

————— **Research Report** —————

**Manitoba: An Examination of the Program
Needs of Métis Offenders in Federal
Correctional Facilities**

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**Manitoba: An Examination of the Program Needs of Métis
Offenders in Federal Correctional Facilities**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The current project was a joint effort between the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) and Métis National Council (MNC) to examine the needs of Métis offenders in Manitoba. The study involved interviews with 37 Métis randomly-selected federal offenders and 13 of their family members. The study also included interviews with 21 parole officers at Stony Mountain and Rockwood institution in Manitoba.

Due to the over-representation of Métis offenders in the correctional justice system (1% of the Canadian population, 4% of offenders incarcerated in federal correctional facilities), further research in this area is needed to address this concern. Some suggest that Métis offenders may have needs that are unique from non-Aboriginal and First Nations offenders. Furthermore, current programs and services for Aboriginal offenders typically reflect the interest of First Nations offenders and may not be appropriate for all Métis offenders. This research project addressed the following questions:

1. What are the characteristics of federal Métis offenders in Manitoba? How do Métis offenders differ from other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal offenders?
2. What programs are federal Métis offenders participating in within the institution?
3. What programs and services do federal Métis offenders require within correctional facilities and once they are released into the community?
4. What programs and services do the families of Métis offenders require?
5. What information or training do correctional staff have regarding Métis offenders and the Métis culture?

Profile of Métis Offenders

The majority of the Métis offenders interviewed were in their early thirties, single, lacked a high school diploma and were unemployed at the time of their arrest. They also had fairly extensive criminal histories and were currently incarcerated for violent offences. Although some differences emerged between Métis and First Nations offenders on various socio-demographic characteristics and offence types, these differences did not reach statistical significance.

Despite some similarities in terms of socio-demographic, offence type and need profiles, the cultural experiences and environmental influences of Métis offenders were quite unique from those of First Nations offenders. Large proportions of Métis offenders spent their childhood in a city and identified their home as an urban centre. Although large proportions of Métis offenders expressed attachment to their culture, many did not speak or understand an Aboriginal language. Differences in environment and cultural background point to the need for interventions adapted to the experiences of Métis offenders. For instance, a healing lodge in a remote setting may have limited meaning for some Métis offenders because of the remote location.

Program Participation

The majority of Métis offenders have participated in correctional programming such as substance abuse, employment and education. In addition to their program participation, many also indicated that they found the programs useful in addressing their criminogenic needs. Although many of the Métis offenders have participated in correctional programs and indicated that these programs were useful in addressing their needs, many also suggested the need for programs that were more specific to their unique needs. Although the programs target criminogenic needs identified at intake, the offenders may not respond fully to the programs unless they are given in an appropriate cultural context and in a way that is meaningful to the lives of Métis offenders.

Addressing Criminogenic Needs of Métis Offenders

A number of need areas were noted by the offenders during their incarceration and upon their release. One-third of the Métis offenders indicated that their needs are different from First Nations offenders, and one-half said that their needs are different from non-Aboriginal offenders. The main areas of need for these offenders included the need for Métis-specific programming and need-specific programming. Many also suggested the involvement of Métis organization as part of their correctional experience.

Many of the needs expressed by Métis offenders continue to be relevant upon their release to the community. Access to resources, support networks and culturally specific programming were all common needs expressed by the Métis offenders. In addition, it appears that some of their needs are different from First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders. Programs that incorporate the history and culture of Métis people may be important to address the unique needs of Métis offenders.

Needs of Family

A number of family-related needs were identified by both the offenders and family members. Greater communication within the family unit and access to support systems were noted by the offenders as important needs for their families. Family members expressed similar needs as those identified by the offenders. The need for encouragement, support, and counselling was indicated during the offender's incarceration and at release. Additional services for family members during the incarceration period of the offender may be required.

The needs of family members of Métis offenders are likely similar to the needs of family members of all offenders. However, in order to make the services most effective, providing them in the appropriate cultural setting is important.

Staff

The majority of the parole officers (90%) interviewed indicated that they currently work with Métis offenders. However, more than one-half stated that they have little or no knowledge of Métis offenders and Métis culture in general. Additional training is needed to better understand the needs of this population. Creating further awareness of the needs of Métis offenders and how they may differ from other offender populations may allow staff a better opportunity to better respond to their unique needs.

Summary

The findings of this study re-affirmed the notion that there are some differences between the Métis culture and other Aboriginal cultures. While there are certain areas where Métis offenders are similar to First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders, there are other areas where they differ. Overall, the biggest difference noted by offenders related to cultural and spiritual areas. It was noted that Métis offenders need programs that include Métis history and culture, both while incarcerated and upon release to the community. Therefore, the programming needs may be similar, but how (and by whom) the information is presented may need to be re-thought. Perhaps the incorporation of information about Métis history and culture into programs would help make the programs more meaningful for Métis offenders.

Further cultural training for staff is suggested to provide them with greater understanding of Métis culture and the unique needs of this offender population. Understanding the unique needs of Métis offenders will provide CSC and Métis organizations with a better opportunity to provide strategies to encourage their successful reintegration into the community as law-abiding citizens.

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INTRODUCTION

This project reflects the combined efforts of Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) and Métis National Council (MNC). The MMF is a political organization representing the interests of the Métis people in the province of Manitoba. The MNC is the national representative for the historic Métis Nation in Canada. The objective of the MNC in this project was to collaborate with CSC to enhance the role of Métis communities in addressing the over-representation of their people within corrections. The collaboration between the three organizations led to the development of a research project that examined the needs of Métis offenders during their incarceration and upon release to the community. In order to ensure the examination of needs was comprehensive, interviews were conducted with offenders incarcerated in two federal correctional facilities in Manitoba (i.e., Stony Mountain and Rockwood institution), their family members and parole officers.

Métis Offenders

Several research studies have identified the over-representation of Aboriginal offenders in the Canadian federal correctional system (e.g., Hamilton & Sinclair, 1991; Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996; Saskatchewan Métis Justice Review Committee, 1992; Solicitor General of Canada, 1988; Task Force on the Criminal Justice System and its Impact on the Indian and Métis People of Alberta, 1991; Trevethan, Moore & Thorpe, 2003; Trevethan, Tremblay & Carter, 2000). As indicated by the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (1996) "Reports and inquiries... have not only confirmed the fact of over-representation [of Aboriginal offenders in the criminal justice system] but, most alarmingly, have demonstrated that the problem is getting worse, not better".

A speech from the throne in January 2001 highlights the importance of addressing the issues faced by the Aboriginal people. It states:

...it is a tragic reality that too many Aboriginal people are finding themselves in conflict with the law. Canada must take the measures needed to significantly reduce the percentage of Aboriginal people entering the criminal justice system, so that within a generation it is no higher than the Canadian average (Government of Canada, 2001).

Similar to other Aboriginal groups (i.e., Inuit and First Nations), Métis offenders are over-represented in the criminal justice system (Hamilton & Sinclair, 1991; Saskatchewan Métis Justice Review Committee, 1992; Task Force on the Criminal Justice System and its Impact on the Indian and Métis People of Alberta, 1991). In Canada, Métis people comprise approximately 1% of the total population. However, within federal institutions, Métis account for nearly 4% of the incarcerated population. Currently, approximately 600 Métis offenders are incarcerated in the institutions while another 300 are serving their sentences in the community. Of the total number of Aboriginal offenders in Canada, Métis offenders comprise more than one-quarter (27%) of the incarcerated population (CSC, 2002).

While Aboriginal offenders are generally over-represented in corrections, the factors related to over-representation may not necessarily be the same for all Aboriginal groups. Studies examining group differences have shown that Métis offenders differ from other Aboriginal populations in a number of areas (Moore, 2003; Motiuk & Nafekh, 2000; Trevethan et al., 2003). In particular, Moore (2003) identified differences in offence type and criminogenic need. While Métis and First Nations offenders both had extensive involvement with the criminal justice system, greater proportions of Métis offenders were incarcerated for property and drug-related offences. These differences were also observed between Métis and non-Aboriginal offenders. Furthermore, Métis offenders were found to have greater difficulties with employment and criminal associates compared to other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal groups.

In addition to their over-representation, the institutional experiences of Métis offenders may indicate a need for targeted services. A report by the Manitoba Métis Federation in 2002 suggested that Métis were typically identified as "Aboriginal" upon admission to federal facilities, a category primarily representing "First Nations" peoples. As a result, Métis offenders were found to have access to programs that may not have been culturally relevant. Offenders appeared to be faced with similar circumstances upon release. The successful reintegration of offenders is often dependent upon post-release supports in the community. However, these services may not address the needs of Métis offenders and their families in a culturally appropriate manner, potentially reducing the positive impact of programming on reintegration.

The extensive involvement and experiences of Métis offenders within corrections clearly points to the need for further research. Some literature appears to suggest that Métis offenders may require targeted services that are not currently provided by CSC. It is, therefore, necessary to more carefully examine the programming needs of Métis offenders inside federal facilities and at the time of release. The present report examines the programs Métis offenders are involved in and identifies areas in which programs could be enhanced.

Present Study

The present study was conducted to examine the needs of Métis offenders. The major research questions for this study include:

1. What are the characteristics of federal Métis offenders in Manitoba?
How do Métis offenders differ from other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal offenders?
2. What programs are federal Métis offenders participating in within the institution and upon release?

3. What programs and services do federal Métis offenders require within correctional facilities and once they are released into the community?
4. What programs and services do the families of Métis offenders require?
5. What information or training do correctional staff have regarding Métis offenders and the Métis culture?

The objective of this research project is to provide a comprehensive understanding of Métis offenders needs. Results will hopefully generate a number of strategies to improve the correctional practices currently in place for Métis offenders and their families. Further, findings may provide information on the best approach for implementing Section 81 and 84 of the *Corrections and Conditional Release Act (CCRA)* for Métis offenders. The purpose of these sections of the *CCRA* is to aid Aboriginal offenders in their successful reintegration by using traditional methods of intervention. Information from this project could also lead to a second phase of research that would target specific communities and examine what services are available for Métis offenders.

METHOD

This project is a descriptive examination of Métis offenders in federal institutions in Manitoba. In order to gather the necessary information, the following data sources were utilized:

- offender files
- interviews with offenders
- interviews with family members
- interviews with federal institutional staff

Offender Files

Information was gathered through the use of the Offender Management System (OMS) used by CSC. The OMS stores all information on each of the federal offenders. An examination of the socio-demographic characteristics of the offenders, current offence, criminal history, and static and dynamic factors were conducted (see Appendix B for a list of variables examined). This information was provided through the Offender Intake Assessment (OIA) process. CSC's OIA process collects and stores information on each federal offender's criminal and mental health background, social situation and education, factors relevant to determining criminal risk (such as number, variety of convictions and previous exposure, response to youth and adult corrections), and factors relevant to identifying offender dynamic needs (such as employment history, family background, criminal associations, addictions, attitudes). While the results help determine institutional placement and correctional plans, a distribution of selected criminal history and case need variables can result in a comprehensive profile of the federal offender population.

In order to determine whether the sample of Métis offenders was representative of the population of federally-incarcerated Métis offenders in Manitoba, comparative analyses between the sample and the population were performed.

The profile characteristics (i.e., socio-demographic, criminal history, offence, need) of the sample were not significantly different from those of the population, suggesting that the findings can be generalized to the population of Métis offenders in Manitoba.

Comparisons between Métis, First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders were performed to identify differences in the profile characteristics of Métis offenders and other federal offenders in Manitoba. Analyses were first performed to examine differences between the three groups (as illustrated in the tables in Appendix A). When statistically significant differences were obtained, further analyses were performed to identify specific differences between pairs of groups (i.e., Métis versus First Nations, Métis versus non-Aboriginal).

For the purpose of this study, any offender who reported an identity which was not Aboriginal (e.g., Caucasian, Asian, Black) was identified as "non-Aboriginal". Inuit offenders were excluded from the analyses because the number of federal Inuit offenders at the time of the snapshot was too small to use for comparative purposes.

Offender Interviews

In addition to case file information, interviews were conducted to provide further information that was not available on OMS. The interviews provided a personal in-depth examination of the needs of the offenders. An interview assessment protocol was created with the feedback and assistance of MMF and MNC prior to its implementation.

Six key areas were examined in the interviews: background information on the offender; childhood experiences; family problems; current relationship with family; program participation, and needs. The structured interviews incorporated

both closed and open-ended questions (see Appendix C for a copy of the Interview questions).

Each interview took approximately 45 minutes to complete. The length of the interviews ranged from 30 minutes to 2 hours depending on the amount of information provided by the offender. The interviews were conducted by staff of MMF.

The study sample consisted of 37 randomly-selected male offenders from a pool of 95 Métis offenders incarcerated in both federal institutions in Manitoba. More specifically, 19 offenders from Stony Mountain and 18 offenders from Rockwood Institution participated in the study.

