

## Experience with Health Care

**Frances Chartrand, Health Minister, Manitoba Métis Federation:** We go to the hospital and visit; they don't have interpreters at the hospitals. I went to the hospital about a month ago. They have security there now so you can't go upstairs. If you have an Elder upstairs who is sick and something's wrong you're only allowed immediate family members, but when you come from the Métis community everyone's family. We come from a small community where I came from that's all your family. You want to go pay your respects, you want to support the family. You celebrate everything, you celebrate life. So, if someone has a baby you are going to go visit. You can't visit now. After eight o'clock you're not allowed in there. I understand the rules and protocols that they have in the hospital, and I understand there are other patients in there, but I want them to understand how we celebrate life and how we celebrate children, our elders, our youth and someone coming into our life now. The Métis people are proud. Like when a homecare worker comes they feel like, "oh what are they going to do, what's going to be taken from me"? Cause everything has been taken from them, so they are so scared sometimes. So we continue educating our seniors, and the children, on what's going to happen, but there is always the animosity about what is going to happen. If non-indigenous people come into the home, they worry that they're going to take away the children or take away the elders from the community.