



OFFICE of the PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT

October 29th, 2020

RE: United Nations Declaration of Rights for Indigenous Peoples

Tansii Métis Nation–Saskatchewan Citizens:

The Federal Government is proposing to introduce legislation by the end of this year regarding the United Nations Declaration of Rights for Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). This legislation will be a framework for advancing and implementing the Declaration in Canada and ensuring the laws of Canada are consistent with the Declaration. Before that happens, we have an opportunity to learn about and provide feedback on the Federal government's legislative proposal as Métis rights holders. The proposed Federal legislation when it's adopted into Canadian Law will affect our lives, our communities and may impact the interpretation of our Indigenous Rights under S. 35 of the Canadian constitution. It is important that as citizens that you have the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed legislation and understand the effect that it may have on the Métis Nation.

UNDRIP is an international legal instrument that sets out the minimum standards of rights for the survival, dignity and well-being of Indigenous Peoples, including the right to self-determination. Notably, the Declaration affirms the pre-existing individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples. It calls upon all states, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, to "take appropriate measures, including legislative measures" to achieve its ends.

The United Nations General Assembly ratified the UNDRIP in 2007. It was in 2016 when Minister Carolyn Bennett announced that Canada is a full supporter of the UNDRIP, without qualification.

I am inviting your participation to one of two virtual engagement sessions to be hosted by MN-S. We want to hear from you because as Métis people, we need to make sure this legislation is planned and implemented in a good way for today and future generations. We are inviting citizens, Elders and Knowledge Keepers so we can provide recommendations that reflect Métis aspirations, language, culture, ways of being and ways of knowing.



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UNDRIP engagements will be by registration and held 'virtually' on the zoom platform. For registration in UNDRIP engagement sessions and information on UNDRIP go here: <https://metisnationsk.com/undrip>

Sessions are:

November 7th, at 1:00 pm till 4:00 pm

November 9th, at 5:30 pm till 8:30 pm

MN-S looks forward to your input and having a productive dialogue on the proposed UNDRIP legislation. As a standard, it is important that we continue to affirm our nation-to-nation and government-to-government relationship with Canada in all that we do. Let's have a conversation, stand together and have our Métis voices heard.

Much respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Glen McCallum". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Glen McCallum

President Métis Nation – Saskatchewan