Family Interviews

Family members were contacted and interviewed based on the consent of the offenders. Each offender was asked to provide names of family members with whom they are currently in contact. Offenders identified a total of 41 family members, and of these, 13 were interviewed.

A structured interview protocol was developed for the family members. Four key areas were examined: background; relationship to offender; needs of offender; and, family needs. Both closed and open-ended questions were included in the interview (see Appendix D for a copy of the interview questions).

Once the offender provided their consent, the family members were contacted by telephone to determine whether they wanted to participate in the research project. Those willing to participate were provided with the option of having the interview conducted over the phone or in person. All of the family members chose to be interviewed by phone. The interviews were conducted by staff from MMF.

All of the respondents were female. Seven of the respondents were First Nations while the remainder were Métis. The majority of the respondents were mothers (54%) of the incarcerated family member, followed by other family members (23%), siblings (16%) and common-law partners (7%).

Staff Interviews

A total of 21 interviews were conducted with parole officers from Stony Mountain (n=11) and Rockwood institution (n=10). The parole officers interviewed were randomly selected from a pool of parole officers at each of the institutions. Three key areas in the interview were examined: their professional and educational background; their perception of offender needs and programs; and, the needs of family members during the offender's incarceration and upon their release. The interview consisted of both closed and open-ended questions (see Appendix E for a copy of the staff interview).

In-person interviews were conducted, taking approximately 50 minutes to complete. Interviews ranged from 30 minutes to 1.5 hours depending on the information provided by the parole officer. Two researchers from the Research Branch of CSC conducted the interviews.

Process

The project was a joint effort between CSC, MMF and MNC. The process began with an agreement between the three parties about the methodological approach that was going to be taken. Three interview questionnaires were developed and administered to offenders, family members and staff. Three interviewers from MMF conducted face-to-face interviews with Métis offenders from Stony Mountain and Rockwood institution. As previously discussed, a random sample of 37 offenders who were "on count" in the institutions at the time of the study

were interviewed. The Assistant Warden of Correctional Programming from each of the institutions was contacted to set up the schedule for the offender interviews.

MMF was also responsible for conducting interviews with family members from the sample of offenders interviewed. A total of 13 family members were contacted and interviewed. Family members were contacted via telephone and were provided with the option to have the interview conducted over the phone or in person. All 13 respondents chose the phone as the means for the interview. Of the 13 interviews, some had multiple family members per offender.

Two researchers from CSC completed the interviews with parole officers from the two institutions. A total of 21 parole officers were randomly selected from both institutions.

All interviews were sent to CSC for data input and analysis. Themes were developed from the open-ended questions and all the data were coded for analysis. Analyses were conducted based on the research questions of the project.

FINDINGS

An analysis was conducted to determine whether the findings from the current study could be generalized to the federal Métis offender population in Manitoba (sample comprised 39% of the total federal Métis offender population in the province). Differences between the sample and population were non-significant, indicating that findings from the current study can be generalized to the federal Métis population in Manitoba. See Appendix A for the list of statistical tables.

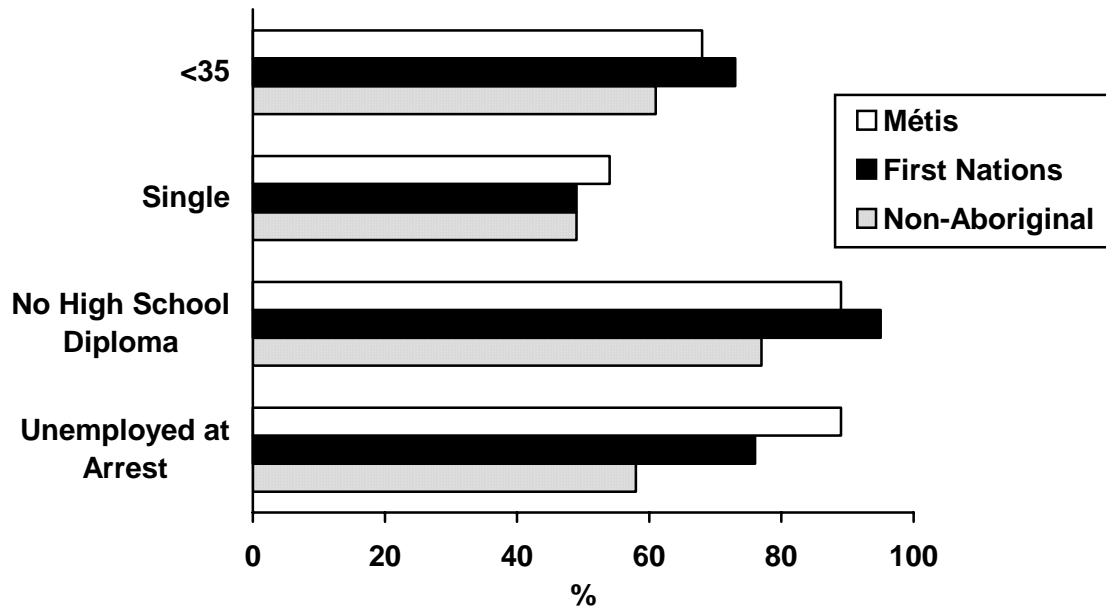
Profile of Métis Offenders

The profile of Métis offenders who were interviewed was examined. Furthermore, the Métis offender profile was compared to the profiles of First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders in Manitoba's federal correctional facilities.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics

As illustrated in Figure 1, Métis offenders were fairly similar to First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders in terms of their age and marital status (also see Table 1). Large proportions were under the age of 35 (Métis, 68%; First Nations, 73%; non-Aboriginal, 61%) and single (Métis, 54%; First Nations, 49%; non-Aboriginal, 49%) at the time of admission to the federal correctional facility for the current offence. However, differences did emerge on education and employment. While no statistically significant differences were evident between Métis and First Nations offenders in the proportions who were unemployed at the time of arrest or who had not completed high school, some significant differences were found with non-Aboriginal offenders. Significantly greater proportions of Métis and First Nations offenders were unemployed at the time of arrest in comparison to non-Aboriginal offenders (89% and 76% versus 58%). Furthermore, a significantly larger proportion of First Nations offenders did not have a high school diploma, as compared to non-Aboriginal offenders (95% versus 77%).

Figure 1
Socio-Demographic Characteristics



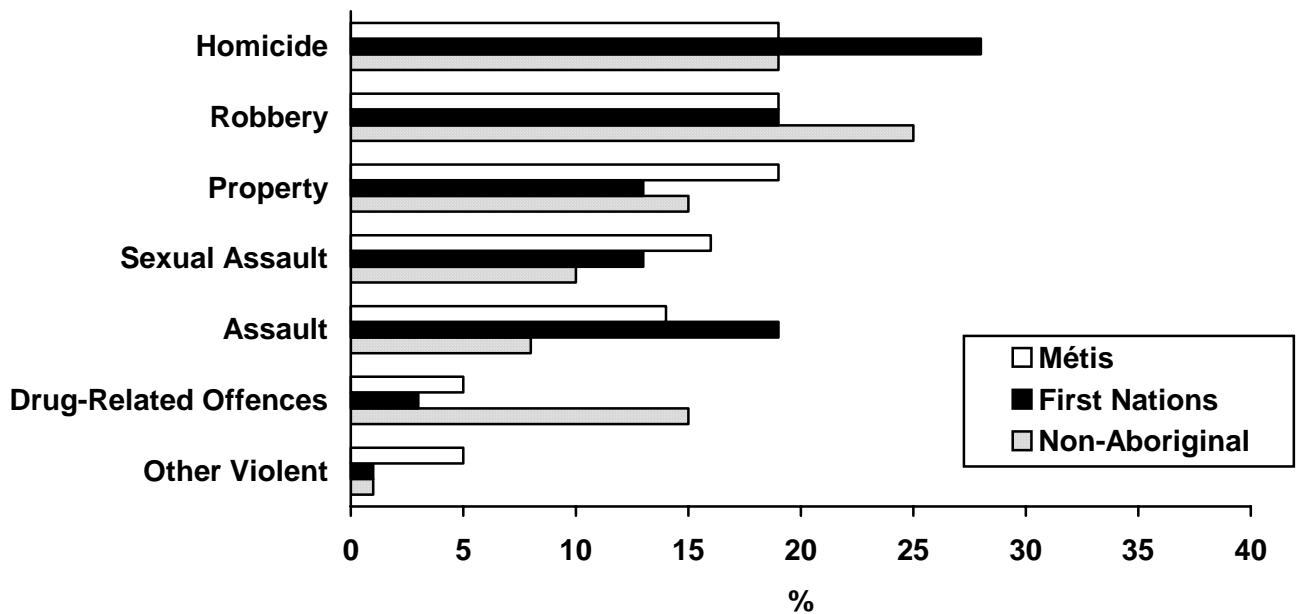
Current Offence

As seen in Figure 2, Métis offenders were generally incarcerated for violent offences (e.g. homicide, robbery) (also see Table 2). Although not statistically significant, larger proportions of Métis than non-Aboriginal offenders were currently incarcerated for sexual assault (16% versus 10%) and assault (14% versus 8%), while smaller proportions were incarcerated for robbery (19% versus 25%). Furthermore, although not significant, smaller proportions of Métis than First Nations offenders were incarcerated for homicide (19% versus 28%) and assault (14% versus 19%).

Two significant differences also emerged. Statistically greater proportions of First Nations offenders were currently incarcerated for an assault compared to non-Aboriginal offenders (19% versus 8%). In addition, greater proportions of

non-Aboriginal offenders had a drug-related offence (15%) compared to Métis and First Nations offenders (5% and 3%, respectively).

Figure 2
Current Most Serious Offence



A review of the offender's aggregate sentence length was also conducted. Results indicated that the aggregate sentence length of Métis offenders (5.1 years) was not significantly different from First Nations (4.4 years) and non-Aboriginal offenders (5.5 years). However, First Nations offenders had significantly shorter sentence lengths than non-Aboriginal offenders¹.

As seen in Table 2, approximately eight out of 10 (78%) Métis offenders in Manitoba required a medium-security classification at admission to the federal correctional system. Smaller proportions received a maximum (14%) or minimum (8%) security rating. The security classifications received by for Métis offenders were similar to those of First Nations offenders. However, significantly larger proportions of First Nations offenders warranted a high level of security than non-Aboriginal offenders (13% versus 10%). While differences were large,

¹ Mean aggregate sentence is calculated with life sentences removed.

comparisons between Métis and non-Aboriginal offenders failed to reach significance. The small number of Métis offenders in the analyses may account for this result.

Criminal History

The criminal backgrounds of Métis and First Nations offenders were similar. However, both had more involvement with the criminal justice system than non-Aboriginal offenders (see Table 3). Significantly greater proportions of Métis and First Nations offenders had previous youth court convictions than non-Aboriginal offenders (65% and 72% versus 46%). Métis offenders were also more likely to have a previous adult court conviction than non-Aboriginal offenders (94% versus 77%). Similarly, significantly larger proportions of First Nations than non-Aboriginal offenders had previous provincial terms (70% versus 56%) and had previously failed on community-based dispositions (71% versus 51%). Smaller proportions of Métis and First Nations offenders had a crime free period of one year, as compared to non-Aboriginal offenders (74% and 73% versus 89%).

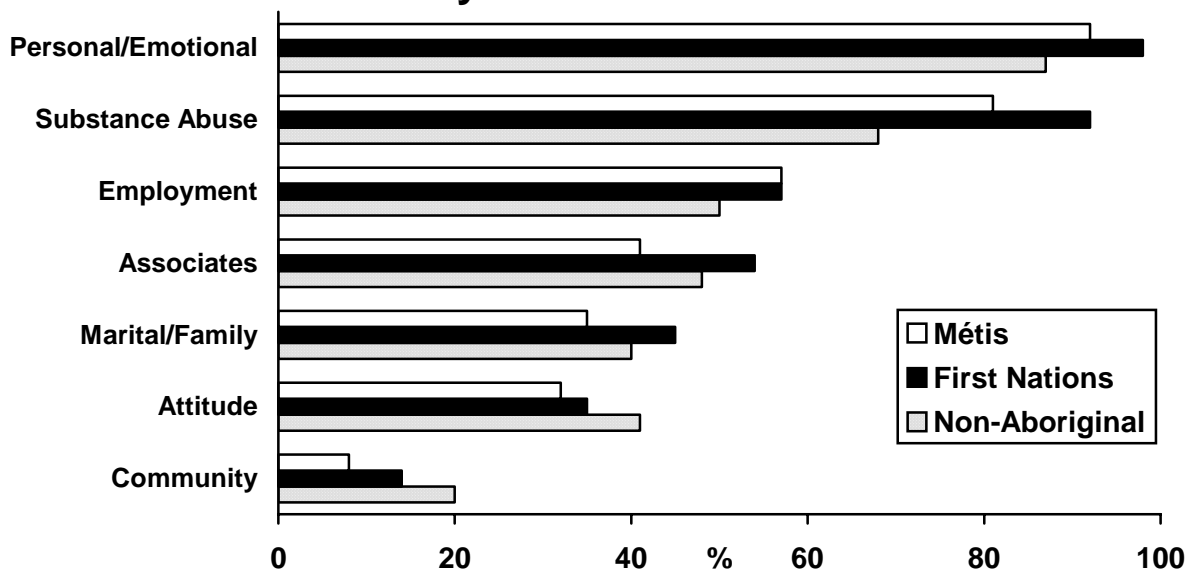
Static and Dynamic Factors

As illustrated in Table 4, large proportions of Métis offenders were considered to pose a high risk to re-offend at intake (42%). While the proportion of Métis offenders with a high risk rating appeared considerably smaller than the proportion of First Nations offenders with the same rating (69%), differences did not reach significance. However, both Métis and First Nations offenders were less likely to receive a low risk rating than non-Aboriginal offenders (6% and 5% versus 16%).

