesses as we reach our one year of operations however, we are looking for additional members. Help us by sharing your positive experience with other Red River Métis entrepreneurs and encourage them to join by clicking on the following link:

**Become a Member of the
Business Association!**

[Click here to register](#)

Alternatively, refer them to www.rrmbdc.ca for more information, and/or to one of our staff by email to rrmbdc@mmf.mb.ca or phone to (204) 589-0772.

Many of you have already renewed your membership, thank you for your continued support. Your renewal date is the first of the month, twelve months when you first signed up. If you are unsure of your renewal date, please email Tanya Dery at tanya.dery@mmf.mb.ca or call (204) 589-0772 ext 2245.



RRMBA Ongoing Services and Events

RRMBA Business Services – Available to Members Only

The Red River Métis Business Development Corporation offers business services through the Red River Métis Business Association (RRMBA). As a member of the Business Association, you can access our in-house marketing or bookkeeping services at a special members rate. If you would like more information, go to our website or contact the following departments:

Marketing Services - Erica Fenner

erica.fenner@mmf.mb.ca

Let us help you boost your online presence, engage your audience and drive business growth with our professional marketing services.

Bookkeeping Services - Michelle Syntak

michelle.syntak@mmf.mb.ca

Customizable levels of support, from basic record keeping to full financial management

Group Health Benefits – Tanya Dery

tanya.dery@mmf.mb.ca

Exclusive benefits tailored for businesses, as small as 1-2 lives

More on RRMBA Group Benefits

There will be an RRMBA Lunch & Learn dedicated to the Group Benefits program on March 11, 2026, which will be a great opportunity to learn more about the program and how it can be a competitive advantage to your business in the retention of your workforce. In the meantime, if you don't want to wait until the new year and you have questions, please reach out to Tanya Dery and she can get the process started tanya.dery@mmf.mb.ca

Life & AD&D	
Benefit Amount	Flat Amount
Benefit Maximum	\$25,000
Benefit Maximum	50% AGE 65 / ENDS AGE 71
Healthcare	
Hospital / Ambulance coverage	Semi-Private / 100%
Out-of-country coverage	YES; UNLIMITED
Medical Supplies	
Hearing aids	80%
	\$700 every 5 years
Paramedical Practitioners	
Calendar Year Maximum (Massage, Chiro, Etc)	80%
Per visit Maximum	\$300/ practitioner
	Reasonable & Customary
Prescription Drugs	
Reimbursement Type	80% or 90% MEDO
Plan design	DRUG CARD
Maximum	PRESCRIPTION BY LAW
Termination Age	\$3,000
	RETIREMENT
VIRTUAL HEALTH / TELEDOC	
Included with healthcare	YES
Dentalcare	
Basic & Preventative Services	80%
Benefit Maximum	\$1,000
Cleanings per year	1/9 MONTHS
Monthly Cost:	
	Single: \$88 Family: \$200

Ask us about our member
exclusive rates on:

Digital Marketing Services

Bookkeeping Services

Click here to learn more

NEW RRMBA LUNCH & LEARN SERIES “INNOVATION AT SUNRISE”

Launched in early 2025, the RRMBA Lunch & Learn series successfully hosted six events between February and June, offering valuable insights and networking opportunities for our Red River Métis business community

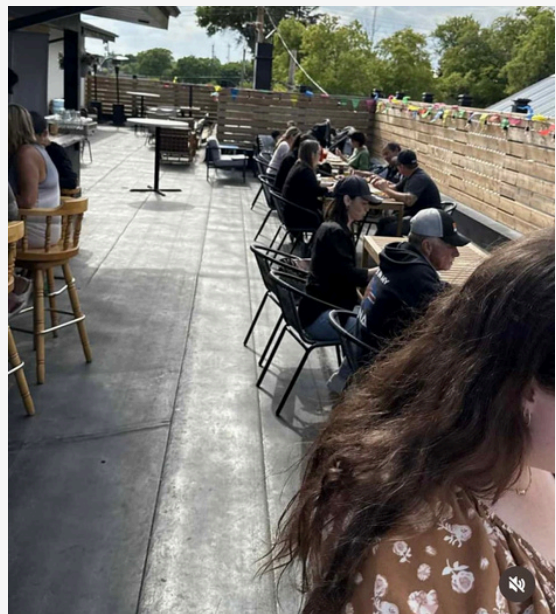


Looking ahead, planning is well underway for the 2025–26 edition, featuring a diverse lineup of workshops and events covering a wide range of relevant topics. We’re excited to introduce Innovation at Sunrise; a series of morning speaker sessions and workshops designed to spark ideas and inspiration before the workday begins. You can view the full calendar of events at the end of this e-newsletter or visit our online events calendar to stay up to date:

Learn more: [RRMBA Calendar of Events](#)

RRMBA REGIONAL BUSINESS MIXERS

The RRMBA Regional Business Mixer was first introduced in October 2024 in Brandon prior to the MMF Southwest Regional AGM. It was always our intention to hold additional Mixers in every MMF Region and by the end of June we were in almost every MMF Region. We are currently in the planning stages for Business Mixers in the Winnipeg, Southeast, and Interlake regions. Connect with the RRMBCDC social media channels or join our email list to stay connected!



