



Message from
SCO Grand Chief Chris Henderson



On July 25, 2006, a ceremonial signing of the Riding Mountain Forum Agreement between the Parks Canada Agency and the Coalition of First Nations with Interests in Riding Mountain National Park took place at the KeeSee Sharing Lodge.

Boozhoo! Tansi! Wash-tay! Greetings to our Elders, Veterans, Southern Chiefs, Council Members and Indian peoples.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Manito Nodin "Spirit Wind" Survivors Inc. for inviting me to their information session on the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement that they recently held in the Pine Creek First Nation (Treaty No. 4 Territory). I also want to acknowledge Chief Billyjo DeLaRonde, Councillor Charlie Boucher, Mr. Frances Nepinak, the Elders and the fine Anishinabe cooks at the Pine Creek First Nation and thank them for their excellent hospitality! Kitchi-Meegwetch!

Although the Indian residential schools settlement package has been accepted by the Federal Conservative Government, it's not out of the woods yet! And I want to respectfully caution our survivors. There are still several hurdles that have to be cleared before we, or anybody, could declare the agreement final, once and for all.

As summer comes to a close, I also want to thank our SCO Member First Nations for hosting and inviting me to their Annual Pow Wow celebrations in their communities. Although I could not make every one this summer, I did my best to accept all these warm invitations that were extended to me. I want to commend and congratulate all the Pow Wow committees, volunteers, drum groups and dancers of all ages for keeping our cultures alive and thriving!

Meegwetch!

ALL MY RELATIONS!

South Wind

"The official newspaper of the Manitoba Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc."

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Reprint

The following Provincial News Release is being reprinted with the purpose of providing a response from the First Nation communities that are directly affected by this announcement.

Manitoba NewsRelease

August 16, 2006

PROVINCE PROVIDES \$500,000 TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF LAND-USE PLANNING ON EAST SIDE OF LAKE WINNIPEG

The province is providing \$500,000 to support land-use planning on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg which will give local communities a greater say over how resources in the region are utilized, Conservation Minister Stan Struthers announced today.

"We want the people of the area to have input into future resource use in the area and setting up a process to support land-use planning will help ensure participation in sustainable resource management," said Struthers.

First Nations on the east side of Lake Winnipeg will apply to a newly-incorporated body created by Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin (formerly known as the East Side Planning Initiative) to carry out individual land-use plans. Consideration of land-use planning funding applications is expected to begin once the province and the corporation develop a grant-funding agreement.

Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin (WNO) also announced the creation of the incorporated body to serve as a foundation and guide for governments of First Nations on the east side of Lake Winnipeg to be involved in land-use planning activities that will affect their communities and traditional territories.

"The WNO process continues to represent a significant step forward for our people," said Nelson Keeper, chair, WNO executive committee of chiefs. "The funding reinforces the province's commitment to working with First Nations to develop long-term plans that will protect our land, the environment and the future of our people."

The WNO was established in 2000. The name was changed in 2005 to better reflect First Nations people who represent more than 96 per cent of the population on the east side.

The goal of WNO is to develop a broad-area plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The plan would ensure protection of the environment and boreal forest in the region as well as consider plans for sustainable land and resource development. Land-use planning is the next logical and critical component to that process. WNO was also established to ensure direct involvement of First Nations in future initiatives and potential sustainable development on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

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Chief Sheldon Kent,
Black River First Nation



"The Province is genuine in providing \$500,000 for land study use, however, \$500,000

is not near enough to provide an extensive land study.

Currently, Black River First Nation is in Phase III of the study. To fully benefit from the study we need input from our community and Elders."

BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION

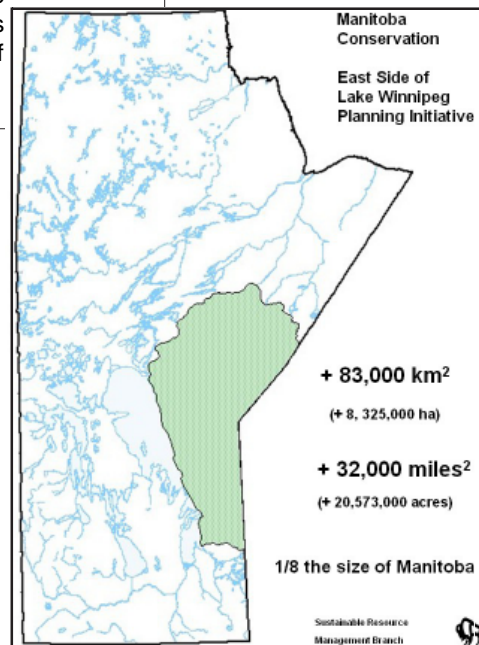


Chief Russell Lambert,
Poplar River First Nation

Poplar River First Nation



"The land use study has benefited Poplar River in that it has opened doors with world wide recognition and publicity from as far as the Ukraine and United Kingdom. Our Elders and peoples have no objections to the land use planning, but we still need the support from the surrounding First Nation communities to continue to protect our land."