As indicated in Figure 3, Métis offenders demonstrated substantial need for programming in several criminogenic domains (i.e., personal/emotional 92%; substance abuse 81%). Comparative analyses indicated that fewer Métis than

First Nations offenders were rated high need on various domains (substance abuse - 81% versus 92%; marital/family - 35% versus 45%; associates - 41% versus 54%). However, Métis offenders were rated as higher need in the area of substance abuse than non-Aboriginal offenders (81% versus 68%), but lower need in the areas of community functioning (8% versus 20%) and attitude (32% versus 41%). However, these differences did not attain levels of significance.

**Figure 3
Dynamic Factors**



Statistically meaningful differences appeared to emerge between First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders. Significantly greater proportions of First Nations offenders had high overall need than non-Aboriginal offenders (64% versus 48%), and "some or considerable" need for programs targeting personal/emotional problems (98% versus 87%) and substance abuse (92% versus 68%).

In contrast with the findings illustrating the high need of Métis offenders, fairly large proportions of Métis offenders were considered to have high reintegration potential at intake. Greater proportions of Métis (42%) and non-Aboriginal (47%) offenders were rated as having high potential for successful reintegration into the

community, as compared to First Nations offenders (23%). In addition, larger proportions of Métis (35%) and non-Aboriginal (37%) offenders were rated as having high motivation for intervention at intake, as compared to First Nations offenders (13%).

Overall, Métis offenders in Manitoba were in their early 30's, single, under-educated and unemployed. Furthermore, Métis offenders were typically admitted with an extensive criminal background, a violent offence profile and considerable need for programming in a variety of areas. While the profile of Métis offenders in Manitoba was not unlike the profile of First Nations offenders, there were some important differences between Métis and non-Aboriginal offenders. Métis offenders appeared to have more difficulty with employment and had more previous involvement with the criminal justice system. Consequently, Métis offenders were rated higher risk to re-offend than non-Aboriginal offenders. More statistically significant differences were apparent between First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders.

Culture and Family Background

Additional information on Métis offenders was collected from the interviews that were conducted (see Table 5 and 6). Where appropriate, comparisons between these findings and those from previous studies were examined.

A small proportion of Métis offenders (22%) spoke or understood an Aboriginal language. This finding was similar to that found in a similar study in British Columbia (Trevethan et al., 2003). However, these results differ from First Nations offenders in other studies. For instance, Trevethan, Auger, Moore, MacDonald and Sinclair (2002) found that two-thirds of First Nations offenders understood or spoke an Aboriginal language.

Although only a small proportion of the respondents spoke an Aboriginal language, almost one-half (47%) stated they were attached to their Métis culture.

Furthermore, one-half (51%) of Métis offenders indicated that they were attached to other Aboriginal cultures and currently participated in Aboriginal activities. Examples of Aboriginal activities included drumming, carving, sweat lodges and Native arts and crafts. Compared to Métis offenders, greater proportions of First Nations offenders appear to be attached to an Aboriginal culture (Trevethan et al., 2002; Trevethan et al., 2003).

Approximately two-thirds (63%) of Métis offenders spent their childhood in an urban community (large or small city). Nine out of ten (90%) of the Métis offenders were arrested in urban areas. Only a small proportion were arrested in rural (5%), Métis (3%) or other (3%) communities. According to Trevethan et al. (2002), Métis offenders were more likely to live in an urban centre at the time of arrest than First Nations offenders. Considerably large proportions of Métis offenders also considered cities as home (81%). Smaller proportions felt at home in Métis (7%), rural (7%) and reserve (4%) communities.

In terms of the best location to be released, three-quarters (76%) of the Métis offenders were in favour of returning to a large city. Only small proportions felt rural (14%), reserve (7%) and Métis (3%) communities were the best locations for release. In terms of their plans at the time of release, approximately nine out of ten (88%) planned on being released to a large city. Only a fraction planned to be released to rural (8%) and Métis (4%) communities. The most common area cited by the Métis offenders for their release was Winnipeg (51%).

Information regarding the background and current relationships with their family members was also collected (see Table 6). Approximately one-third identified the birth mother (37%) and both parents (31%) as primary caregivers. Almost all (94%) of the Métis offenders indicated that they were attached to their primary caregiver during their childhood. Furthermore, more than one-half (56%) said that they grew up in a good economic situation and 83% indicated that they had

a stable childhood. A large proportion (78%) of the respondents also reported having a happy childhood.

While large proportions said that they experienced a stable and happy childhood, almost one-half (43%) experienced or witnessed violence in their home.

Furthermore, 81% experienced or witnessed violence in the community. Almost three-quarters (72%) of Métis offenders also indicated that they had family members involved in crime.

As indicated in Table 6, more than three-quarters (79%) of Métis offenders said that they currently had contact with their spouses or common-law partners.

Smaller proportions reported contact with their children (59%). In addition, a large proportion (84%) were in contact with various other family members. Offenders generally felt attached to their partners (100%) and children (88%).

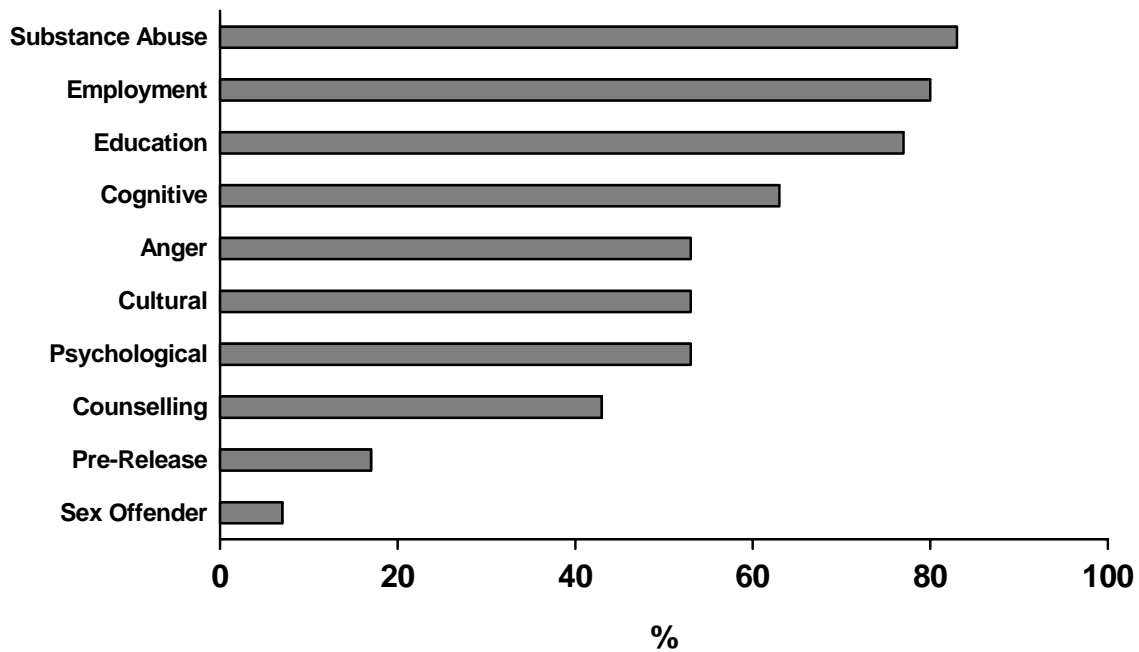
While Métis offenders share similar profiles to First Nations offenders in terms of socio-demographic characteristics, offence type and need, their areas of residence and cultural experiences are different. Métis offenders generally spent their childhood in urban communities and large proportions reported that their home was in an urban centre. Furthermore, despite being attached to Métis and other Aboriginal cultures, large proportions of Métis offenders did not speak or understand an Aboriginal language. Differences in environment and cultural background point to the need for interventions adapted to the experiences of Métis offenders. For instance, a healing lodge in a remote setting may have limited meaning for some Métis offenders.

Program Participation

Another component of the offender interview included an examination of programs taken by offenders in the institution and whether they thought that these programs were useful in addressing their needs (see Table 7). As

illustrated in Figure 4, the greatest proportion of Métis offenders participated in substance abuse programs (83%). Large proportions were also involved in employment (80%), and education (77%) programs. Furthermore, almost two-thirds (63%) participated in cognitive skills programs and one-half (53%) participated in anger management, cultural and psychological programming. Many of these programs are mandatory for offenders and are part of their correctional plan.

Figure 4
Program Participation in the Institution



The largest proportion of Métis offenders found the programs they participated in useful. For instance, 100% of those involved in psychological services, counselling, cultural and sex offender program found them to be helpful². Large proportions also indicated that anger management (83%), cognitive skills (78%), substance abuse (72%) and employment programs (70%) were useful to them.

² Note: the numbers of respondents who rated the usefulness of various programs were small. Therefore, the results should be interpreted with caution.

Overall, it appears that Métis offenders participated in a variety of correctional programs and felt they were useful in addressing their needs.

Overall, a considerable number of Métis offenders in the present sample have had their diverse criminogenic needs addressed by programming. Furthermore, generally they feel that the programs were useful. However, it is not clear whether the programs meet Métis offenders' cultural or spiritual needs. Although the programs target criminogenic needs identified at intake, the offenders may not respond fully to the programs unless they are given in an appropriate cultural context and in a way that is meaningful to the lives of Métis offenders.

Addressing Criminogenic Needs of Métis Offenders

As previously discussed, the majority of the Métis offenders interviewed have participated in correctional programming in an effort to address their criminogenic needs (i.e., substance abuse and employment). As seen in Table 8, upon entry to the federal institution, Métis offenders raised a number of specific issues and concerns. A large proportion of the respondents indicated concerns with employment and controlling their violence (51% each). Fairly large proportions also had issues relating to anger, finances, and substance abuse (49% each) and self esteem (37%).

Respondents were asked some questions about their specific needs as Métis offenders. Almost one-half of the respondents (45%) indicated that their needs were different from non-Aboriginal offenders. A smaller proportion (34%) stated that their needs as Métis offenders were different from other Aboriginal offenders.

The needs of Métis offenders during their incarceration and upon release were also examined. A large proportion of Métis offenders (48%) indicated the need for Métis-specific programming and programming that addresses their specific needs (32%) while in the institution. Other important needs during their

incarceration included access to resources and support networks (28% each) and greater access to Elders and cultural activities (24%).

Upon release to the community, one-quarter (26%) of the respondents indicated needs in areas such as employment, financial assistance and housing. Similar to their needs in the institution, many Métis offenders also said they required need specific programming (24%), support networks (22%), information on resources (13%) and access to Elders and cultural activities (11%). Not surprisingly, when asked to provide suggestions regarding programming in the institution or in the community, large proportions indicated that programs must be need specific (38%), involve Métis organizations (27%) and be culturally specific (15%).

Overall, the majority of the Métis offenders interviewed have participated in correctional programs such as substance abuse, employment and education. Similarly, many of the respondents stated that these programs were useful in addressing their criminogenic needs. In examining the offender's specific needs, many of their needs continue to be relevant upon their release to the community. Access to resources, support networks and culturally specific programming were all common needs expressed by the Métis offenders. It appears that some of their needs are different from non-Aboriginal and other Aboriginal offenders. Although the programs are targeting criminogenic needs, to make them most effective for Métis offenders, it may be important to include cultural aspects.

Needs of Family Members

In addition to examining the needs of Métis offenders, a review of the needs of family members was conducted (see Table 9). A large proportion of the offenders (56%) felt that contact and communication with the offender while he is incarcerated was an important need for family members. Many of the offenders also indicated the need for support networks (24%) and financial assistance/employment (20%) for their families during their incarceration. Other

important needs for family members were Métis cultural programs and for the family to accept the offender's current incarcerated status.

