La Shas Di Kanar
ipi li Z’otard
Duck and Goose Hunting

Written By Patricia Millar
A Louis Riel Institute Book

Thank you to the families who provided photos for this book. Without your help this project would not be possible.

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Spelling System

Michif is historically an oral language and as a result there is no standardized spelling for it.

When LRI and Michif speaker Patricia Millar took on this project to create teaching resources in Michif-French, Patsy had the difficult task of deciding how the language she has spoken all her life, would be spelled.

A group of local women, all fluent speakers, convened to help with the decision making. They chose to make the spelling phonetic to aid with pronunciation. They also tried to get rid of ‘unnecessary’ silent letters.

This is the first project of its kind for the Michif-French language, and as a result the spelling system used here is just a start and may be refined in future projects before it is standardized.
Lee and Cowan with ducks and geese.

Lee ipi Cowan avek li kanar ipi li z’otard.

Lee and Cowan with ducks and geese.
Lee mont a Cowan ipi Chase la shas ki la fet a matin.

Lee is showing Cowan and Chase the ducks he got this morning.
Lee mont a si trwa z’enfan Cowan, Chase ipi Brooklyn, la shas ki la fet a matin.

Lee is showing his three children Cowan, Chase and Brooklyn the good hunt he had this morning.
Saynk zami mont li kanar ki lu pere a enmeni a la mayson ain matin.

Five friends Cowan, Carter, Brooklyn, Keon and Chase are showing the ducks that their dads brought home one morning.
Kayleigh, Kaydin, Cowan, Kole and Chase are very proud of the good hunt that their dads had this morning.
Kayleigh, Kole, and Kaydin are helping pluck the ducks.
Andre ito y l’lem sa la shas di kanar. R’garde mwin don sa si bo kanar di France!

Andre also like duck hunting. Look at those beautiful Mallard ducks!
Cowan is watching a goose swimming in the water.
Cowan port aine gros otard dan l’maray.

Cowan is carrying a big goose in the marsh.
Cowan cor apray li z’otard.

Cowan is chasing the geese.
Joseph had another good hunt and his children are really proud.
Li gro z’otard avek li bibi.

The big geese and their babies.
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Art by Deborah Lavallee

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