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ANNIE MCDERMOT BANNATYNE (1830-1908) was a prominent Métis woman in the Red River colony. After marrying Andrew Bannatyne, an employee of the HBC and successful merchant in the settlement, she helped fundraise for and promote various causes in the community, namely the Winnipeg General Hospital. After Charles Mair, a writer from Toronto, insulted the Métis women of Red River in his writing, she famously slapped and horsewhipped him.

SIR GEORGE-ÉTIENNE CARTIER (1814-1873) was leader of the Parti bleu in Canada East (southern modern-day Quebec), participant in the Lower Canada Rebellion, and one of the key Fathers of Confederation. After 1867 he was Minister of Militia and Defence in Prime Minister John A. Macdonald's government, and notably oversaw negotiations during the purchasing of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory. He was also a central figure during the subsequent provincialization of Manitoba, and unsuccessfully sought amnesty for Louis Riel.

WILLIAM DEASE (1827-1913) was a prominent Métis, with strong ties to the Anglophone community, who was nominated as a member of the Council of Assiniboia. He was often in conflict with Louis Riel, who denounced him for working too closely with the Canadian Party and those who sought to remove the Métis from their land. Dease later became president of the Agricultural Association of Manitoba, and was a candidate in the provincial elections of 1874.

JOHN STOUGHTON DENNIS (1820-1885) was a militia officer and surveyor who was assigned to survey the Red River Colony for future settlement by William McDougall. His surveys faced opposition from the Métis, especially after he increasingly associated with the Canadian Party and John Christian Schultz.

THOMAS DOUGLAS, 5TH EARL OF SELKIRK (1771-1820) was a Scottish peer and major shareholder in the Hudson's Bay Company. Hoping to found an agricultural colony in modern-day Manitoba, he formed the District of Assiniboia after receiving a grant from the HBC in 1811. While establishing the Red River Colony and sponsoring immigration settlements to populate it, he was met with fierce resistance by the local Metis population, who traded with both the HBC and its competitor the North West Company, and who aimed to preserve the right to free passage and free trade in their homeland. The resulting Battle of Seven Oaks/ Victory at Frog Plain in 1816 is widely considered one of the first clear moments where Métis political consciousness as a Nation was made clear.

GABRIEL DUMONT (1837-1906) was a buffalo hunter, merchant and soldier who was one of the central leaders of the North-West Resistance. As leader of the buffalo hunt for the Saskatchewan Métis, he was recognized for his talent as a hunter and marksman, as well as for helping to band his community together in the wake of the devastation of the buffalo herds. While not active in the Red River Resistance, he soon afterwards helped mobilize the Saskatchewan Métis and was elected president of the Council of St. Laurent in 1873. Working to uphold Métis laws and landholding systems, Dumont helped to articulate the Laws of St. Laurent, a formal constitution for his people. After unsuccessfully petitioning the Dominion government for recognition and protection for their lands, Dumont travelled to the Montana Territory to seek the help of Louis Riel, who had gone there during his exile. Together, the two friends would create a new Provisional Government among the Métis. Dumont led many of the Métis forces against the North-West Mounted Police at the Battle of Duck Lake, where his brother was killed and he survived a gruesome shot to the head. He continued to lead his troops whilst injured in subsequent battles, until the Métis forces were defeated and Riel surrendered. Dumont fled to the U.S. and was granted amnesty by the Canadian government in 1886. After travelling extensively, he settled once again in Batoche.

JOSEPH HOWE (1804-1873) was a Nova Scotian journalist and politician who in 1869 became secretary of state for the provinces during the annexation and provincialization of Manitoba. Though in diminishing health, Howe visited the Red River settlement during this time. His meetings with representative groups of Red River residents led him to a very sympathetic understanding of the agitation of Red River over the activities of the Canadians there. He carried back a copy of the records and legislation of the Council of Assiniboia. During his return trip, he met William McDougall in Minnesota. They spoke for a brief time due to inclement weather. Howe cautioned McDougall and later wrote a strong letter warning him to avoid aligning himself with the "Canadians" or otherwise provoking the sensitivities of a divided Settlement.

THOMAS JEFFERSON (1743-1826) was a Founding Father and third President of the United States (1801-1809), who sought to enlarge the American territory and maintain access to the valuable Mississippi River and port of New Orleans. Along with Secretary of State James Madison, and the U.S. Minister to France, Robert Livingston, Jefferson would orchestrate the purchase of the Louisiana territory from France in 1803. The acquisition, costing $15 million, effectively doubled the geographic size of the U.S.

GRANVILLE LEVESON-GOWER, 2ND EARL GRANVILLE (1815-1891) was a British Liberal politician who in 1868 became Colonial Secretary under Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone. Known for his shrewd and patient diplomacy, he helped improve relations between the United States and Britain after the American Civil War.