Upon release to the community, more than one-third (35%) of the offenders felt that support networks were needed for family members. Many also expressed the need for employment and financial assistance (27%) and an adjustment/re-acquaintance period for their families (23%). Other needs of family members, as indicated by the Métis offenders, included specific need-based programming (12%) and the sobriety of the offender (8%).

As noted in the methodology, interviews were conducted with 13 family members. In terms of services available to the family members during the offender's incarceration, only a small proportion (22%) of the respondents indicated that services were available to them. Of those that were available, visitations and counselling were the most common. Interestingly, family members indicated that more services were available to them upon the release of the offender. More than three-quarters (78%) indicated that services were available to them at this point. Examples of services for the family members at release included employment assistance, counselling, social services and Elders. When asked about what the needs of family members during the time of incarceration of the offender, approximately two-thirds (62%) of family members indicated that they required encouragement, patience and support during the offender's incarceration. More than one-half (54%) also indicated the need for greater communication between themselves and the offender. Greater access to visitations and financial assistance (23% each) were also of importance to the families.

Similar needs were noted upon the offender's release to the community. Family members said that encouragement/support and understanding (39%) by the family were needed during this period. Similarly, 39% also indicated the need for

programming and counselling. Employment and patience were also common needs felt by the family members.

In sum, both family members and offenders identified a number of family-related needs. These needs were present at both the offender's incarceration and at their time of release. A large proportion of offenders felt that their family requires greater communication with them. Support systems were also needed at the time of the offender's incarceration and release. Financial assistance and employment were also cited as an important need for family members during their incarceration.

These needs of family members of Métis offenders are likely similar to the needs of family members of all offenders. However, in order to make the services most effective, providing them in the appropriate cultural setting is important.

Staff Knowledge

The last component of the study included 21 interviews with parole officers from Stony Mountain and Rockwood institutions. A number of areas were examined such as their knowledge of Aboriginal and Métis culture and the needs of Métis offenders and their families during the incarceration period and release of the offender (see Table 10).

All of the staff interviewed indicated that they have Aboriginal offenders on their caseload. A large proportion also indicated that they work with Métis offenders specifically (90%). Approximately one-half of the parole officers (48%) stated that they currently work with Aboriginal communities in general, and 10% indicated that they currently work with Métis communities specifically.

A large proportion of the staff interviewed indicated that they have received training regarding Aboriginal issues in general (86%). However, many indicated

that their training consisted of only a brief half-day overview of cultural sensitivity and that they require more training. Only one parole officer indicated that he had training regarding Métis specific issues. Fairly large proportions of the parole officers felt that they had little or no knowledge about Métis culture (57%) or Métis offenders (62%).

In order to increase their understanding of Métis offenders and Métis culture, a large proportion of the parole officers interviewed indicated the need for further education, cultural training and workshops (62%). They also noted that greater awareness of Métis culture and needs (48%) and resources (29%) were needed. Lastly, staff members expressed the need for greater involvement of Métis communities and organizations in the correctional system (24%).

Although very few of the respondents had knowledge about Métis offenders, almost all indicated that the needs of Métis offenders differ from non-Aboriginal (85%) and other Aboriginal offenders (84%).

When asked about the needs of Métis offenders during their incarceration, a large proportion (45%) of the parole officers indicated areas such as education, vocation, programming and training were important need areas for these offenders. Other areas of need included greater access to Métis resources in the community and in the institution, and Métis specific programs and activities (30% each). Greater understanding of their culture and greater sensitivity by staff were also cited by some respondents as an important need for Métis offenders. However, only one-half of those interviewed (48%) felt that the needs of Métis offenders have been met during their term of incarceration.

The parole officers interviewed were also asked to what the needs of Métis offenders were upon release to the community. One-half of the respondents (50%) indicated that the offenders require financial assistance, housing and employment upon their release. Support from the community, family and peers

(45%) were also considered important for their successful reintegration. Other important areas listed by staff included access to resources, culture, health services and programs (e.g., education, addictions, counselling and parenting). One-half of the parole officers (47%) interviewed felt that the needs of Métis offenders are met upon their release to the community.

Many of the needs of the offenders noted by the staff are similar to those outlined by the offenders. Support from family members and the community was seen as pertinent during an offender's incarceration. In addition, both the staff and the offenders indicated that Métis offenders have different needs from non-Aboriginal and other Aboriginal offenders. Greater emphasis on culture and need-specific programming were also expressed. Upon the offenders release, both offenders and staff indicated that employment, financial assistance and housing were important factors for successful community reintegration.

When asked about the needs of family members of Métis offenders, 60% of staff indicated that families required financial assistance and employment. Further, 55% indicated the need for support systems and counselling. Families were also perceived to need greater contact with the offender and involvement within the criminal justice system (25% and 20%, respectively). While staff clearly felt that the families of Métis offenders had a variety of needs during the period of incarceration, large proportions felt these needs were not being adequately addressed (63%). Interestingly, one-third (30%) felt that the needs of Métis family members were no different from other families with an incarcerated family member.

Upon the release of the offender, almost one-half (47%) of the staff felt that the family needs to be more aware of risk factors associated with recidivism of the offender. Counselling and psychological services were also noted by 42% of those interviewed. More than one-third (37%) indicated that the family requires an adjustment and re-acceptance period upon the return of the offender to the

community. However, three-quarters (75%) of the staff felt that the needs of family members are not met.

Many of the needs of family members noted by staff resemble the needs expressed by the family members. Employment, support, counselling and greater access to visitation were all noted. Although many of the family members indicated that more services were available to them once the offender was released to the community than during the incarceration, many of the staff have indicated that the needs of family members are not being met.

Considering the high proportion of staff in Manitoba with Métis offenders on their caseload and the lack of training on Métis related issues, more attention in this area is needed. Additional training in the specific needs of Métis offenders may provide greater success with this group of offenders. The majority of the staff interviewed indicated that Métis offenders have different needs than non-Aboriginal and First Nations offenders, both during the incarceration period and at release. However, large proportions indicated that the needs of Métis offenders and family members are not being met. Generating greater awareness of Métis-related issues might play an influential role in addressing the needs of Métis offenders and their families.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this project was to examine the needs of Métis offenders and their families in the institution and upon release to the community. The project also examined the knowledge and experience that parole officers working with these offenders have about Métis offenders and Métis culture in general.

Generally, the socio-demographic characteristics and criminal offence background of Métis offenders were not statistically different from First Nations offenders. Large proportions were in their early thirties, single, without a high school diploma and unemployed at the time of their arrest. Large proportions also have extensive criminal backgrounds and demonstrate need in a number criminogenic areas, such as personal/emotional issues and substance abuse. However, Métis offenders tend to be identified as having higher reintegration potential than First Nations offenders. Differences are more apparent between Métis and non-Aboriginal offenders. The profile of Métis offenders differs statistically from non-Aboriginal offenders in terms of employment and criminal history. Métis offenders are also generally rated as higher risk to re-offend than non-Aboriginal offenders. Overall, fewer statistically significant differences exist between Métis and First Nations offenders compared to First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders.

It is important to note that some of the non-significant results pertaining to the group comparisons may have been influenced by the approach employed by the study. Analyses involved comparisons between a sample of Métis offenders and the populations of First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders in Manitoba. As a result, the number of Métis offenders represented in the analyses was considerable smaller than the other groups. More significant differences between groups may have emerged if the sample was larger or if the sample was compared to samples of First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders.

The majority of Métis offenders were attached to their primary caregiver, which were typically their mother or both parents. Furthermore, large proportions said they grew up in a good economic environment with a stable childhood. Despite their good economic situation and stable childhood, many also indicated that they experienced or witnessed violence in the home and in the community. In terms of their current family relationships, large proportions of Métis offenders report having contact with their spouses and their children. They also have contact with family members beyond their immediate family.

In terms of their childhood experiences, Métis offenders share similar experiences to those of First Nations offenders. However, some differences exist. A small proportion of Métis offenders speak or understand an Aboriginal language. However, almost one-half are attached to their culture and participate in cultural activities. Many of the respondents spent their childhood, were arrested in, and want to return to an urban community upon release. Differences in environment and cultural background point to the need for interventions adapted to the experiences of Métis offenders. For instance, a healing lodge in a remote setting may have limited meaning for some Métis offenders.

The second component of the project examined the programs that Métis offenders have participated in, and whether they found them to be useful in addressing their criminogenic needs. Large proportions of the Métis offenders interviewed have participated in correctional programming such as substance abuse, employment and education. Many of these programs are mandatory for offenders and are part of their correctional plan. Overall, the majority of the respondents indicated the usefulness of these programs.

Although many of the Métis offenders have participated in correctional programs and indicated that these programs were useful in addressing their needs, many also suggested the need for programs that were more specific to their unique needs. Although the programs target criminogenic needs identified at intake, the

offenders may not respond fully to the programs unless they are given in an appropriate cultural context and in a way that is meaningful to the lives of Métis offenders.

The needs and issues faced by the Métis offenders upon their entry to the federal institution were also examined. A large proportion experience needs in areas such as employment and violence. About one-half of the offenders interviewed said that they had different needs than non-Aboriginal offenders, while one-third said that they had different needs from First Nations offenders.

While incarcerated, Métis offenders expressed a need for Métis-specific programming, information on Métis culture, and access to Elders and Métis cultural activities. Upon release to the community, similar cultural-specific needs were expressed. However, additional needs, such as financial assistance and employment, were identified. When asked to provide suggestions for correctional programming for Métis offenders, a large proportion stated that they must be need-specific, include the participation of Métis organizations, and be culturally specific.

It appears that Métis offenders may benefit from programs that incorporate their own cultural interests. Although Métis offenders may share similar needs as other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal offenders such as support systems and financial assistance, greater participation of Métis organizations and the inclusion of cultural aspects in programs may be needed for Métis offenders.

The needs of family members as expressed by the offender were also conducted. Communication with the offender was the most common need stated by the offender for their families. Upon their release, the respondents indicated that their families require support systems in place and financial assistance. Interviews with family members revealed similar needs. Large proportions indicated that they required encouragement, patience and support, while many

indicated the need for greater access to communication with the offender during the incarceration period. Upon release, similar needs were noted.

Encouragement, support and understanding were needed, as well as counselling. Family members indicated that little is available to them in terms of services while the offender is incarcerated. More attention in this area may be needed.

These needs of family members of Métis offenders are likely similar to the needs of family members of all offenders. However, in order to make the services most effective, providing them in the appropriate cultural setting is important.

The last component of the research project examined the knowledge of staff on Métis culture. Although 90% of the parole officers interviewed said that they work with Métis offenders, more than one-half felt that they had little or no knowledge of Métis offenders and Métis culture in general. In order to increase their understanding of Métis offenders, parole officers stated that they require further education and training. Additional focus on generating awareness of the needs of Métis offenders was stressed by many of the staff interviewed.

Overall, greater awareness of the needs of Métis offenders and their families during the offender's incarceration and upon their release needs to be examined. Understanding their needs and how it differs from other federal offender lends itself to new areas for research and programming. Some of the current practices in place for Aboriginal offenders that focus more on First Nations culture may not be as effective for Métis offenders. Understanding these differences could provide CSC with new practices for addressing some of the unique characteristics of this group of offenders.

This project allowed a voice from Métis offenders and their families into their needs. The findings re-affirmed the notion that there is a difference between the Métis culture and other Aboriginal cultures. While there are certain areas where

Métis offenders are similar to First Nations and non-Aboriginal offenders, there are other areas where they differ. Overall, the biggest difference noted by offenders related to cultural and spiritual areas. It was noted that Métis offenders need programs that include Métis history and culture, both while incarcerated and upon release to the community. Therefore, the programming needs may be similar, but how (and by whom) the information is presented may need to be re-thought. Perhaps the incorporation of information about Métis history and culture into programs would help make the programs more meaningful for Métis offenders.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Tables

Table 1:
Socio-Demographic Characteristics

	Métis (1)		First Nations		Non-Aboriginal		p
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Total	37		172		277		
Institution	37		172		277		
Rockwood Institution	18	49%	32	19%	87	31%	
Stony Mountain Institution	19	51%	140	81%	190	69%	
Age at Admission	37		172		277		NS
<24	11	30%	62	36%	76	27%	
25-34	14	38%	64	37%	93	34%	
35-44	10	27%	33	19%	68	25%	
45-54	2	5%	10	6%	25	9%	
55+	0	0%	3	2%	15	5%	
Mean Age	30.5 yrs		29.8 yrs		33.0 yrs		
Marital Status at Admission	37		172		277		NS
Single	20	54%	84	49%	136	49%	
Married/Common-law	14	38%	79	46%	108	39%	
Separated/Divorced	2	5%	8	5%	29	10%	
Widowed	1	3%	1	1%	4	1%	
Education at Admission	35		135		201		***
No Highschool Diploma	31	89%	128	95%	155	77%	
Highschool Diploma	4	11%	7	5%	46	23%	
Employment at Arrest	35		136		201		***
Employed	4	11%	33	24%	84	42%	
Unemployed	31	89%	103	76%	117	58%	

(1) The number of Métis refers to the number interviewed, not the number incarcerated.

