Pari Por Fayr La Galet
Ready to Make Bannock

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.

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

Thank you to Heritage Canada, Aboriginal Languages Initiative for funding this project.

Louis Riel Institute
103-150 Henry Ave
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 0J7
204 984-9480
lri@mmf.mb.ca
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.
Londa and the children are starting to make bannock.

Shelby is measuring one cup of flour.
Olivia ito mizur aine taws di faryn.

Olivia also is measuring one cup of flour.
Cruz is measuring one cup of flour too.
Shelby mizur aine kuyar a tab di grays.

Shelby is measuring a tablespoon of lard.
Maculla y chin la bol ipi Cruz ayd met d’lo por milangi avek la faryn ipi la gray.

Maculla is holding the bowl, while Cruz is pouring water to mix in with the flour and lard.
Shelby and Olivia are mixing their dough.
Cruz is mixing his dough too.
Li galet son dan l’forno por li fayr kuyr.

The bannocks are in the oven to cook.
Li galet son kwi pi pari por mangi.

The bannocks are cook and ready to eat.
Mmmm, Cruz likes the bannock that he made.
Kylie ito a fet la bon galet.

Kylie also made good bannock.
A Louis Riel Institute Book

Thank you to the families and staff of the St. Laurent Aboriginal Headstart who provided photos for this book. Without your help this project would not be possible.

Art by Deborah Lavallee