SIR JOHN ALEXANDER MACDONALD (1815-1891) was a lawyer and businessman who served as the first prime minister of Canada from 1867 to 1873, and again between 1878 and 1891. Together with George-Étienne Cartier and George Brown, he helped form the Great Coalition that paved the way towards the division of the Province of Canada and the inclusion of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick under Confederation. As the new nation sought to become bicoastal, Macdonald's government orchestrated the purchase of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory. After the Red River Resistance, Macdonald planned to respond to the demands of the Métis, and the provisional government led by Louis Riel, by sending troops and forcefully bringing the settlement under control. At the insistence of the British Government, he was forced to negotiate and the Province of Manitoba was created in 1870. Upon suppressing the 1885 North-West Resistance, Macdonald controversially executed Riel, polarizing many francophone-Catholics from the Conservative party. Furthermore, his approach towards Indigenous peoples, minorities and those of mixed-heritage resulted in discriminatory and devastating policies, including the Chinese Immigration Act of 1885, the 1876 Indian Act and the residential school system.

WILLIAM MCDOUGALL (1822-1905) was a Canadian lawyer and politician, considered to be one of the Fathers of Confederation, having attended all three Confederation conferences. Descending from United Empire Loyalists that settled in York, Upper Canada (now Toronto), he was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory in 1869.He was prevented from assuming his duties as he was denied entry into the Territory in one of the opening acts of the Red River Resistance. Famously campaigning against Manitoba receiving provincial status, he was a Canada First nationalist who believed British Protestantism to be the foundation of Canadian identity, and harboured anti-Catholic and anti-Indigenous views.

CHIEF MISTAHIMASKWA (BIG BEAR) (1825-1888) was a Plains Cree chief who notably refused to sign Treaty 6 in 1876. He led his people through a period of rapid transformation in the Prairies, which witnessed significant settlement in the region and the destruction of buffalo herds. Known to be cautious and independent, his refusal to sign Treaty 6 made him popular among many who were distrustful of government promises and initiatives. Seeking to unify the Cree in order to protect their livelihood and land, Mistahimaskwa also sought to partner with the Métis and met with Louis Riel. His negotiations were ultimately unsuccessful, and in response a faction of his followers grew agitated and attacked local settlers, killing nine men including two priests and an Indian agent. While Mistahimaskwa did not condone the violence, he was still blamed and tried for the actions of his men.

CHARLES NOLIN (1838-1907) was a Métis farmer, politician, fur trader and merchant. In 1885, alongside Maxime Lépine, he organized a committee seeking to ensure the recognition of Métis rights in the Northwest. A cousin to Louis Riel by marriage, he initially took part in Riel's Council at Batoche. However, Nolin opposed the North-West Resistance and distanced himself from the violence. Subsequently, he was put on trial by the Provisional Government but later acquitted. He testified against Riel at the latter's trial, and briefly served in the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories from 1891 to 1892.

SIR STAFFORD HENRY NORTHCOTE, FIRST EARL OF IDDESLEIGH (1818-1887) Educated at Eton, and Balliol College, Oxford; a lawyer (Lincoln Inn's Fields and the Inner Temple), with a long political career, both as an MP (1855-1857, 1858-1885), and a Peer (1885-1887). Northcote had served as a personal secretary to William E. Gladstone at the Board of Trade, but later aligned his politics with Benjamin Disraeli. Northcote held key appointments associated with governance of the United Kingdom and its Empire (Board of Trade, Secretary of State for India, Chancellor of the Exchequer, First Lord of the Treasury, and Foreign Secretary). Engagement as the 23rd Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company (1869-1874), his only corporate appointment, was a brief commercial interlude in his political career; but it came at a time when an Imperial decision on the future of the HBC Territory was pending. His political experience and credibility must have counted towards his ability to negotiate an intricate agreement effecting the surrender of charter rights on terms that ensured the commercial survival of the Company. Due to strident allegations concerning HBC compliancy with the events at Red River 1869-1870, he visited Canada to meet with influential politicians. From the galley of the House of Commons, he keenly observed Prime Minister Macdonald's introduction of the Manitoba Bill on 2 May 1870. The HBC steamer *Northcote* was named after him. It was put out of action by the Métis during the Battle of Batoche.

JOHN NORQUAY (1841-1889) was Premier of Manitoba from 1878 to 1887, after a long tenure as cabinet minister, having become increasingly politically active after the Red River Resistance and Manitoba Act of 1870. He was of Métis ancestry, and often advocated on behalf of Manitoba's Métis community in government. His time in office was also characterized by railway development in Canada and in particular Manitoba, and he varyingly held the support or animosity of Sir John A. Macdonald.

