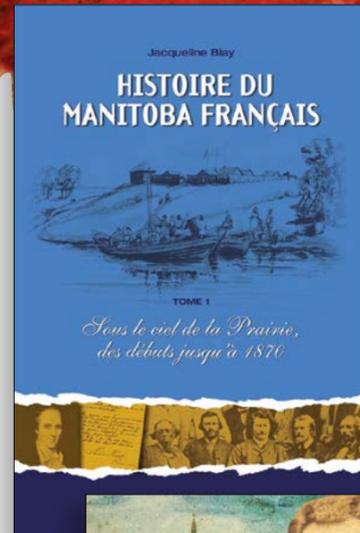


The Legacy of Louis Riel



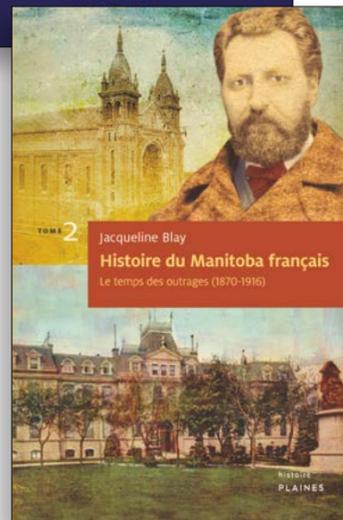
Histoire du Manitoba français (Volumes 1 and 2) Jacqueline Blay

These two volumes recount key events in Manitoba's history, from its foundation in 1734 through to World War I, from three different perspectives: the English Protestant community, the Métis and Catholic French Canadians.

This history of French-speaking Manitoba is therefore a tribute, a hats off, and a thank you to all those who recorded what they witnessed, leaving written documents behind. Like Petit Poucet, we now have to retrace their steps to learn and understand this history that has been bequeathed to us. (Vol. 1, p. xvii)

Highlights:

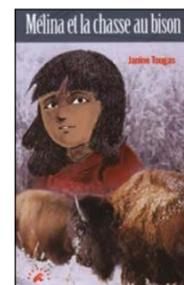
- Includes maps, photographs, illustrations, a chronology and an index;
- Brings together a wealth of information from articles, books and theses;
- The clear writing style allows for in-depth understanding of the issues in different communities.



Histoire du Manitoba français, Volume 1: Sous le ciel de la Prairie
Éditions du Blé, 384 pages, 2010
978-2-92367-310-3

Histoire du Manitoba français, Volume 2: Le temps des outrages (1870-1916)
Éditions des Plaines, 434 pages, 2013
978-2-89611-379-8

Further Reading



Mélina et la chasse au bison by Janine Tougas

When Mélina agrees to take part in a re-enactment of a buffalo hunt, the young Métis girl has no idea that the adventure will lead to an understanding of her culture's richness and potential. Playful in its approach and meticulously researched, this novel is above all a work of fiction that is full of adventure and imbued with human values.

Apprentissage Illimité, young adult novel, 176 pages, 2013. 978-1-89732-851-4

Jean Riel, fils de Louis Riel. Sous une mauvaise étoile by Annette Saint-Pierre

Jean Riel's destiny is closely tied to that of his father, Louis. Jean Riel, fils de Louis Riel dispels, for the first time, certain myths surrounding Jean Riel and reveals a person crushed by the weight of his heritage, on a tortuous and tortured life path.

Éditions du Blé, biography, 298 pages, 2014. 978-2-92437-805-2



RECF



Louis Riel (1844-1885) is called the "Father of Manitoba" for good reason. It was due to his actions that Manitoba became a full-fledged Canadian province, while respecting the way of life of the Métis.

