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Enrolment Officer's Report
Michel McDonald
(RIN #14703)

REPORT NOVEMBER 2022
HEARING JUNE 2023

Enrolment Office Team

- ❖ Enrolment Office for AOO since 2004
 - Enrolment Officer
 - Genealogist
 - Senior Researcher and Project Supervisor
 - Database Manager and Administrative Coordinator
 - Research Assistant and Information Management Specialist

The Enrolment Officer's Task

To assist Tribunal in determining whether it would be reasonable to conclude that Michel McDonald is properly considered an “Algonquin Ancestor”

- Conduct research on the ancestor
- Present findings of research
- Provide historical and genealogical context to research findings

Algonquin Ancestor

“Algonquin Ancestor” means

- a person who was born on or before July 15, 1897
- identified in an historic record or document dated on or before December 31, 1921
- in such a way that it would be reasonable to conclude that the person was considered to be an Algonquin or Nipissing, or a sibling of such a person
- In this definition, a sibling of a person is a person with a common Algonquin parent

Organization of Report

- Narrative outlining the written evidence
- Four Appendices:
 - Genealogical chart: ancestors and descendants of Michel McDonald
 - Michel McDonald's timeline
 - List of documents with source information
 - Images of documents with source information
- Posted on Website as Document 1

Responding and Reply Reports

- Tribunal received 13 submissions from interested parties
Posted on website as Documents 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 21
- Enrolment Officer's Responding reports posted as Document 8, 12, 13, 15, 19

Added to Preliminary List of Algonquin Ancestors

- Added by a Board decision in 2000
- Protested in 2011
- Protest heard and dismissed in 2013

Name Variations

- His surname name is given as McDonald, MacDonald or McDonnell; his first name as Michael, Michel, Michall, Mishel or Mashal
- His 3rd wife's name as Arkle, Arcand, Arcaud, Arcell, Arkell

Sources of Information

- No primary documents for birth or baptism of Michel McDonald or documents naming his parents or their place of birth; suggestions that this was an adopted or assumed name
- Various and incomplete collection of baptism, marriage and death/burial records for Michel McDonald, his wives and their families, his children, and grandchildren, beginning in 1866
- 1871-1901 census for Michel McDonald, his wives, and their children
- Marriage and 1921 census for adult children

Michel McDonald's Parents

- Michel McDonald's parents unknown:
 - 1866 church marriage record his father is named “___ McDonnell”; mother's name blank
 - 1866 civil marriage record his father recorded as “McDonald”, mother not listed
 - 1869 marriage parents listed as unknown (“inconnus”)
 - 1891 census notes Michel's parents born in Canada

Michel McDonald

- No record of Michel's birth or baptism
- Year of birth estimated from census and marriage records: around 1839-40 (1866 marriage records, 1871 census, 1891 census, 1907 death) or 1836 (1881 census)
- Place of birth various: Canada (1866 civil marriage, 1891 census, 1907 death); Manitoba (1871 census, 1901 census); Ontario (1881 census, 1921 census records of 3 sons, one daughter)
- Ethnicity various: Scotch (1871 census); Scotch ~~ind~~ (1881 census); Indian (1879 and 1881 birth registrations for two sons, 1891 census); Cree FB (1901 census); "colour" question not noted (1901 census); three sons noted as "Indian" on 1921 census, daughter French but spoke "Indian"
- Occupation: hunter and labourer (1870 child's birth registration); hunter and farmer (1871 census); hunter (1881 and 1891 census); farmer (1879 birth registration for son, 1901 census, 1907 death record)

Michel McDonald's 1st Marriage

- ❑ Married Mary Wilduck/Whiteduck (aka Marie Elizabeth Chapwewitang) at Eganville in February 1866
 - Church and civil record
 - Mary was daughter of “Michael Wilduck” (aka Whiteduck dit Chapwewitang) and Elizabeth ____ (aka Elizabeth Wasseiasikekwe), a married couple
 - Witnesses: Ignace Mukwa (aka Ignace Naokijik) and Joseph Teneska (aka Teneskon)
 - Bride's father Michael and witnesses Ignace and Joseph on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors
 - Michel living in Radcliffe Twp; Mary in Raglin Twp

- ❑ Mary's brother John Baptiste Chapwewitang married Mary Anne Buckshot dite Pejiweiasitch on same day Michel and Mary were their witnesses

Michel McDonald's 2nd Marriage

- ❑ Married Mary Constant at Arnprior in September 1869
 - 2nd wife was first cousin of 1st wife (Mary Whiteduck)
 - Mary Constant was daughter of deceased Simon dit Ignace Constant (aka Ignace Kikonse) and Jane Bieppe (aka Genevieve Whiteduck or Pekakasiketch)
 - Witnessed by Andrew Michel, 2nd husband of Genevieve Whiteduck, step-father of bride; Andrew listed on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors

- ❑ No death or burial record found for 1st wife Mary Whiteduck, however likely legitimate as:
 - Mary Whiteduck's father Michel Whiteduck dit Chapwewitang was brother of Genevieve Whiteduck, the mother of Michel's 2nd wife
 - Witness to the 2nd marriage, Andrew Michel was both step-uncle of Mary Whiteduck and step-father of Mary Constant

Michel McDonald's, 2nd Marriage (cont.)