CHIEF PEGUIS (1774-1864) was a Saulteaux chief who settled in southern Manitoba at the end of the 18th century. The Saulteaux provided aid to the HBC and settlers in the province, after Peguis granted the latter land through signing a treaty with Lord Selkirk. The traditional knowledge of Peguis and his people was crucial to the early success of the settlement, and he and his wife later chose to be baptized in 1840, taking the names William and Victoria King.

LOUIS RIEL (1844-1885) was Métis. He was born in Red River and as a youth was educated in Montreal. He returned to Red River during a period of rapid changes and heightened tensions, notably between the Métis and the newly arrived anglophone-protestant land speculators called the Canadian Party. Being ambitious, educated, and invested in the traditions of his Métis community, Riel became a leader to his people. When Canada and Great Britain devised a plan to turn the North-West over to Canada without consulting the people of the North-West, the Métis began what is now known as the Red River Resistance. Riel and his supporters took control of Upper Fort Garry and created a provisional government, replacing the Council of Assiniboia in order to force negotiations with Ottawa. The provisional government created a List of Rights, the terms on which they wanted the North-West to join confederation. Their demands were contested by a group of counter insurgents led by men from the Canadian Party, who made repeated efforts to assassinate Riel and overthrow the provisional government. One of the counter insurgents, Thomas Scott, was tried, sentenced and executed. The provisional government sent three men to Ottawa to negotiate with Canada, the result of which was the creation of the province of Manitoba in the Manitoba Act, 1870. During the negotiations, Prime Minister Macdonald prepared an army and sent it to Red River. When the army arrived in late August of 1870 it instigated a reign of terror that was to last for almost three years. Many of the members of the provisional government were murdered by the troops. Riel was forced to flee to the United States where he lived in exile until 1884. He returned to Canada to lead the Métis in their fight to protect their lands in the North-West Resistance of 1885. After the Métis were defeated at the Battle of Batoche, Riel surrendered and was tried and hanged for high treason. He is now recognized as the founder of Manitoba.

FATHER JOSEPH-NOËL RITCHOT (1825-1905) was a Catholic priest, missionary, educator, and advocate for the Métis community. After arriving in the Red River colony in 1862, he became familiar with the plight of his parish and in 1869 provided support and counsel to the leaders of the resistance movement. The following year he would form part of a delegation sent to Ottawa to negotiate the colony's entry into confederation. While some demands were seemingly met, the inconsistent honouring of the terms of the Manitoba Act of 1870 would result in further displeasure, distrust and conflict between the Métis and Ottawa. Ritchot continued to live in the community until his death, notably helping to build religious and educational institutions.

SIR JOHN CHRISTIAN SCHULTZ (1840-1896) was the fifth Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, from 1888 to 1895. Born and raised in Upper Canada, he relocated to the Red River colony in the 1860's, working as a speculator and owning a variety of businesses. Schultz was well-known as a corrupt and dangerous man, prone to organize mob violence and employ bribery to obtain what he desired. As leader of the local Canadian Party, he worked to encourage anglophone immigration to the settlement from Ontario as well as annexation by the federal government, in doing so promoting discrimination and organizing attacks against the Métis. He was generally viewed as a scoundrel, an opportunist and a fraud whose main

motivation was the promotion of self. Indeed, Many of Schultz accomplishments were fabricated, and he was distrusted and reviled during his long political career.

THOMAS SCOTT (1842-1870) was a Protestant Irishman who emigrated to Canada in 1863, and moved to the Red River Colony in 1869. Working as part of a crew building the Dawson Road, he met John Christian Schultz and joined the Canadian Party in violent opposition to Riel's Provisional Government. He was involved in an attempt to assassinate Riel, overthrow the provisional government, attack the Métis armed with a canon and burn their homes. He was captured at Fort Garry and held prisoner by the Provisional Government of Louis Riel, and was alleged to have continually insulted the Métis and threatened Riel himself. His execution on 4 March 1870 influenced the composition of the Red River Expedition (Wolseley Expedition), which recruited numerous Orange Lodge members in response. The decision to execute Scott ultimately led to Riel's exile and execution.

CHIEF SEEKASKOOTCH (CUT ARM) (d.1885) was a Woods Cree chief who was among the signatories of Treaty 6. Seekaskootch was killed in the Battle of Loon Lake (Battle of Steele Narrows), which concluded the North-West Resistance.

WILLIAM HENRY SEWARD (1801-1872) served as U.S. Secretary of State from 1861 until 1869, notably during the years of the American Civil War (1861-1865). A crucial figure in the Union cause, during his political career he helped advance the rights of African Americans and abolitionists. He oversaw the purchase of the Alaska territory from the Russian Empire in 1867, which cost $7.2 million at the time. While one of the principal incentives behind the purchase was the potential for trade with Asia, the territory would only witness significant immigration after the Klondike Gold Rush beginning in 1896.