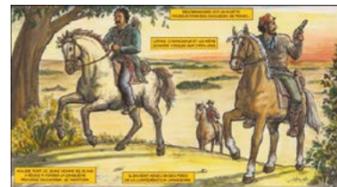
In 1869, when he was just 24 years old, Riel led the Métis people's protest movement, which rejected the annexation of its lands to the young Canadian Confederation. Riel established a provisional government in order to assert the territorial, linguistic and religious rights of the Métis. The winter of 1869-1870 was a turbulent one for the people of the Red River Settlement, but the struggle bore fruit: in May the Manitoba act was passed, which ratified the territory's entry into the Canadian Confederation. The act was based largely on the list of demands drawn up by Riel and representatives from the Métis community. Nevertheless, Riel was forced into exile in the United States as a result of acts committed under the provisional government.

The year 1884 found Riel at Batoche, in present-day Saskatchewan. Once again, pressure from migrating Canadian and European settlers threatened the Métis way of life. Faced with Ottawa's inaction, Riel once again formed a provisional government and took up arms. In the weeks that followed, clashes with Canadian government troops led to the capture of Riel, who was transferred to Regina where he was tried and convicted for high treason. Despite a series of appeals, he was executed on November 16, 1885.

Louis Riel, the Father of Manitoba

Louis Riel's determination to defend Métis rights has made him an important figure in Canadian history. Riel's life is intertwined with the life of francophone communities in the Prairies and has inspired many artistic, literary and documentary studies, monuments and works. The books presented here invite both young and old readers to expand their knowledge about the life and achievements of this celebrated man.

Introduction to Louis Riel



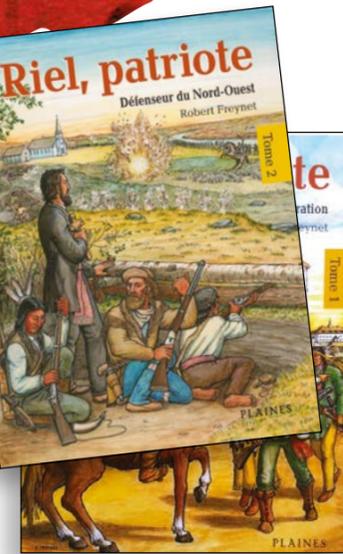
Riel, patriote (Volumes 1 and 2) Robert Freynet

A ninth art enthusiast, Robert Freynet dramatizes the life of the controversial Métis leader Louis Riel, founder of the province of Manitoba and a father of Canadian Confederation. In two volumes, *Riel, Patriote* presents a concise and authentic account that makes it easy to understand Prairie issues in the 19th century.

- Mister Riel, your vision is ambitious. But, having myself been a general in the Civil War, I must warn you that it would be difficult to realize!
- Mr. President, the Canadian government is not honouring many of its promises. It has deceived the Aboriginals and the Métis of Western Canada, and is repeatedly violating their rights. (p. 36)

Highlights:

- Information simplified for young readers;
- Expressions in English or Latin realistically depict the linguistic context.



Volume 1: Éditions des Plaines, graphic novel, 40 pages, 2013. 978-2-89611-404-7. Ages 12 and up
Volume 2: Éditions des Plaines, graphic novel, 40 pages, 2015. 978-2-89611-444-3. Ages 12 and up
Also available in digital format.

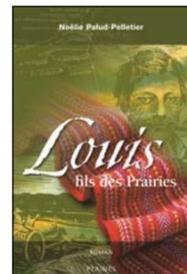
Further Reading

Louis, Son of the Prairies by Noëlie Palud-Pelletier

This novel for young readers tells of Louis Riel's childhood in the Red River Settlement until his departure for Montreal as a teenager. It is through his eyes that we witness the harsh conditions in the settlement and see daily life in the Métis community.

Éditions des Plaines, novel, 91 pages, 2004. 978-2-92135-398-4
Ages 10 to 14

A teacher's guide in PDF format is available on the Éditions des Plaines website.



