

COMMENDING CHIEF DANNY SMYTH AND THE WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE

THANK YOU, CHIEF DANNY SMYTH, FOR DEFENDING AND PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY AND CHARACTER OF THE POLICE SERVICE AS YOU CONTINUE TO HOLD THE PEOPLES' TRUST. ON BEHALF OF THE MÉTIS NATION, THE MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION (MMF) ALSO THANKS THE ENTIRE WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE (WPS) FOR THEIR CONTINUED DEDICATION TO THE PEOPLE.

HONOUR, RESPECT AND TRUST

ONE OF THE GREATEST STRENGTHS OF THE WPS IS THAT THEY ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMUNITY THEY SERVE. THEY ARE OUR FATHERS, OUR MOTHERS, OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THOSE WHO CHOOSE THIS NOBLE PROFESSION, INCLUDING OUR MÉTIS AND FIRST NATIONS OFFICERS, ARE DEDICATING THEIR LIVES TO SERVING THE PEOPLE.

EVERY DAY OUR POLICE OFFICERS PUT ON THEIR UNIFORM, KNOWING THEY FACE THE THREAT OF ASSAULT, INJURY OR EVEN DEATH. OFFICERS MUST MAKE LIFE-ALTERING DECISIONS IN SECONDS AND RISK FACING A LIFETIME OF REGRET IF THE DECISIONS ARE WRONG.

WHILE IT IS KNOWN THAT SOME OFFICERS MAKE DECISIONS THAT CAN RESULT IN HARM, WE CANNOT LET THE ACTIONS OF A FEW DETERMINE OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE MANY. MOST POLICE OFFICERS ARE HARD-WORKING, DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS WHO FEEL THE SAME PRESSURES AND CHALLENGES AS THE REST OF US. WE SHOULD NOT LOOK AT POLICE OFFICERS AS A THREAT OR AN ENEMY, BUT AS PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO PUT THEIR LIVES AND SAFETY ON THE LINE EVERY DAY TO PROTECT US.

LIKE ALL SEGMENTS OF SOCIETY, THE WPS CONTINUES TO BREAK DOWN BARRIERS. THEY HAVE GROWN AND DEVELOPED ALONGSIDE US AS WE WORK TO ERADICATE RACIAL STIGMAS AND STEREOTYPES. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE UNDER CHIEF DANNY SMYTH'S ADMINISTRATION. HIS FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY IS UNWAVERING AS HE CONTINUES TO LEAD THE POLICE SERVICE THROUGH HIS EXAMPLES OF HONOUR, RESPECT AND TRUST.

CHIEF SMYTH KNOWS THAT SOLUTIONS TO EVEN THE MOST CHALLENGING ISSUES MUST START WITH DIALOGUE, SHARING PERSPECTIVE AND LEARNING TOGETHER. THE MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION IS COMMITTED TO WORKING ALONGSIDE THE WPS TO FIND BETTER OUTCOMES FOR POLICE OFFICERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS, INCLUDING OUR MÉTIS NATION CITIZENS.

WE ALSO THANK ALL THOSE IN UNIFORM - MILITARY, RCMP, LOCAL DETACHMENTS, NURSES, PARAMEDICS, AND FIREFIGHTERS TO NAME A FEW. WITHOUT THEIR ESSENTIAL SERVICE, THERE IS NO SOCIAL PROGRESS AND THERE IS NO JUSTICE.

**WORKING TOGETHER, EVERY DAY CAN BE A BETTER DAY.
WE ARE PROUD OF YOU.**

**PRESIDENT DAVID CHARTRAND
AND THE MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION CABINET**