NS = Not Significant

* = $P < .05$

** = $P < .01$

*** = $P < .001$

Table 2:
Current Most Serious Offence and Security Classification

Current Offence	Métis		First Nations		Non-Aboriginal		p
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
	37		172		277		
Most Serious Offence							
Homicide	7	19%	48	28%	54	19%	NS
Attempt Murder	0	0%	0	0%	4	1%	NS
Sexual Assault	6	16%	22	13%	27	10%	NS
Assault	5	14%	33	19%	22	8%	**
Robbery	7	19%	32	19%	70	25%	NS
Other Violent	2	5%	2	1%	4	1%	NS
Property	7	19%	23	13%	41	15%	NS
Impaired Driving	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%	NS
Drug-Related Offences	2	5%	5	3%	42	15%	***
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> and Federal Statutes	1	3%	5	3%	13	5%	NS
Mean Aggregate Sentence (1)	5.1 yrs		4.4 yrs		5.5 yrs		*
Security Level at Admission	37		167		247		**
Minimum	3	8%	17	10%	57	23%	
Medium	29	78%	129	77%	166	67%	
Maximum	5	14%	21	13%	24	10%	

(1) Mean aggregate sentence is calculated with life sentences removed.

NS = Not Significant

* = $P \leq .05$

** = $P \leq .01$

*** = $P \leq .001$

**Table 3:
Criminal History**

	Métis		First Nations		Non-Aboriginal		p
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Previous Youth Convictions	34		134		188		***
Yes	22	65%	96	72%	86	46%	
No	12	35%	38	28%	102	54%	
Previous Adult Convictions	34		134		189		*
Yes	32	94%	113	84%	146	77%	
No	2	6%	21	16%	43	23%	
Previous Community Supervision	34		134		189		NS
Yes	28	82%	105	78%	133	70%	
No	6	18%	29	22%	56	30%	
Previous Provincial Term	34		134		189		*
Yes	24	71%	94	70%	106	56%	
No	10	29%	40	30%	83	44%	
Previous Federal Term	34		134		189		NS
Yes	11	32%	39	29%	49	26%	
No	23	68%	95	71%	140	74%	
Failed - Community Sanction	34		132		189		**
Yes	20	59%	94	71%	97	51%	
No	14	41%	38	29%	92	49%	
Failed - Conditional Release	34		133		189		NS
Yes	15	44%	52	39%	57	30%	
No	19	56%	81	61%	132	70%	
Segregation for Disciplinary Infraction	33		129		188		NS
Yes	9	27%	33	26%	44	23%	
No	24	73%	96	74%	144	77%	
Escape/Attempt/UAL	34		134		189		NS
Yes	8	24%	35	26%	35	19%	
No	26	76%	99	74%	154	81%	
Reclassified to Higher Security	34		131		189		NS
Yes	4	12%	20	15%	18	10%	
No	30	88%	111	85%	171	90%	
< 6 Months Since Last Incarceration	34		134		189		NS
Yes	10	29%	30	22%	33	17%	
No	24	71%	104	78%	156	83%	
Crime Free Period of One Year	34		134		189		***
Yes	25	74%	98	73%	168	89%	
No	9	26%	36	27%	21	11%	

NS = Not Significant

* = $P < .05$

** = $P < .01$

*** = $P < .001$

Table 4:
Static and Dynamic Factors

	Métis		First Nations		Non-Aboriginal		<i>p</i>
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Risk to Re-offend	36		146		240		***
Low	2	6%	7	5%	38	16%	
Medium	19	53%	38	26%	90	38%	
High	15	42%	101	69%	112	47%	
Overall Dynamic need	36		146		240		***
Low	1	3%	2	1%	26	11%	
Medium	15	42%	50	34%	99	41%	
High	20	56%	94	64%	115	48%	
Dynamic Factors	37		146		240		
Marital/Family - some/considerable need	13	35%	66	45%	96	40%	NS
Substance Abuse - some/considerable need	30	81%	134	92%	163	68%	***
Community - some/considerable need	3	8%	20	14%	47	20%	NS
Personal/Emotional - some/considerable need	34	92%	143	98%	209	87%	***
Attitude - some/considerable need	12	32%	51	35%	98	41%	NS
Associates - some/considerable need	15	41%	79	54%	114	48%	NS
Employment - some/considerable need	21	57%	83	57%	120	50%	NS
Motivation for Intervention	37		172		277		***
Low	4	11%	27	16%	26	9%	
Medium	20	54%	122	71%	148	53%	
High	13	35%	23	13%	103	37%	
Reintegration Potential	36		143		233		***
Low	14	39%	80	56%	53	23%	
Medium	7	19%	36	25%	71	30%	
High	15	42%	27	19%	109	47%	

NS = Not Significant

* = $P \leq .05$

** = $P \leq .01$

*** = $P \leq .001$

**Table 5:
Other Information on Métis Offenders**

	#	%		#	%
Speak/understand Aboriginal language	37		Where do you consider home	27	
Yes	8	22%	Large city	19	70%
No	29	78%	Small city	3	11%
			Métis community	2	7%
Religion	35		Rural community	2	7%
Roman Catholic	14	40%	Reserve	1	4%
None	9	26%	Other	0	0%
Traditional native	6	17%			
Other	6	17%	Best place to be released	29	
Protestant	0	0%	Large city	22	76%
			Rural community	4	14%
Attached to Métis culture	36		Reserve	2	7%
Yes	17	47%	Métis community	1	3%
No	19	53%	Small city	0	0%
			Other	0	0%
Attached to other Aboriginal culture	35				
Yes	18	51%	Plan to be released	25	
No	17	49%	Large city	22	88%
			Rural community	2	8%
Participate in Aboriginal activities - now?	37		Métis community	1	4%
Yes	19	51%	Reserve	0	0%
No	18	49%	Small city	0	0%
			Other	0	0%
Participate in Métis activities - childhood?	35				
Yes	14	40%			
No	21	60%			
Type of community during childhood	37				
Large city	18	49%			
Métis community	6	16%			
Rural community	6	16%			
Small city	5	14%			
Other	2	5%			
Reserve	0	0%			
Type of community at arrest	37				
Large city	28	76%			
Small city	5	14%			
Rural community	2	5%			
Métis community	1	3%			
Other	1	3%			
Reserve	0	0%			

Table 6:
Family - Background and Current

	#	%		#	%
Primary caregiver during childhood	35		Current contact with spouse	19	
Birth mother	13	37%	Yes	15	79%
Both birth parents	11	31%	No	4	21%
Grandparent(s)	5	14%			
Birth father	3	9%	Attached to spouse	16	
Adoptive parent(s)	1	3%	Yes	16	100%
Non-family	1	3%	No	0	0%
Siblings	1	3%			
Other relative	2	6%	Current contact with children	27	
			Yes	16	59%
Attached to primary caregiver	36		No	11	41%
Yes	34	94%			
No	2	6%	Attached to children	26	
			Yes	23	88%
Good economic situation while growing up	34		No	3	12%
Yes	19	56%			
No	15	44%	Current contact with other family	37	
			Yes	31	84%
Stable childhood	36		No	6	16%
Yes	30	83%			
No	6	17%			
Happy during childhood	37				
Yes	29	78%			
No	8	22%			
Experienced/witnessed violence in home	37				
Yes	16	43%			
No	21	57%			
Experienced/witnessed violence in community	37				
Yes	30	81%			
No	7	19%			
Drug/alcohol use in family	36				
Yes	18	50%			
No	18	50%			
Family involvement in crime	36				
Yes	26	72%			
No	10	28%			

Table 7:
Institutional Program Participation - Métis

	Programs		Usefulness			
	#	%	Yes		No	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Overall Programs	30		30			
Substance Abuse	25	83%	13	72%	5	28%
Anger Management	16	53%	5	83%	1	17%
Cognitive/Living Skills	19	63%	7	78%	2	22%
Education	23	77%	6	75%	2	25%
Psychological	16	53%	2	100%	0	0%
Counselling	13	43%	7	100%	0	0%
Employment	24	80%	7	70%	3	30%
Cultural	16	53%	1	100%	0	0%
Pre-Release	5	17%	0	0%	0	0%
Sex Offender	2	7%	1	100%	0	0%
Other	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%

**Table 8:
Offender Needs**

	#	%		#	%
Issues at time of incarceration (1)	35		Suggestions for programs (1)	26	
Employment	18	51%	Need-specific programming	10	38%
Violence	18	51%	Involvement of Métis organizations	7	27%
Anger	17	49%	Support networks	7	27%
Financial	17	49%	Cultural specific programs	4	15%
Substance abuse	17	49%	Aboriginal staff	3	12%
Self-esteem	13	37%	Other	6	23%
Health	6	17%			
Family/marital	5	14%			
Death in family	5	14%			
Housing	4	11%			
Mental health	2	6%			
Other	1	3%			
Do needs differ from non-Aboriginal inmates	33				
Yes	15	45%			
No	18	55%			
Do needs differ from other Aboriginal inmates	32				
Yes	11	34%			
No	21	66%			
Needs in Institution (1)	25				
Métis/cultural programs	12	48%			
Needs specific programming	8	32%			
Information on resources available to Métis	7	28%			
Support networks	7	28%			
Access to Elders & cultural activities	6	24%			
Other	3	12%			
Needs upon release to community (1)	46				
Employment/financial assistance/housing	12	26%			
Need-specific programming	11	24%			
Support networks	10	22%			
Information on resources available to Métis	6	13%			
Access to Elders & cultural activities	5	11%			
Other	2	4%			

(1) Respondents may have given more than one answer. Therefore, the total does not equal 100%.

**Table 9:
Family Needs**

	#	%
Offender interview - family needs during incarceration (1)	25	
Contact & communication with offender	14	56%
Support networks	6	24%
Financial assistance & employment	5	20%
Métis/Cultural Programs	3	12%
Family acceptance	2	8%
Other	2	8%
Offender interview - family needs at release (1)	26	
Support networks	9	35%
Employment/Financial assistance	7	27%
Adjustment/Re-acquaintance	6	23%
Needs specific programming	3	12%
Sobriety of offender	2	8%
Other	3	12%
Services for family during incarceration	9	
Yes	2	22%
No	7	78%
Services for family at release	9	
Yes	7	78%
No	2	22%
Family needs during incarceration (1)	13	
Encouragement/patience/support	8	62%
Communication	7	54%
Employment/finances/resources	3	22%
Visitation	3	23%
Other needs	1	8%
Family needs at release (1)	13	
Encouragement/support/understanding	5	39%
Programs/counselling	5	39%
Other needs	4	31%
Employment/resources	3	23%
Patience	2	15%

(1) Respondents may have given more than one answer.
Therefore, the total does not equal 100%.

**Table 10:
Staff Interviews**

	#	%		#	%
Currently work with:	21		Métis offender needs upon release (1)	20	
Aboriginal offenders	21	100%	Financial assistance/Housing/Employment	10	50%
Métis offenders	19	90%	Support (Community/Family/Peers)	9	45%
Aboriginal communities	10	48%	Access to resources/Culture/Health	4	20%
Métis communities	2	10%	Programs (Education/Addictions/Counselling/Parenting)	4	20%
			Other	2	10%
Training about Aboriginal issues	21		Métis offender needs upon release being met?	19	
Yes	18	86%	Somewhat/Very	9	47%
No	3	14%	Not at all/Little	10	53%
Training about Métis issues	21		Family needs while offender is incarcerated (1)	20	
Yes	1	5%	Financial Assistance/Employment	12	60%
No	20	95%	Support system/Counselling	11	55%
Current level of knowledge - Métis culture	21		No additional needs required compared to other offenders families	6	30%
Somewhat/Very	9	43%	Opportunity to visit & maintain contact with offender	5	25%
Not at all/Little	12	57%	Family involvement with correctional system (Education/Information)	4	20%
			Other	4	20%
Current level of knowledge - Métis offenders	21		Family needs being met while offender is incarcerated?	19	
Somewhat/Very	8	38%	Somewhat/Very	7	37%
Not at all/Little	13	62%	Not at all/Little	12	63%
Do needs differ form other non-Aboriginal inmates	20		Family needs upon release (1)	19	
Yes	17	85%	Awareness of Recidivating Factors	9	47%
No	3	15%	Counselling/Psychological Services	8	42%
Do needs differ form other Aboriginal inmates	19		Adjustment/Re-Acquaintance Period	7	37%
Yes	16	84%	Support Networks	6	32%
No	3	16%	Financial Assistance/Resources	5	26%
Métis offender needs while incarcerated (1)	20		Same Needs as Other Family Members	3	16%
Education/vocational/training/programs/social skills	9	45%	Other	2	11%
Access to Métis resources in the institution & community	6	30%	Family needs upon release being met?	20	
Métis specific programs and/or activities	6	30%	Somewhat/Very	5	25%
Knowledge of culture & needs/Value in culture & themselves	4	20%	Not at all/Little	15	75%
Understanding & sensitivity from community & PO	4	20%	Understanding of Métis offenders could be enhanced (1)	21	
Needs are met or no different than other offenders	3	15%	Education/Cultural training/Workshop/Programs	13	62%
Other	1	5%	Awareness of Métis culture & needs	10	48%
Métis offender needs while incarcerated being met?	21		Resources/Materials on Métis issues	6	29%
Somewhat/Very	10	48%	Involvement of Métis community/Organizations	5	24%
Not at all/Little	11	52%	Other	1	5%

(1) Respondents may have given more than one answer. Therefore, the total does not equal 100%.