White men get a taste of own medicine



**Chief Terrance Nelson
Roseau River
Anishinaabe First Nation**

their own system, refuse to go home, refuse to recognize your laws and then when you ask them to leave, they tell you that you no longer own the land?"

I say, bravo to the Mohawks, it is about time the white man got a taste of his own medicine.

Speaking of lawlessness, Delgamuukw, Haida, Marshall, Taku River, and many other Supreme Court decisions sided with the indigenous people, yet Canada ignores the very law you say must be upheld in Caledonia. So, is the law you speak of only good for the white guys, not for the Indians? Why did it only take 100 days for the white business people to get \$12 million of compensation from Canada and yet the Indians are still waiting 200 years later?

You ask that First Nations be patient, to accept a process that National Chief Phil Fontaine stated averages 27 years to settle a land claim. For example, when CN Rail expropriated land belonging to the Birdtail Sioux reservation in 1905 for about \$80 (without the consent of the real owners) the order-in-council removing the land from reserve status took only three days to complete. Our Treaty Land Entitlement purchases have not been converted, despite the fact that we have had a legally binding agreement with Canada since 1996. Our lands in 1903 that were similarly taken without our consent were converted to non-reservation status in 26 days with an order-in-council. So, when it benefits the white man, the law works fine.

In Delgamuukw, the Supreme Court of Canada recognized aboriginal title, but it also ruled that the original owners

'SHRILL, ugly and lawless,' says the *Free Press* editorial *Lawless rule* (Aug. 9), describing the situation in Caledonia, where the Mohawks now occupy the land.

As the chief of Roseau River, I say, "How does it feel, White Man, to have people who come to what you consider your property, set up

have no access to Canadian courts to apply for injunctive relief. So, the white man has protection against the law but not the Indian. The law you speak of, the injunctive relief, is only available to the whites, not the Indians.

Yeah, the law is great when it is on your side, White Man. Each of the provinces ensured that they have the notwithstanding clause, so they can ignore the law whenever it is not in their favour. Former Ontario premier David Peterson called Justice David Marshall's decision "bizarre."

It is a bizarre decision, because Superior Court Justice David Marshall would never be allowed to decide injunctive relief for the Indians. Did you see Marshall calling the police and government officials criminals for ignoring the law, did you see him asking to jail government officials? Of course not. Perhaps, the Indians would have a little less contempt for the law if it really was equal and available to everyone, not just the white guys.

I strongly support the Mohawks of Six Nations in their application of the indigenous notwithstanding clause to ignore this bizarre white man's decision.



In case you don't realize the consequences yet of seeing Mohawks on TV with bloodied faces, being beaten by OPP, I'll state this for you again. Hundreds and hundreds of billions of dollars in resource wealth are travelling on thousands and thousands of kilometres of railway lines in this country. You whites did not bring these resources to our lands in your little boats; you left your God-given resources in Europe. If you didn't hear the anger at the Treaty 1-11 conference, where aboriginals met to discuss the original intent of Canada's numbered treaties, you don't realize the consequences of bloodying the faces of Mohawks. Right now, the government is negotiating without the economic consequences of railway blockades. Don't underestimate the consequences of killing unarmed Mohawks.

Terrance Nelson is chief of Roseau River First Nation

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INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS SETTLEMENT



Photo: The Shingwauk Project - Jane Mundy Collection

On August 31, 2006, the Manito Nodin "Spirit Wind" Survivors Inc. hosted an information session on the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement in the Pine Creek First Nation (Treaty No. 4 Territory), MB.

The purpose of the info-session was to explain the agreement to Indian Residential School survivors living in Pine Creek.

Last April 2006, the Federal Conservative Government approved the draft Agreement-in-Principle that was reached between the Assembly of First Nations and the former Liberal Government. The final agreement includes close to \$1.9 billion for the "common experience" payment to former students, a new and improved "Alternative Dispute Resolution" process, and a truth and reconciliation commission and process.

As agreed to in the final settlement package, the agreement is currently before the Courts across nine (9) jurisdictions in different provinces and territories. The Courts are being asked to give their approval of the settlement package. Once the Courts approve, a 6-month mandatory waiting period begins, allowing survivors to study the agreement and decide if they want to accept or opt out of the package. After 6-months, if 5000 survivors do not object to the agreement, the Federal Government will then send a notice out to survivors explaining how to get a payment from the settlement or to be excluded from it.

It's important to point out that during the Court approval process currently underway, if one (1) of the judges out of the nine Courts across Canada does not approve the agreement, it could die.

As well, during the 6-month mandatory waiting period, which allows survivors to study the agreement, if 5000 survivors object to it, then the Federal Government could declare the final settlement package null and void, and therefore walk away from the agreement.

The Court hearing in Manitoba will be on October 5 & 6, 2006, at the Court of Queen's Bench at the Law Courts Building in Winnipeg.



Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations

**Proudly invites all Indigenous Peoples to the
International Indigenous Treaty Nations Conference**

September 21 & 22, 2006

at the Mayfield Inn & Trade Centre

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"For as long as
the sun shines, the
grass grows and
the rivers flow"