À la recherche de Riel

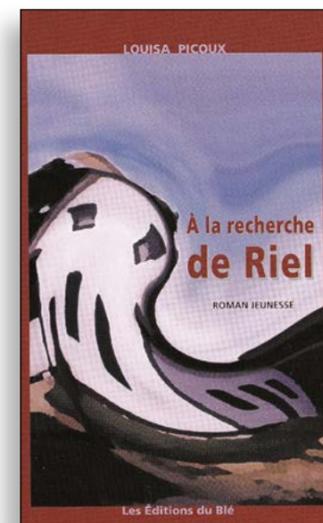
Louisa Picoux

During the night, 12 year old Raoul Désilets finds himself mysteriously transported back to 1869 in the heart of the Manitoba prairie. Adopted by a Métis family in the Red River Settlement, he sets off in search of Louis Riel and witnesses first-hand the events that will lead to the establishment of the province of Manitoba.

Suddenly, I understood! I recalled the apparition in my room the day before, the free-roaming bison and now the cart driver and his oxen. Everything called out for Louis Riel to be avenged. I must have gone back in time without realizing it, to find myself in a previous century! (p. 32)

Highlights:

- Fiction and history are skilfully combined in this book;
- The history of Manitoba in the 19th century is seen through the eyes of a young person living in the 2000s;
- The many plot twists keep the reader riveted.



Éditions du Blé, novel, 96 pages, 2002
978-2-92134-765-5
Ages 9 to 12

Key Witnesses to History

Le roitelet Claude Dorge

This theatre play inspired by Louis Riel's correspondence and writings highlights his suffering and dramatizes the episodes that marked his career. The play is followed by an in-depth critical analysis by Dominique Laporte.

God will make my whole being shine with renewed youth. My hands will be stronger. My feet, firmer. The weight of sorrow, lifted from me. In the face of the enemy, I will stand firm. (p. 39)

Highlights:

- Psychological drama based on critical points in Riel's life;
- The text combines real events with imaginary episodes;
- Short scenes presented in the form of dialogues with rich imagery.

Éditions du Blé, drama, 144 pages, 2013
978-2-92367-337-0



Further Reading

Sur les berges de l'infini by Micheline Marchand

This collection of nine short stories, inspired by actual events, traces the history of a Métis family in the Great Lakes region, from the 18th century to our time.

- You don't have to come, McGulpin retorts. The Canteen is for the guys who want to celebrate.
- Celebrate what? Our exciting lives? The boredom that eats away at us like a parasite? (p. 45)

Éditions du Vermillon, short stories, 164 pages, 2012. 978-1-77120-048-6
Also available in digital format.



Au temps de la Prairie

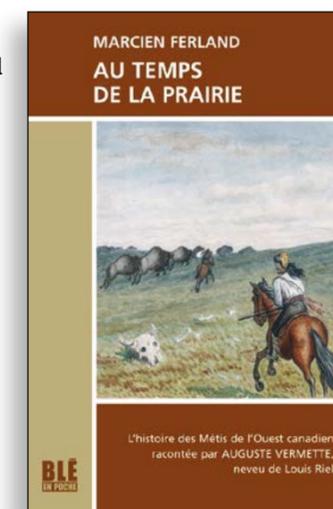
Marcien Ferland

This text of historical and ethnological value tells the story of Métis life on the Prairie. The narrative is based on the knowledge of a Métis man born at the end of the 19th century, and encompasses the customs and language of his people, which he learned from his father who was an eyewitness to the events of the Red River.

To begin with, the English in North Winnipeg were part of the provisional government. There were Selkirk settlers in there. It was half English, half French. Then the English, well, they started to disagree with the "French". [...] Riel said to them: "Fine! Go home to your women and children. The rest of us, we will fight, we will win, and then you will come and share in it with us." And that's what happened. (p. 163)

Highlights:

- 77 short accounts told by Métis Auguste Vermette, Louis Riel's nephew;
- The result of five years of research and interviews carried out by the ethnologist Marcien Ferland;
- The text, which preserves the characteristics of Métis language, is followed by explanations of vocabulary.



Éditions du Blé, narrative, 224 pages, 2006
978-2-92134-792-1

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