THE RRMBA TRADING POST

In our ongoing efforts to market you, the Members, we are continuously looking for ways to feature and spotlight your business and connect with other Business Association Members. A new component that we recently launched is the RRMBA Trading Post, an opportunity for Members businesses to provide advice, resources and knowledge that can benefit other businesses and entrepreneurs. If you would like to contribute, please reach out to Shaun Hampton shaun.hampton@mmf.mb.ca or (204) 589-0772 ext. 2242 with your ideas.

Q2 RRMBA MEMBER FEATURE

TALON RISK MITIGATION AND INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES (MARC EGER)

Doing Your Due Diligence: Smart Steps for Business Safety

- **Protect Your Business from Risk**

Hiring employees, engaging contractors, or entering new business partnerships carries risk. Ensuring you know who you're dealing with through thorough investigative measures, like background checks, reference verification, and reputation research, can save your business from costly mistakes, security issues, and operational headaches. In today's environment, proactive due diligence isn't optional - it's essential.

- **Investigative Steps That Make a Difference**

Effective due diligence goes beyond surface-level checks. Our services include detailed reference and background investigations, online and social media research, and verification of credentials and affiliations. These investigative steps provide deeper insight, helping you make informed decisions and minimize risks to your business, staff, and assets.

- **Trusted Support for Local Businesses**

As a 100% Indigenous-owned company, Talon Risk Mitigation and Investigative Services is committed to helping Manitoba businesses operate safely and confidently. Our tailored investigative solutions give you peace of mind when making hiring or business decisions, protecting your operations, reputation, and growth.

Learn more about our wide range of investigative services at www.talonrm.ca



RRMBA – NEWS & NOTEWORTHY

Red River Métis Business Excellence Awards November 27, 2025 Fort Garry Place 222 Broadway – Winnipeg MB

The Manitoba Métis Federation, The National Government of the Red River Métis, will host its 2nd Annual Red River Métis Business Excellence Awards on **Thursday November 27, 2025**. This Gala evening is the most prestigious event celebrating Red River Métis entrepreneurs and businesses. Join us as we celebrate the strength, spirit, and excellence of Red River Métis commerce. For more info, and ticket information, click on the link <https://www.rmbdc.ca/>

2025 Red River Métis Business Excellence Awards – Sponsorship Opportunities

This year, we are proud to introduce new sponsorship opportunities designed specifically for Red River Métis-owned businesses. These opportunities allow you to showcase your brand while directly supporting and celebrating the strength of our growing Red River Métis business community.

As a sponsor, your business will gain high-profile exposure at one of the most anticipated events of the year – the **Red River Métis Business Excellence Awards Gala**. With an expected **sold-out audience of 500+ guests**, including prominent businesses and community leaders, the evening offers an exceptional platform to connect, build relationships, and strengthen your visibility among decision-makers and peers.

[PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS HERE](#)



Sponsorship is more than just recognition — it's a partnership. It demonstrates your commitment to the success of Red River Métis entrepreneurs while promoting your own brand in a setting that celebrates excellence, innovation, and community achievement.

If you are interested in learning more about how your business can align with this premier event, and to explore sponsorship opportunities that best fit your goals, please contact john.coutris@mmf.mb.ca.

Join us in celebrating success and building a stronger Red River Métis business community together.

RRMBA MEMBERS - COLLABORATION FOR SUCCESS



RRMBA Members Darin Gentes (far right) and Matt Meder (second from left) started talking business at an RRMBA event in February 2025 and eventually ended up working together on a project that ended in Darin opening the second Jimmy John's location in Manitoba at 1430 Ellice Ave in Winnipeg.

Darin is a long time Red River Métis entrepreneur and an experienced franchise owner, currently the owner / operator of the Pita Pit across from the newly opened Jimmy John's. Matt Meder owns two construction companies Green Key Builders and Legacy Nation Contracting and Medechan, a technology solutions company.

The completion of the project represents true Red River Métis leadership built in just 83 days with 83% of construction hours (17,211 out of 20,736 total hours) completed by skilled Red River Métis workers. It's a powerful example of Indigenous business success, featuring a Red River Métis owner who partnered with a 100% Red River Métis General Contractor to deliver exceptional results. This project stands as a symbol of community partnership, cultural representation, and the exceptional skill of Red River Métis craftsmanship in every detail.

