

For a time, life on the Prairies was good for Xavier's Métis community and people, but then settlers began to arrive. Oodles of settlers began to move into the Red River area, near Xavier's Métis community. Sadly, many of these settlers were very unfriendly and disrespectful to the Métis people and their culture.

Xavier, now a young man did not like this poor treatment. He was not happy with his new neighbours, and he certainly was not happy that the Government was treating the new settlers better than its own Métis citizens. So, in 1872, Xavier packed up and moved away from his home community in Red River. Xavier moved west to what is now Saskatchewan, and to his delight, he found the perfect place along the South Saskatchewan River to begin a new Métis settlement.

**A view of the South Saskatchewan River. It is along this river that Xavier began his new Métis settlement.**



Xavier certainly found the perfect place for his new settlement. The place was perfect for two good reasons. First, the settlement's location along the South Saskatchewan River meant that land could be divided into river lots, just as it was in his home community at Red River.

**The land on this new settlement was divided into river lots.  
The open prairie was great for farming.**



**A trail on a river lot leads to the river.**



The second reason why the new Métis settlement was perfectly located was because it was on the Carlton trail. Believe it or not, the Carlton Trail was one of the most important and most used trails in the fur trade. By being located on the Carlton trail, the Métis in the new settlement could easily find work in the fur trade, especially as freighters.

**This is the Carlton Trail. The white plaque shows where the village once stood.**