Appendix B: Offender Case File Information

Offender Case File Information

Offender Characteristics:

- Aboriginal status (non-Aboriginal, Aboriginal)
- Aboriginal group (North American Indian, Métis)
- Age at most recent admission
- Current age
- Education at most recent admission
- Marital status at most recent admission
- Employment at most recent admission (unemployed, employed)

Offence Characteristics:

- Current offence
- Number of convictions
- Current aggregate sentence length

Criminal History:

- Age at first adult conviction
- Previous youth convictions (yes/no)
- Previous youth court dispositions (community supervision, open/closed custody)
- Previous adult convictions (yes/no)
- Number of previous adult convictions
- Previous adult court sanctions (community supervision, provincial, federal terms)

Risk Factors:

- Security level based on Custody Rating Scale (minimum, medium, maximum)
- Risk to re-offend (low, medium, high)
- Motivation for Intervention (low, medium, high)

Dynamic Factors Assessment (at admission AND prior to release):

- Level of Intervention Based on Dynamic Factors: (low, medium, high)
- Employment
- Marital/Family
- Associates/Social Interaction
- Substance Abuse
- Community Functioning
- Personal/Emotional Orientation
- Attitude

Appendix C: Offender Interview

**NEEDS OF MÉTIS OFFENDERS
INTERVIEW QUESTIONS - OFFENDERS**

My name is (first name). I'm involved in a project that examines the needs of Métis offenders while in federal correctional facilities and in the community. You're one of a number of inmates we'll be interviewing over the next few weeks. The purpose of this interview is to discuss your needs while in the institution and, once you are released, in the community. For instance, I will be asking you general questions about your background, current relationships, program participation and needs. In addition to this interview, I will be getting some general information from your file, such as your current offence, programs you have been involved in, etc. This information is meant to help develop culturally-appropriate and specific programs for Métis offenders.

Your participation in this interview is voluntary and will be kept strictly confidential. You may stop at any time and if there are questions that you do not feel comfortable answering, please let me know and we will move on. Please feel free to ask me questions during the interview if you need further clarification on anything.

The interview will take approximately 1 hour to complete. Do you have any questions? Can you please sign this to indicate your agreement to participate?

I agree to participate in the interview

(participant name - please print)

(participant signature)

(date)

OFFENDER INTERVIEW

Province: _____ Interview Date: _____
Institution: _____ Interviewer: _____
Respondent # _____

SECTION A: BACKGROUND

I'm going to begin by asking you some general questions about yourself, where you have lived and early involvement in the criminal justice system.

1. What is your current marital status (*check one*):

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <1> Single | <4> Divorced | <7> Don't Know |
| <2> Married | <5> Separated | <8> Refused |
| <3> Common-Law | <6> Widowed | |

2. Do you understand or speak any Aboriginal languages?

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| <1> Yes (<i>go to follow-up question</i>) | <7> Don't Know |
| <2> No | <8> Refused |

A. *If yes*, what Aboriginal language or languages do you understand or speak:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st language: _____ | <7> Don't Know |
| 2 nd language: _____ | <8> Refused |
| 3 rd language: _____ | <9> Not Applicable |

3. Is, or was, your birth father Aboriginal (First Nations/Indian, Métis or Inuit)?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <1> Yes, First Nations/Indian | <4> No |
| <2> Yes, Métis | <7> Don't Know |
| <3> Yes, Inuit | <8> Refused |

4. Is, or was, your birth mother Aboriginal (First Nations/Indian, Métis or Inuit)?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <1> Yes, First Nations/Indian | <4> No |
| <2> Yes, Métis | <7> Don't Know |
| <3> Yes, Inuit | <8> Refused |

5. What, if any, is your religion or spiritual belief (*check one*):

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <1> None | <5> Other (specify) _____ |
| <2> Protestant | <7> Don't Know |
| <3> Roman Catholic | <8> Refused |
| <4> Traditional Native | |

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all attached" and 5 being "very attached", to what extent would you say you are currently attached to Métis culture (e.g., is it part of your everyday life, do you feel a sense of belonging) (*circle one*):

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|----------|---|---------------|
| Not at all Attached | | Somewhat | | Very Attached |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <7> Don't Know | <8> Refused | | | |

7. Why are you attached/not attached? How would you describe your attachment to Métis culture *[interviewer prompts - is it part of your everyday life; give examples of attachment/non-attachment]?*

A. Inside Institution:

B. Outside Institution:

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all attached" and 5 being "very attached", to what extent would you say you are currently attached to other Aboriginal culture (e.g., is it part of your everyday life, do you feel a sense of belonging) *(circle one)*:

Not at all Attached

Somewhat

Very Attached

1

2

3

4

5

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

9. Why are you attached/not attached? How would you describe your attachment to other Aboriginal culture *[interviewer prompts - is it part of your everyday life; give examples of attachment/non-attachment]?*

A. Inside Institution:

B. Outside Institution:

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

10. Do you currently participate in or attend any traditional Aboriginal activities?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up question*)

<7> Don't Know

<2> No

<8> Refused

A. *If yes, which traditional activities do you participate in or attend (check all that apply):*

<01> Bead Making

<09> Feasts

<18> Traditional Healing

<02> Sash Weaving

<10> West Coast Ceremonies

<19> Medicine Bundles

<03> Drum Making

<11> Other Ceremonies

<20> Language Training

<04> Other arts/crafts

<12> Sweat Lodges

<21> Other (specify)

<05> Jigging

<13> Smudges

<77> Don't Know

<06> Fiddling

<14> Circles

<88> Refused

<07> Traditional dancing/
drumming

<15> Hunting/fishing/trapping

<99> Not Applicable

<08> Pow-wows

<16> Talk to Elder

<17> Storytelling

11. During your childhood, what type of community did you live in most of the time (*check one*):

<1> Large City (e.g., 100,000+ population)

<6> Other(specify) _____

<2> Small City (e.g., 10,000 to 100,000 population)

<7> Don't Know

<3> Rural Community (e.g., < 10,000 population)

<8> Refused

<4> Reserve

<5> Métis Community

12. At the time of your **most recent arrest**, what type of community were you living in (*check one*):

<1> Large City (e.g., 100,000+ population)

<6> Other(specify) _____

<2> Small City (e.g., 10,000 to 100,000 population)

<7> Don't Know

<3> Rural Community (e.g., < 10,000 population)

<8> Refused

<4> Reserve

<5> Métis Community

13. At the time of your most recent arrest, how long had you lived in this community (*check one*):

<1> Less than 1 year

<4> 11-15 years

<7> Don't Know

<2> 1-5 years

<5> 16-20 years

<8> Refused

<3> 6-10 years

<6> More than 20 years

14. Where do you consider home?

Name or city/community: _____

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| <1> Large City (e.g., 100,000+ population) | <5> Métis Community |
| <2> Small City (e.g., 10,000 to 100,000 population) | <7> Don't Know |
| <3> Rural Community (e.g., < 10,000 population) | <8> Refused |
| <4> Reserve | |

15. In terms of staying out of trouble, where do you think would be the best place for you to be released to?

Name or city/community: _____

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| <1> Large City (e.g., 100,000+ population) | <5> Métis Community |
| <2> Small City (e.g., 10,000 to 100,000 population) | <7> Don't Know |
| <3> Rural Community (e.g., < 10,000 population) | <8> Refused |
| <4> Reserve | |

16. Upon your release, where do you plan to live (not just for short-term treatment)?

Name or city/community: _____

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| <1> Large City (e.g., 100,000+ population) | <5> Métis Community |
| <2> Small City (e.g., 10,000 to 100,000 population) | <7> Don't Know |
| <3> Rural Community (e.g., < 10,000 population) | <8> Refused |
| <4> Reserve | |

17. What reasons do you have for going to that community (where you plan to live)?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

18. What supports or resources are available for you in that community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

Now I'm going to ask you a few questions about your early involvement in crime.

19. How old were you when you were first questioned by the police about anything they thought you had done?

Age: _____ <7> Don't Know <8> Refused

20. Were you ever in custody as a youth (open or secure)?

- <1> Yes (go to follow-up question)
- <2> No
- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused

A. If yes, how long did you spend in youth custody (total of all sentences) (check one):

- <1> Less than 6 months
- <2> 6 months to < 1 year
- <3> 1-3 years
- <4> 4-5 years
- <5> More than 5 years
- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused
- <9> Not Applicable

21. What type of offences did you commit as a youth (not necessarily charged for) (check all that apply):

- <01> None
- <02> Sexual assault
- <03> Assault
- <04> Robbery
- <05> Other violent (e.g., murder, manslaughter)
- <06> Car theft
- <07> Vandalism/mischief
- <08> Other property (e.g., theft, B&E)
- <09> Prostitution
- <10> Drug offences
- <11> Driving-related offences
- <12> Under-age drinking
- <13> Other (specify): _____
- <77> Don't Know
- <88> Refused

22. How long have you spent in adult correctional facilities to date (provincial and federal - total of all sentences) (check one):

- <01> Less than 6 months
- <02> 6 months to < 1 year
- <03> 1-3 years
- <04> 4-5 years
- <05> 6-7 years
- <06> 8-10 years
- <07> 11-15 years
- <08> More than 15 years
- <88> Refused
- <77> Don't Know

23. What caused you to come to jail?

- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused

24. What do you think would have prevented you from entering the corrections system (e.g., programs, services, people, education, etc.)?

- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused

SECTION D: CURRENT RELATIONSHIP WITH FAMILY

In this section, I'm going to ask you some questions about your current family relationships.

1. **[If currently has spouse/common-law]** Do you presently have regular contact with your spouse/common-law (e.g., see or talk to them regularly - at least every 6 months)?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
<2> No <8> Refused

A. **If yes**, currently, how often do you have contact (*check one*):

<01> More than once a day <05> Several times a month <77> Don't Know
<02> Once a day <06> Once a month <88> Refused
<03> Several times a week <07> Several times a year <99> Not Applicable
<04> Once a week <08> Less often

B. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all attached" and 5 being "very attached", how would you characterize your current attachment to your partner (*circle one*):

Not at all Attached Somewhat Very Attached
1 2 3 4 5
<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

2. Do you have any children (including biological, step or adopted)?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. **If yes**, do you presently have regular contact with your child(ren) (e.g., see or talk to them regularly - at least every 6 months)?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
<2> No <8> Refused

B. **If yes**, currently, how often do you have contact (*check one*):

<01> More than once a day <05> Several times a month <77> Don't Know
<02> Once a day <06> Once a month <88> Refused
<03> Several times a week <07> Several times a year <99> Not Applicable
<04> Once a week <08> Less often

C. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all attached" and 5 being "very attached", how would you characterize your current attachment to your child(ren) (*circle one*):

Not at all Attached Somewhat Very Attached
1 2 3 4 5
<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

3. Other than your spouse/common-law partner and children, do you presently have regular contact with your immediate or extended family (e.g., see or talk to them regularly - at least every 6 months)?

<1> Yes (go to follow-up questions) <7> Don't Know
 <2> No <8> Refused

A. **If yes**, with whom in your family do you presently have regular contact (check all that apply):

<01> Mother <06> Other Relative (specify) _____
 <02> Father <07> Other Non-Family (specify) _____
 <03> Sibling(s) <77> Don't Know
 <04> Grandmother <88> Refused
 <05> Grandfather <99> Not Applicable

B. Currently, how often do you have contact with any family members (check one):

<01> More than once a day <05> Several times a month <77> Don't Know
 <02> Once a day <06> Once a month <88> Refused
 <03> Several times a week <07> Several times a year <99> Not Applicable
 <04> Once a week <08> Less often

4. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all attached" and 5 being "very attached", how would you characterize your attachment to your family currently (circle one for each):

	Not at all Attached		Somewhat		Very Attached	Don't Know	Refused	N/A
Mother:	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>
Father:	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>
Sibling(s):	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>
Grandmother:	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>
Grandfather:	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>
Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>
Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>
Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5	<7>	<8>	<9>

5. Can you describe your current relationship with your family overall [interviewer prompts - do you love them, do you like them, do you spend time together; describe relationship with individual family members]?