SIR GEORGE SIMPSON (1792-1860) was a Scottish businessman and explorer who sailed to North America in 1820, and rose through the ranks of the HBC. Eventually being appointed governor of the company, during an era of fierce competition between the HBC and the NWC, he was praised for his business savvy and negotiating tact. Subsequent to the merger of the two companies, he oversaw a period of immense success for the HBC, during which he was also noted for his remarkable ability to endure extensive travel throughout the continent.

SIR DONALD ALEXANDER SMITH, first Baron of Strathcona and Mount Royal, (1820-1914), of Scottish highland origins, his HBC engagement spanned from long-term management of remote posts to a principal shareholder (1889) and governor (1889-1914). His transfer to Montreal in 1868 coincided with Canada's preparations to annex the HBC Territory. Montreal provided opportunities to partner with local capitalists. After the failure of William McDougall to effect political power on behalf of the Dominion, Smith was appointed by Prime Minister Macdonald as special commissioner to confer with Louis Riel. As the husband of Isabella Sophia Hardisty, and supported by Richard Charles Hardisty, Smith was positioned

to work social links in Red River society. Following the acquisition of the HBC Territory, Smith was well positioned to apply his commercial acumen. He led the HBC Land Department during the early years when the much-anticipated rapid settlement of the Fertile Belt failed to occur. Later, as Governor, he repeatedly advised shareholders to forgo quick gains on land sales, and to instead treat the grant as a diminishing capital asset. His investments reflected a myriad of commercial concerns (banking and trusts, railroads, rolling stock, cotton manufacturing and knitting, a newspaper, a land company, etc.); notable senior appointments included: president of the Bank of Montreal (1887) and chairman of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (1909). Smith's life was not simply business: As a politician he was elected as a Manitoba MLA (defeating John Schultz) and was a long serving MP (1871-1880, 1887-1896); as a diplomat, Canada's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom (1896-1914); and as Chancellor of McGill University (1889-1914).

ALEXANDRE-ANTONIN TACHÉ (1823-1894) was a Catholic priest and missionary. After joining the Oblate order, he was appointed to the mission of Saint Boniface. He studied the local Indigenous languages, Cree and Athapaskan, and completed missionary work among various communities in the region. He progressively rose through the ranks of the order, while a new diocese was formed in the northwest, eventually becoming the first archbishop of Saint Boniface. He worked diligently to convert and educate local communities, including the Métis, and promote French Canadian language and culture in the region. He was also an early teacher and mentor to Louis Riel.

JEAN BAPTISTE TOUROND (1838-1891) was a Métis farmer and politician, who worked alongside Louis Riel to halt the land speculations and claims of anglophone immigration supporters in Red River.

SIR EDWARD WATKIN, First Baronet (1819-1901), a politician MP (1857, 1864-1868, 1874-1898) and a 19th century railroad capitalist during a period when railways held the equivalent power of the IT oligopolies of today. He understood that the expenses of construction and operation of railways required the interlocking capacity of financiers, politicians, and railway companies. Through the London-based British North America Association, which included support from several businesses, but notably, the Barring and Glyn bankers, Watkin and others convincingly promoted the acceptance of a political union of the small colonies. A nation state was a better geographical and financial foundation for railway schemes (Grand Trunk, and the Intercolonial railway). Coincident with lobbying on both sides of the Atlantic for political union, he had pursued the freeing up of the Fertile Belt for the purposes of a railway to the Pacific Ocean, and telegraph line. He played a central role in the International Financial Society takeover of the HBC in 1863. While Watkin successfully reoriented the Company, even the English shareholders (who had bought into the new HBC with the objective to gain quickly from land speculation) realized that they lacked the capacity to establish the necessary conditions for settlement.

GARNET JOSEPH WOLSELEY (1833-1913) was one of the most prominent generals in the British army during the second-half of the nineteenth century. Born in Ireland, his campaigns included victories in China, India, Canada, Burma and numerous African nations. After the Red River Resistance, Wolseley was assigned to lead the expeditionary force sent to establish Canadian authority following negotiations which led to the Manitoba Act. While the mission was supposed to be peaceful, Wolseley instead unleased his troops to murder, rape, burn property and brutalize in order to subdue the Métis. Seeing the Métis as bandits, he refused to stem the violence and abdicated his responsibility as commander by ceding his authority to the notorious scoundrel John Christian Schultz. The period of his occupation is remembered as a reign of terror in Manitoba and was even characterized as such in the *New York Times*. The expedition also sought to apprehend Riel, who evaded capture by fleeing to the United States.