

TAX EXEMPTION FOR STATUS INDIANS AND INDIAN BANDS TEMPORARY WAIVER OF SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Manitoba is temporarily waiving the requirement for sellers to obtain a Status Indian's signature or authorized Band representative's signature when the purchaser is an Indian Band and purchases goods on reserve or takes possession of goods on reserve. This requirement is waived until June 30, 2020.

The following explains the process to be followed and documentation requirements in order to support a tax exempt sale to a Status Indian or Indian Band.

- The Status Indian must present their *Certificate of Indian Status* card or *Temporary Confirmation of Registration Document* to the sales associate. If the Status Indian is purchasing goods on behalf of a Band, written authorization from the Band must also be presented.
- The sales associate must confirm that the photograph on the card or document matches the purchaser.
- If the seller has a point-of-sale (POS) system, the sales associate must print the name of the Status Indian or Band on the signature line and initial the sales receipt next to the signature line to verify that the information on the receipt (including Status Indian or Band name and Registration or Band Number) is correct and the purchaser's identity has been confirmed.
- If the seller uses a manual system to track tax exempt sales, the sales associate must complete the document (including Status Indian or Band name and Registration or Band Number) and initial the document next to the purchaser's name to verify that the purchaser's identity has been confirmed.

For additional documentation requirements for goods purchased by a Status Indian or Indian Band when the seller delivers the goods directly or by common carrier to a reserve, please refer to Notice RST 16-04, Sales Tax Exemption for Status Indians and Indian Bands.

Please note that while a signature is not required to support a tax exempt sale at this time, complete records must be retained, including all sales invoices and tax exemption forms. Please refer to RST Bulletin No. 016, Record Keeping and Retention Requirements, for further information.

Further information may be obtained from:

Winnipeg Office

Manitoba Finance Taxation Division 101 - 401 York Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0P8 Telephone (204) 945-5603 Manitoba Toll Free 1-800-782-0318 Fax (204) 948-2087 E-mail: <u>MBTax@gov.mb.ca</u> Web site: <u>www.gov.mb.ca/finance/taxation</u> Westman Regional Office Manitoba Finance Taxation Division 314, 340 - 9th Street Brandon, Manitoba R7A 6C2 Fax (204) 726-6763

