

BILL

No. 6 of 1938 (Second Session).

An Act Respecting the Metis Population of the Province.

(Assented to _____, 1938.)

WHEREAS by the report, dated the 15th day of February, 1936, of a commission appointed pursuant to *The Public Inquiries Act*, on the 27th day of February, 1933, certain recommendations were made for the betterment of the general welfare of the metis population of the Province;

And whereas it is convenient and in the public interest that the ways and means of giving effect to such recommendations should be arrived at by means of conferences and negotiations between the Government of the Province and representatives of the metis population of the Province;

Therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Metis Population Betterment Act.*"

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a) "Metis" means a person of mixed white and Indian blood but does not include either an Indian or a non-treaty Indian as defined in *The Indian Act*, being chapter 98 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927;
- (b) "Minister" means the member of the Executive Council who is for the time being charged by the Lieutenant Governor in Council with the administration of this Act.

3. The Minister is hereby authorized and empowered to do such acts and things as he may consider proper for the purpose of co-operating with the Board of any association formed pursuant to section 4 of this Act formulating one or more schemes for the purpose of bettering the general welfare of the metis population of the Province, and for the settlement of the members of such association on lands set aside for that purpose by the Province.

4.—(1) The Minister is hereby authorized and empowered to promote the formation of one association or more composed of members of the metis population of the Province who are unable to secure out of their own resources a reasonable standard of living.

(2) The constitution and by-laws of any such association shall prescribe the qualifications for membership in any such association and the conditions of membership therein, and shall provide that the control of the business and affairs of the association shall be in a Board consisting of not more than five persons and shall make provision for election of the members of the Board and their respective terms of office and the manner in which the activities of the association shall be carried on.

(3) The aims and objects of any such association shall be to co-operate with the Minister in preparing and formulating schemes for the betterment of the members of such association, and for their settlement on lands set aside for that purpose by the Province.

(4) The constitution of any such association shall be subject to the approval of the Minister and when it is so approved, it shall be binding upon all the members thereof.

(5) The Board of any association may alter or amend its constitution only with the approval of the Minister, and any such alteration or amendment shall be of no force or effect until the same is approved by the Minister.

5. Every scheme formulated pursuant to this Act shall be submitted by the Minister to the Lieutenant Governor in Council for approval, and upon the same being so approved, shall be laid upon the table of the Legislative Assembly at the next Session thereof which commences after the expiration of thirty days from the date upon which such scheme is so approved and within ten days after the day upon which such Session commences.

6. The Lieutenant Governor in Council may at any time and from time to time by order set aside out of any unoccupied Provincial lands as defined in *The Provincial Lands Act* any area or areas thereof which are deemed to be suitable for the settlement of the members of any association formed pursuant to section 4 and withdraw the same from disposal under *The Provincial Lands Act* until such time as the Lieutenant Governor in Council is satisfied that for any reason whatsoever the lands so set aside and withdrawn from disposal are unsuitable or are not required for the settlement of any members of any such association.

7. Notwithstanding anything contained in *The Game Act, 1932*, or any other Act to the contrary, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may by order prohibit the hunting, trapping, killing or taking of any game bird, fur-bearing animal or fur-producing animal as defined in *The Game Act, 1932*, or any designated kind or description thereof over and upon any land set aside pursuant to section 6, by any person who is not the member of a designated association formed pursuant to this Act, and may make regulations governing the hunting, trapping and killing of any game bird, fur-

bearing animal or fur-producing animal or any designated kind or description thereof by any person and prescribing penalties recoverable on summary conviction for the breach of any such regulation not in excess of one hundred dollars and costs.

8. This Act shall come into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

SEVENTH SESSION
EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

2 GEORGE VI

1938

(SECOND SESSION)

BILL

An Act Respecting the Metis Popula-
tion of the Province.

Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

HON. DR. CROSS.

EDMONTON:
A. Shnitka, King's Printer
1938