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

SECTION F: NEEDS

In this section, I'm going to ask you some questions about your needs while in the institution and once released.

1. Could you explain what issues you were facing at the time you were incarcerated (*check all that apply*)?

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <01> Employment | <09> Anger |
| <02> Financial | <10> Violence |
| <03> Housing | <11> Self Esteem |
| <04> Substance Abuse | <12> Other (specify) _____ |
| <05> Marital/family issues | <13> Other (specify) _____ |
| <06> Death in family | <77> Don't Know |
| <07> Health | <88> Refused |
| <08> Mental Health | |

2. Describe your circumstances at the time of your incarceration.

- <7> Don't Know <8> Refused

3. What do you think your needs, as a Métis person, are in the institution?

- <7> Don't Know <8> Refused

4. What do you think your needs, as a Métis person, are upon release to the community?

- <7> Don't Know <8> Refused

5. Do you think your needs, as a Métis inmate, are different from the needs of non-Aboriginal inmates?

- | | |
|---------|----------------|
| <1> Yes | <7> Don't Know |
| <2> No | <8> Refused |

A. How do you see your needs as different/not different from non-Aboriginal inmates?

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

<9> Not Applicable

6. Do you think your needs, as a Métis inmate, are different from the needs of other Aboriginal inmates?

<1> Yes

<7> Don't Know

<2> No

<8> Refused

A. How do you see your needs as different/not different from other Aboriginal inmates?

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

<9> Not Applicable

7. Upon your release, what will need to be in place for you to successfully remain in the community (e.g., programs, services, people, education, etc.)?

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

8. What do you think the needs of your family are while you are in the institution?

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

9. What do you think the needs of your family will be upon your release to the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

10. Can you describe any issues that you may have relating to the application, interpretation and policies as they relate to Métis offenders.

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

11. Can you give me the name of one or more family members with whom you have maintained contact that I can contact to ask some questions about the needs of Métis offenders and their families?

Person 1: _____ Relationship _____
Address: _____

Person 2: _____ Relationship _____
Address: _____

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

Is there any information that you would like to add that may change the correctional experience for yourself or other Métis offenders?

Do you have any questions? Thank you very much for your time.

Appendix D: Family Interview

**NEEDS OF MÉTIS OFFENDERS
INTERVIEW QUESTIONS - FAMILY MEMBERS**

My name is (first name). I'm involved in a project that examines the needs of Métis offenders while in federal correctional facilities and in the community. You're one of a number of family members we'll be interviewing over the next few weeks. The purpose of this interview is to discuss the needs of Métis offenders and families while the offenders are incarcerated and once they are released. For instance, I will be asking you questions about the needs of the offender and family. This information is meant to help develop culturally-appropriate and specific programs for Métis offenders.

Your participation in this interview is voluntary and will be kept strictly confidential. You may stop at any time and if there are questions that you do not feel comfortable answering, please let me know and we will move on. Please feel free to ask me questions during the interview if you need further clarification on anything.

The interview will take approximately ½ an hour to complete. Do you have any questions? Can you please sign this to indicate your agreement to participate?

Offender Name: _____
(please print)

I agree to participate in the interview

(participant name - please print)

(participant signature)

(date)

FAMILY MEMBER INTERVIEW

Province: _____ Interview Date: _____
Institution: _____ Interviewer: _____
Offender Resp. #: _____
Respondent #: _____

SECTION A: BACKGROUND

I'm going to begin by asking you some general questions about yourself.

1. Gender:
 <1> Male <2> Female

2. Are you Aboriginal (First Nations/Indian, Métis or Inuit)?
 <1> Yes, First Nations <4> No
 <2> Yes, Métis <7> Don't Know
 <3> Yes, Inuit <8> Refused

3. What type of community do you currently live in (*check one*):
 <1> Large City (e.g., 100,000+ population) <5> Métis Community
 <2> Small City (e.g., 10,000 to 100,000 population) <6> Other (specify) _____
 <3> Rural Community (e.g., < 10,000 population) <7> Don't Know
 <4> Reserve <8> Refused

4. How long have you lived in this community (*check one*):
 <1> Less than 1 year <4> 11-15 years <7> Don't Know
 <2> 1-5 years <5> 16-20 years <8> Refused
 <3> 6-10 years <6> More than 20 years

5. What supports or resources are available for you in this community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

SECTION B: RELATIONSHIP TO OFFENDER

Now I'm going to ask you some questions about your relationship with the offender.

1. What is your relationship to the offender (*check one*):

- <01> Spouse <05> Father <77> Don't Know
- <02> Common-law <06> Sibling <88> Refused
- <03> Girl/Boyfriend <07> Other Family (specify) _____
- <04> Mother <08> Non-Family (specify) _____

2. How long have you known the offender (*check one*):

- <1> Less than 1 year <4> 11-15 years <7> Don't Know
- <2> 1-5 years <5> 16-20 years <8> Refused
- <3> 6-10 years <6> More than 20 years

3. Do you presently have regular contact with the offender (e.g., see or talk to them regularly - at least every 6 months)?

- <1> Yes (*go to follow-up question*) <7> Don't Know
- <2> No <8> Refused

A. ***If yes***, currently, how often do you have contact (*check one*):

- <01> More than once a day <05> Several times a month <77> Don't Know
- <02> Once a day <06> Once a month <88> Refused
- <03> Several times a week <07> Several times a year <99> Not Applicable
- <04> Once a week <08> Less often

4. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all attached" and 5 being "very attached", how would you characterize your current attachment to the offender (*circle one*):

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|----------|---|---------------|
| Not at all Attached | | Somewhat | | Very Attached |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <7> Don't Know | <8> Refused | | | |

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all positive" and 5 being "very positive", how would you characterize how positive your relationship is with the offender (*circle one*):

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|----------|---|---------------|
| Not at all Positive | | Somewhat | | Very Positive |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <7> Don't Know | <8> Refused | | | |

6. What do you think is the attitude of other family members toward the offender upon his/her release to the community?

- <7> Don't Know <8> Refused

7. What role do you think you will play with your family member once he/she is released to the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

8. Do you anticipate facing any issues upon the release of your family member to the community?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. *If yes, what issues do you anticipate?*

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

B. How do you anticipate resolving the issues?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

9. Do you support your family member's reintegration in the community? For instance, are you prepared to participate in things such as programming, providing accommodation, transportation, employment, etc.?

<1> Yes <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. Why are/aren't you prepared to participate in your family member's reintegration?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

SECTION C: OFFENDER NEEDS

In this section, I'm going to ask you some questions about the needs of the offender while in the institution and once released.

1. What caused your family member to come to jail?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

2. Do you think the needs of Métis inmates are different from the needs of non-Aboriginal inmates?

<1> Yes <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. How are the needs of Métis inmates different/not different from non-Aboriginal inmates?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

3. Do you think the needs of Métis inmates are different from the needs of other Aboriginal inmates?

<1> Yes <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. How are the needs of Métis inmates different/not different from other Aboriginal inmates?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

4. Do you think there are programs or services currently available, in the institution or the community, that are effective and supportive for your family member?

- <1> Yes (go to follow-up question A)
- <2> No (go to follow-up question C)
- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused

A. If YES, what programs do you think are effective and supportive to your family member (check all that apply):

- <01> Substance Abuse
- <02> Education
- <03> Employment
- <04> Cognitive/Living Skills
- <05> Pre-Release
- <06> Sex Offender
- <07> Anger Management
- <08> Counselling
- <09> Cultural
- <10> Psychological Services
- <11> Other (specify) _____
- <12> Other (specify) _____
- <77> Don't Know
- <88> Refused
- <99> Not Applicable

B. Why do you think the program(s) are effective?

- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused
- <9> Not Applicable

C. If NO, why do you think the program(s) aren't effective?

- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused
- <9> Not Applicable

5. What do you think your family member (the inmate) needs the most while in the institution?

- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused

6. What do you think your family member (the inmate) needs the most upon release to the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

7. What do you think your family member (the inmate) needs the most for sustained success in the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

SECTION D: FAMILY NEEDS

Now I'm going to ask you some questions about your needs.

1. As a family member of a Métis offender, are services and programs currently available to you while your family member is incarcerated?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. ***If yes***, what services or programs are available to you (*check all that apply*):

<01> Visitation program	<06> Other (specify) _____
<02> Transportation to the institution	<07> Other (specify) _____
<03> Counselling	<77> Don't Know
<04> Social Services	<88> Refused
<05> Elders	<99> Not Applicable

B. Were any of the programs Aboriginal-specific?

<1> Yes <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
<2> No <8> Refused

C. Were any of the programs Métis-specific?

<1> Yes <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
<2> No <8> Refused

D. What services or programs have you accessed (*check all that apply*):

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| <01> Visitation program | <06> Other (specify) _____ |
| <02> Transportation to the institution | <07> Other (specify) _____ |
| <03> Counselling | <77> Don't Know |
| <04> Social Services | <88> Refused |
| <05> Elders | <99> Not Applicable |

2. Are there any programs that you would like to see?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

3. As a family member of a Métis offender, do you think services and programs will be available to you once your family member is released to the community?

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| <1> Yes (<i>go to follow-up question</i>) | <7> Don't Know |
| <2> No | <8> Refused |

A. **If yes**, what services or programs will be available to you (*check all that apply*):

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| <01> Visitation program | <06> Other (specify) _____ |
| <02> Transportation to the institution | <07> Other (specify) _____ |
| <03> Counselling | <77> Don't Know |
| <04> Social Services | <88> Refused |
| <05> Elders | <99> Not Applicable |

4. Do you think there are areas that have caused you difficulty in your life (e.g., addictions, health, mental health, etc.)?

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| <1> Yes (<i>go to follow-up questions</i>) | <7> Don't Know |
| <2> No | <8> Refused |

A. **If yes**, what areas have caused you difficulty (*check all that apply*):

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| <01> Substance Abuse | <07> Other (specify) _____ |
| <02> Education | <08> Other (specify) _____ |
| <03> Employment | <09> Other (specify) _____ |
| <04> Living Skills | <77> Don't Know |
| <05> Health | <88> Refused |
| <06> Mental Health | <99> Not Applicable |

B. Can you describe how you have addressed these issues since your family member has been incarcerated?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

5. What do you think you need to successfully support your family member while incarcerated?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

6. What do you think you will need to be able to successfully support your family member upon release to the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

7. What do you think you will need to be able to successfully support your family member for sustained success in the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

Is there any information that you would like to add that may change the correctional experience for yourself or Métis offenders?

Do you have any questions? Thank you very much for your time.

Appendix E: Staff Interview

**NEEDS OF MÉTIS OFFENDERS
INTERVIEW QUESTIONS - INSTITUTIONAL STAFF**

My name is (first name) of (organization). I'm involved in a project with Correctional Service of Canada that examines the needs of Métis offenders while in federal correctional facilities and in the community. You're one of a number of institutional staff we'll be interviewing over the next few weeks. The purpose of this interview is to discuss the needs of Métis offenders and families while the offenders are incarcerated and once they are released, as well as your experience and training about Métis culture.

Your participation in this interview is voluntary and will be kept strictly confidential. You may stop at any time and if there are questions that you do not feel comfortable answering, please let me know and we will move on. Please feel free to ask me questions during the interview if you need further clarification on anything.

The interview will take approximately ½ an hour to complete. Do you have any questions? Can you please sign this to indicate your agreement to participate?

I agree to participate in the interview

(participant name - please print)

(participant signature)

(date)

INSTITUTIONAL STAFF INTERVIEW

Respondent #: _____

Interview Date: _____

Interviewer: _____

Sex: <1> Male <2> Female

SECTION A: PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

I'm going to ask you some questions about your background, education and professional experiences, as well as your knowledge regarding Métis culture.