- Michel McDonald and Mary Constant had one known daughter
 - Margaret, born October 1870 at Bagot and Blythefield
 - Mary provided information for civil registration of Margaret
 - Michel listed as hunter and labourer
 - Remarks field: “Half Breed Indian”
 - Family listed on 1871 census: Michel and Margaret “Scotch”, Mary Constant “Indian”; enumerator was also registrar of Margaret’s birth

1876 Family Burial

- Michel McDonald witnessed burial of Theresa Jacob dite Miskwabininc at Mount St. Patrick, July 1876
 - Theresa was sister-in-law to Michel Chapwewitang dit Whiteduck and Genevieve Whiteduck/Pekakasiketch, the father and mother of Michel's first and second wives, respectively
 - Theresa's father and paternal grandfather on Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors
 - Other witnesses: Theresa's father Francis Jacob and John Green, the grandson of Jean Baptiste Kikonse; Francis Jacob and Jean Baptiste Kikonse on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors

Connection to Whiteduck Family

Schematic: Whiteduck Family Connections

Michel McDonald's 3rd Wife

No record of marriage to Elizabeth Arcle/Arcand; children's records identify Michel and Eliza as lawfully married couple

- Xavier Michael born November 15, 1879
 - Charles Augustus born September 15, 1880
 - Peter Abraham born December 1881; baptized Odessa March 1882
 - Charles Alexander born March 1883; baptized at Ardoch May 1883
 - Mary Adeline born October 8, 1884; baptized at Ardoch October 9, 1884
 - John Christmas born December 1885; baptized at Ardoch January 1886
 - Albert Edward born April 1887; baptized at Ardoch June 1887
 - Esther Lanore born February 1891; baptized at Ardoch March 1891
- Godparents Elizabeth's relatives
 - All known descendants are from Michel and Elizabeth Arcle

1893 death of Eliza, 3rd wife

- Eliza Arkle died on July 19, 1893 at birth of youngest child
 - Information for her death record and birth record of infant, Joseph Alfred, given by physician from “personal knowledge”
 - Same physician registered oldest children in 1879 and 1881

1901 census

- Michel listed as Cree FB (French Breed), born rural Manitoba
 - 4 sons aged 15 to 20, born Ontario
 - 2 daughters aged 10 & 12, born Ontario
 - no colour indicated for Michel or children

- Household includes:
 - “Searry Whiteduck” (born July 10, 1869 in rural Ontario) “R” – indigenous, Cree FB; “Servant”
 - “E. Marry Brown”, born February 13, 1901 in rural Ontario, “W”, English; no relationship specified

1901 census: Searry (Sarah) Whiteduck

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- Sarah Whiteduck, born July 10, 1869 in rural Ontario, “R”, “Servant”, Cree FB and E. Marry Brown, born February 13, 1901 in rural Ontario, “W”, English
 - Record of baptism at Ardoch for “Mary Ann” of Palmerston, born Feb. 13, 1901 states “unknown parents (George Brown and Sarah Whiteduck)”
 - Sarah Whiteduck daughter of Simon Whiteduck and Therese Jacob (descendants of Joseph Pekakasiketch, Jacques Kamiskwabininch and François Jacob/Jacko) all documented Algonquins
 - Sarah Whiteduck was 1st cousin of Michel’s first two wives; Michel had witnessed burial of Sarah’s mother
 - Sarah Whiteduck enumerated in 1911 living in household of her sister and brother-in-law with her four children (incl. Mary); Algonquin

Summary: Origins

- ❑ Parents' identity/residence unknown; no baptism/birth record for Michel
- ❑ Origins recorded variously:
 - 1866 marriage registration born in **Canada**
 - 1871 census listed as **Scotch** born **Manitoba**
 - 1879 birth registration of son listed as **Indian**
 - 1881 census listed as "**Scotch Ind**" born **Ontario**
 - 1881 birth registration of son listed as **Indian**
 - 1891 census as **Indian** born **Canada**
 - 1901 census listed as **Cree FB**, born **Manitoba**; colour question not answered
 - 1907 death record born in **Canada**
 - 1921 census listed 3 sons of Michel McDonald as **Indian**; daughter listed as **French speaking Indian**; adult children identify Michel's place of birth as **Ontario**

Summary: Connections to Algonquin Families

- ❑ Married two Algonquin women: Mary Whiteduck and Mary Constant, 1st cousins; 1866, 1869
- ❑ Witnessed burial of aunt of first 2 wives, 1876
- ❑ 3rd wife non-Indigenous woman, nine children
- ❑ 1901 census cousin of first two wives living in his household with his six children, aged 10 – 20, and her infant
- ❑ 1903, Michel McDonald's son married 1st cousin once removed of the Mary Whiteduck and Mary Constant