This collaboration between Darin and Matt represents the value of the Red River Métis Business Association in bringing Red River Métis entrepreneurs together at events that bring value and facilitates networking opportunities. We're excited to share this story with the RRMBA membership as a powerful reminder that a simple conversation can spark remarkable opportunities. It's a testament to the spirit of collaboration within our Red River Métis business community.

Congratulations to Darin and Matt, your success makes us proud!



Welcome Aboard Tanya Dery to RRMBCDC

Meet the newest employee at RRMBCDC, Tanya Dery who is now the RRMBA Program Coordinator working directly with the RRMBA Manager, Shaun Hampton. Tanya started with us on September 2, 2025 and since she will be in regular contact with you, the Business Association Members, we thought you should get to meet her in print.

In My Own Words – Tanya Dery

"I love being part of something bigger than myself. I believe working with and empowering Red River Métis entrepreneurs and helping them succeed will be incredibly rewarding. I look forward to this new chapter and my own personal growth that will come with it."

Fun Facts About Me:

- I am a farm girl at heart, born and raised in Melita, MB and now residing outside of the city.
- I have two kids that I adore, a 22 year-old daughter and an 18 year-old son.
- In the summer you can find me in the beautiful Kenora area at my seasonal soaking up the sun, on the water or hanging out by a fire with the lake fam.
- I worked in a high school for 15 years, unpopular opinion ~ I think teenagers are great in all the best and worst ways! Helping teenagers navigate their ups and downs was one of the greatest honors of my life and I consider myself very privileged to have been part of their lives.
- My guilty pleasure? Ripple chips with Philadelphia onion dip and 90s movies.

A Few of My Favorite Things:

- Favorite Movies: Pretty Woman, Dirty Dancing and Overboard.
- Go-to motivational quote: "Show up in the world the way you want to be seen."
- Weekend vibe: Time with family & friends, sweat pants, hoodies & games nights.



RRMBA Monthly Member Spotlights

Starting in February 2025, RRMBA begin featuring two RRM Business Association members each month on the RRM BDC website. Get to know RRMBA Members and their businesses and connect. If you haven't checked it out yet, we encourage you to do so, the previous months are still active on the link. The goal is to feature every member of the RRMBA as the months continue to roll so if you haven't been spotlighted yet, your time is coming.

The selection is generally random but if your business has a unique event or circumstance coming up and you would like to promote it, we can try to arrange the spotlight to coincide with that. Unique events or circumstances can include operational anniversaries, expansion or a new location, adding a new service or product line, etc.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



Métis Hour x2 with Naomi Clarke, featuring Red River Métis Entrepreneurs

LISTEN LIVE



While the Métis Hour x2 is not new what is new is having Red River Métis Entrepreneurs featured and interviewed as part of the program on Saturdays since August 2024, typically twice a month. Starting in March and running through until the end of August, the theme was Tourism & Hospitality featuring Red River Métis entrepreneurs in those industry sectors. Beginning from November 1st to December 13th the entrepreneurial theme will be those businesses in the retail sector providing products and services that might make great gift ideas.

Tune in to NCI at 11am on Saturdays to hear the interviews live.

If you are interested in participating, please send an email to tanya.dery@mmf.mb.ca

RRMBA - Calendar of Events (November 2025 to May 2026)

November 5/25 – RRMBA Lunch & Learn with Farm Credit Corporation (FCC)
11:30-1:30pm at 200 Main (Main Event Room) Winnipeg, MB

November 27/25 - Red River Métis Business Excellence Awards 2025
Fort Garry Place 222 Broadway – Winnipeg MB

December 9/25 – RRMBA Lunch & Learn with MNP on SRED Credit &
Property Tax Assessment, 11:30-1:30pm at 200 Main (Main Event Room)
Winnipeg, MB

January 21/26 – RRMBA Lunch & Learn with ID Fusion on AI and your business
11:30-1:30pm at 200 Main (Main Event Room) Winnipeg, MB

February 25/26 - RRMBA Lunch & Learn HUB Technology Solutions on Cyber
Security and your Business
11:30-1:30pm at 200 Main (Main Event Room) Winnipeg, MB

March 11/26 – RRMBA Lunch & Learn with Priority Financial on RRMBA
Employee Benefits
11:30-1:30pm at 200 Main (Main Event Room) Winnipeg, MB

April 16/26 - RRMBA Lunch & Learn with GDI Integrated Facility Services
11:30-1:30pm at 200 Main (Main Event Room) Winnipeg, MB

May 6/26 - RRMBA Lunch & Learn with Practical HR Solutions on HR tips for
small business
11:30-1:30pm at 200 Main (Main Event Room) Winnipeg, MB

For more information on the RRMBA or anything featured in this e-newsletter, please contact the
RRMBA Manager, Shaun Hampton at shaun.hampton@mmf.mb.ca or call 204-227-9483