1. Are you Aboriginal (First Nations/ Métis/Inuit)?

- <1> Yes, First Nations
- <2> Yes, Métis (*go to follow-up question*)
- <3> Yes, Inuit
- <4> No
- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused

A. Do you have a Métis status card or Métis registration?

- <1> Yes
- <2> No
- <7> Don't Know
- <8> Refused
- <9> Not applicable

2. What position are you currently employed in with CSC (*check one*):

- <01> Parole officer
- <02> Correctional officer
- <03> Program facilitator
- <04> Unit manager
- <05> Administrative official (i.e. warden)
- <06> Elder
- <07> Native liaison
- <08> Psychologist
- <09> Other (specify) _____
- <77> Don't Know
- <88> Refused

3. How long have you worked in your current position?

_____ months/years
<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

4. How long have you worked at CSC in total?

_____ months/years
<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

5. Can you describe your role?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

6. Do you currently work with the following (*check one for each*):

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| A. Aboriginal offenders in general | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| B. Métis offenders specifically | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| C. Aboriginal communities in general | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| D. Métis communities specifically | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |

7. Have you ever occupied other positions within CSC?

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| <1> Yes (<i>go to follow-up questions</i>) | <7> Don't Know |
| <2> No | <8> Refused |

A. *If yes*, what other positions have you been employed in within CSC (*check all that apply*):

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| <01> Parole officer | <07> Native liaison |
| <02> Correctional officer | <08> Psychologist |
| <03> Program facilitator | <09> Other (specify) _____ |
| <04> Unit manager | <77> Don't Know |
| <05> Administrative official (i.e., warden) | <88> Refused |
| <06> Elder | <99> Not Applicable |

B. Did your prior position(s) with CSC require you to work with the following (*check one for each*):

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| A. Aboriginal offenders | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| B. Métis offenders specifically | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| C. Aboriginal communities in general | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| D. Métis communities specifically | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |

8. Prior to being employed with CSC, did you have any experience in the following areas (*check one for each*):

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| A. Offenders in general | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| B. Aboriginal offenders | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| C. Métis offenders specifically | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| D. Aboriginal communities in general | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |
| E. Métis communities specifically | <1> Yes | <2> No | <7> Don't Know |
| | | <8> Refused | <9> N/A |

9. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how would you rate the extent to which your education provided you with knowledge and understanding in the following areas (*check one for each*):

	None	Somewhat	Extensive	D/K	Refused	N/A
A. Aboriginal culture/issues	1	2	3	4	5	<7> <8> <9>
B. Métis culture/issues	1	2	3	4	5	<7> <8> <9>
C. General offender issues	1	2	3	4	5	<7> <8> <9>
D. Aboriginal offender issues	1	2	3	4	5	<7> <8> <9>
E. Métis offender issues	1	2	3	4	5	<7> <8> <9>

10. Have you ever received training from CSC concerning Aboriginal offender issues?

- <01> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
 <02> No <8> Refused

A. What was the nature of the training?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

B. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "very poor" and 5 being "very good", how would you rate the extent to which the training provided you with a thorough understanding of Aboriginal offender needs (*circle one*):

- | | | | | |
|-----------|---|----------|---|-----------|
| Very poor | | Somewhat | | Very good |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
- <7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

11. Have you ever received training from CSC concerning Métis-specific offender issues?

- <1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
 <2> No <8> Refused

A. *If yes*, what was the nature of the training?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

B. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "very poor" and 5 being "very good", how would you rate the extent to which the training provided you with a thorough understanding of Métis offender needs (*circle one*):

Very poor		Somewhat		Very good
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused	<9> Not Applicable		

12. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how would you rate your current level of knowledge of Aboriginal culture in general (*circle one*):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

13. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how satisfied are you with your current level of knowledge of Aboriginal culture in general (*circle one*):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

14. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how would you rate your current level of knowledge of Métis culture (*circle one*):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

15. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how satisfied are you with your current level of knowledge of Métis culture (*circle one*):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

16. What does Métis culture mean to you?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

17. What activities do you think are specific to Métis?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

18. How do you think Métis culture is different from First Nation's culture?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

19. How do you think Métis culture is different from European culture?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

20. How do you think your understanding of Métis culture could be enhanced?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

21. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how would you rate your current level of knowledge of Aboriginal offender needs (*circle one*):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

22. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how satisfied are you with your current level of knowledge of Aboriginal offender needs (*circle one*):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

23. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how would you rate your current level of knowledge of Métis offender needs (*circle one*):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

24. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "none" and 5 being "extensive", how satisfied are you with your current level of knowledge of Métis offender needs (circle one):

None		Somewhat		Extensive
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

25. How do you think your understanding of Métis offender needs could be enhanced?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

SECTION B: OFFENDER NEEDS AND PROGRAMS

I'm now going to ask you some questions concerning the needs of Métis offenders during their incarceration in federal institutions and upon release to the community. I'm also going to be asking you about institutional and community programs that Métis offenders may be involved in.

1. Do you think the needs of Métis offenders are different from the needs of non-Aboriginal offenders?

<1> Yes (go to follow-up question A) <7> Don't Know
<2> No (go to follow-up question B) <8> Refused

A. *If yes*, how do you see the needs of Métis offenders as different from non-Aboriginal offenders?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

B. *If no*, how do you see the needs of Métis offenders as not different from non-Aboriginal offenders?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

2. Do you think the needs of Métis offenders are different from the needs of other Aboriginal offenders?

<1> Yes (go to follow-up question A)

<7> Don't Know

<2> No (go to follow-up question B)

<8> Refused

A. If yes, how do you see the needs of Métis offenders as different from non-Aboriginal offenders?

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

<9> Not Applicable

B. If no, how do you see the needs of Métis offenders as not different from non-Aboriginal offenders?

<7> Don't Know

<8> Refused

<9> Not Applicable

3. What do you think are the behavioral issues that Métis offenders present upon entering federal institution (*check all that apply*):

<01> None

<07> Self-injurious behavior

<02> Aggression/violence

<08> Exhibitionism

<03> Acting out

<09> Other (specify) _____

<04> Impulse control

<77> Don't Know

<05> Promiscuity

<88> Refused

<06> Substance abuse

4. What do you think are the psychological issues that Métis offenders present upon entering federal institutions (*check all that apply*):

<01> None

<09> Severe psychiatric disorders (i.e. schizophrenia)

<02> Substance dependency

<10> Suicidal ideation

<03> Depression

<11> Childhood traumas

<04> Anxiety

<12> Other (specify) _____

<05> Antisocial personality

<77> Don't Know

<06> Other personality disorders

<88> Refused

<07> Self-esteem/self-acceptance

<08> Stress

A. *If yes, which of the following institutional programs do you think are effective for Métis offenders? Are any of these institutional programs Aboriginal-specific? Are any of these institutional programs Métis-specific?*

Name of Program	Effective		Aboriginal-specific		Métis-specific	
1. Substance abuse	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
2. Employment	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
3. Education	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
4. Cognitive/living	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
5. Sex offender	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
6. Anger/family violence	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
7. Counselling/Psych.	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
8. Other_____	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA
9. Other_____	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA	1. Yes 7. D/K	2. No 9. NA

B. *If yes, why do you think the program(s) are effective?*

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

C. *If no, why do you think the program(s) aren't effective?*

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

11. How do you think institutional programs could be improved for Métis offenders?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

12. What do you think could be done to better meet the needs of Métis offenders while incarcerated (e.g., programs, services, people, education, etc.)?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

13. Do you think Métis-specific programs or services should be available to Métis offenders in the institution?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. If yes, why do you think Métis-specific programs or services should be available to Métis offenders in the institution?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

B. What do you think Métis-specific programs or services in the institution should focus on?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

14. What do you think some of the differences would be between Métis and First Nations programming in the institution?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

15. What do you think some of the differences would be between Métis and non-Aboriginal programming in the institution?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

16. Would you like to see Métis service workers provide Métis-specific programs or services in the institution?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up question*) <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. *If yes, why would like to see Métis service workers provide Métis-specific services and programs in the institution?*

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

17. What do you think are the behavioural issues that Métis offenders present upon release (*check all that apply*):

<01> None	<07> Self-injurious behaviour
<02> Aggression/violence	<08> Exhibitionism
<03> Acting out	<09> Other (specify) _____
<04> Impulse control	<77> Don't Know
<05> Promiscuity	<88> Refused
<06> Substance abuse	

18. What do you think are the psychological issues that Métis offenders present upon release (*check all that apply*):

- <01> None
- <02> Substance dependency
- <03> Depression
- <04> Anxiety
- <05> Antisocial personality
- <06> Other personality disorders
- <07> Self-esteem/self-acceptance
- <08> Stress
- <09> Severe psychiatric disorders (i.e. schizophrenia)
- <10> Suicidal ideation
- <11> Childhood traumas
- <12> Other (specify) _____
- <77> Don't Know
- <88> Refused

19. What do you think are the perceptual/cognitive issues that Métis offenders present upon release (*check all that apply*):

- <01> None
- <02> Denial
- <03> Minimization
- <04> Negative view of women
- <05> Negative view of children
- <06> Negative view of victim(s)
- <07> Pro-criminal views
- <08> Learning deficits
- <09> Attention deficits
- <10> Intellectual delays
- <11> Other (specify) _____
- <77> Don't Know
- <88> Refused

20. What do you think are the social issues that Métis offenders present upon release (*check all that apply*):

- <01> None
- <02> Poverty/financial
- <03> Education
- <04> Employment
- <05> Housing
- <06> Access to social services
- <07> Isolated community
- <08> Criminogenic community
- <09> Criminal peers/friends
- <10> Other (specify) _____
- <11> Other (specify) _____
- <77> Don't Know
- <88> Refused

21. What do you think are the cultural/spiritual issues that Métis offenders present upon release (*check all that apply*):

- <01> None
- <02> Lack of knowledge/understanding
- <03> Not participating in culture/spirituality
- <04> Lack of interest in culture/spirituality
- <05> Negative view towards culture/spirituality
- <06> Other (specify) _____
- <07> Other (specify) _____
- <77> Don't Know
- <88> Refused

22. What do you think Métis offenders need most upon release to the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

B. *If yes, why do you think the program(s) are effective?*

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

C. *If no, why do you think the program(s) aren't effective?*

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

25. How do you think community programs could be improved for Métis offenders?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

26. Do you think Métis-specific programs or services should be available to the offender in the community?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*)
<2> No

<7> Don't Know
<8> Refused

A. *If yes, why do you think Métis-specific programs or services should be available in the community?*

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

B. What do you think Métis-specific programs or services in the community should focus on?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

27. What do you think some of the differences would be between Métis and First Nations programming in the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

28. What do you think some of the differences would be between Métis and non-Aboriginal programming in the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

29. Would you like to see Métis service workers provide Métis-specific programs or services in the community?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up question*) <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. If yes, why would like to see Métis service workers provide Métis-specific services and programs in the community?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused <9> Not Applicable

30. What do you think could be done to better meet the needs of Métis offenders upon release into the community (e.g., programs, services, people, education, etc.)?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

SECTION C: FAMILY NEEDS

I'm now going to ask you some questions concerning the needs of families during the offender's period of incarceration and upon release to the community.

1. What do you think the needs of family members are while the Métis offender is in the institution?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

2. On a scale from 1 to 5, one being "not at all" and five being "very well", to what extent would you say the needs of Métis offender families are currently being met while the offender is incarcerated (*circle one*):

Not at all		Somewhat		Very well
1	2	3	4	5
<7> Don't Know	<8> Refused			

3. Are you aware of any services and programs currently available to family members while the offender is incarcerated?

<1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
 <2> No <8> Refused

A. *If yes*, what services or programs are available to family members (*check all that apply*):

<01> Visitation program	<06> Other (specify) _____
<02> Transportation to the institution	<07> Other (specify) _____
<03> Counselling	<77> Don't Know
<04> Social Services	<88> Refused
<05> Elders	<99> Not Applicable

B. Are any of the programs Aboriginal-specific?

<1> Yes <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
 <2> No <8> Refused

C. Are any of the programs Métis-specific?

- <1> Yes <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
<2> No <8> Refused

4. How do you think the needs of families of Métis offenders could be better met during the period of incarceration?

- <7> Don't Know <8> Refused

5. What do you think the needs of Métis offender families may be upon release?

- <7> Don't Know <8> Refused

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, one being "not at all" and five being "very well", to what extent would you say the needs of Métis offender families are currently being met at the time of the offender's release (*circle one*):

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|----------|---|-----------|
| Not at all | | Somewhat | | Very well |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <7> Don't Know | <8> Refused | | | |

7. Are you aware of any programs currently available to family members at the time of release?

- <1> Yes (*go to follow-up questions*) <7> Don't Know
<2> No <8> Refused

A. *If yes*, what programs are available to family members (*check all that apply*):

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <01> Employment assistance | <06> Other (specify) _____ |
| <02> Training | <07> Other (specify) _____ |
| <03> Counselling | <77> Don't Know |
| <04> Social Services | <88> Refused |
| <05> Elders | <99> Not Applicable |

B. Are any of the programs Aboriginal-specific?

- <1> Yes <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
<2> No <8> Refused

C. Are any of the programs Métis-specific?

- <1> Yes <7> Don't Know <9> Not Applicable
<2> No <8> Refused

8. How could the needs of Métis offender families at the time of release be better met?

<7> Don't Know <8> Refused

Do you have any questions? Thank you very much for your time.