La Shas O Shevru
Deer Hunting

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

Thank you to the St. Laurent Aboriginal Headstart for providing the beautiful site to film, gathering the volunteer families, and being incredibly helpful.

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Choosing a Spelling System for the Michif-French language

Michif is historically an oral language and as a result there is no standardized spelling for either the Michif-Cree or the Michif-French languages. Michif speaker and teacher Patricia Millar took on this project to create a teaching resource in her beloved Michif-French, however she has had the difficult task of deciding how the language should 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. The phonics they used are English for two reasons; 1 to help English speakers to decode the language, 2. To differentiate it from the French. Michif-French is a dialect of French but has different pronunciation, many shortened words and uses some vocabulary not common in today’s French language.

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 will likely be refined in future projects before it is standardized. Please make use of the DVD to hear the language and learn the pronunciation.
Three beautiful deer are eating green grass.

Trwa bo shevru son apre manji l’arb vayr.

Three beautiful deer are eating green grass.
Sa si ain bibi chevru. Il a enmas di tash blan su son kor.

This a baby deer. It has lots of white spots on his body.
Keon ili bin fiyar ju shevru ki son pere la awmni a la mayson.

Keon is very proud of the deer his dad brought home.
Carter ito y la pri son portray avek l'shevru di son pere.

Carter also took his picture with the deer that his dad brought home.
Keon is learning at a young age how to skin a deer.
Kole ito montre li bel korn ki son pere a awmni a la mayson.

Kole is showing off the nice antlers that his father brought home.
Kayleigh and Kole are learning how to skin a deer.

Kayleigh ipi Kole son apray apprend coman plemi ain shevru.

Kayleigh and Kole are learning how to skin a deer.
A Louis Riel Institute Book

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Art by Deborah Lavallee

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