



South Wind

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

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Manitoba to try and extend smoking ban on First Nation's Indian reserves

On Wednesday September 13, 2006, Manitoba's Minister of Energy, Science and Technology, and Minister Responsible for Gaming, Mr. Dave Chomiak announced that the Province of Manitoba will take steps to apply the smoking ban on First Nation's Indian reserves.

This announcement was in response to the Provincial Court of Queen's Bench Justice Albert Clearwater's decision on smoking handed down last August.

The province intends to do this by making the application of the smoking ban a part of negotiations in licensing gaming and liquor establishments on reserves. The province has exclusive jurisdiction in gaming and health.

"We are disappointed by this decision," stated SCO Grand Chief Chris Henderson. "It appears that the province is engaging in economic blackmail by making the smoking ban a requirement of gaming and casino licensing for First Nations' operators and owners. Manitoba has definitely drawn a line in the sand on this issue."

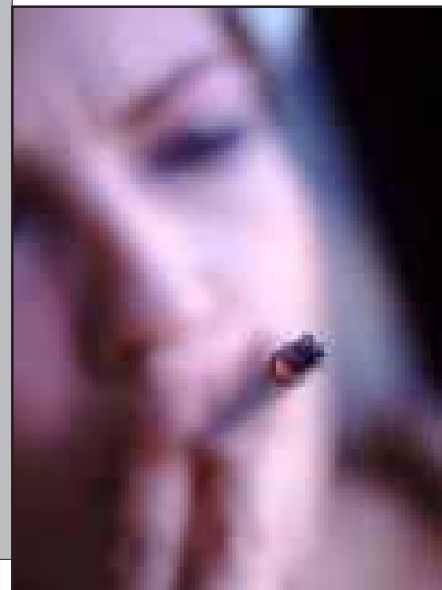
Some SCO Member First Nations are taking legal

action against the province's decision, such as the Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation. Others are contemplating the drafting of a by-law under Section 81 of the Indian Act, whereby First Nation governments would designate certain areas on-reserve smoke free, while permitting smoking in other areas (like a bingo hall or VLT lounge). The significance of such a by-law is that it would supersede, or push out this provincial law, based on Section 88 of the Indian Act. The big question mark in this scenario is whether or not the Federal Minister of Indian Affairs would approve of such a by-law, as called for in the Indian Act.

Either way, a long and costly legal battle is expected, and could reach the Supreme Court of Canada in the end.

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SCO Grand Chief Chris Henderson



Message from SCO Grand Chief Chris Henderson



SCO Chiefs' Executive Committee 2005-2006

l-r: Grand Chief Henderson, Chief Norman Bone, Keeseekoowenin Ojibway First Nation; Chief Emery Stagg, Dauphin River First Nation; Chief Ian Bushie, Hollow Water First Nation; Chief David Crate, Fisher River Cree Nation; and Chief Ken Chalmers, Birdtail Sioux First Nation.

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

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate my colleague, newly re-elected MKIO Grand Chief Dr. Sydney Garrioch on his re-election by the Northern First Nations of Manitoba. Grand Chief Garrioch has been a tireless advocate for our Northern brothers and sisters and I look forward to working with him on common issues in the coming months.

I am pleased to inform you that the next SCO Chiefs-in-Summit is scheduled for November 1 & 2, 2006, at the Sioux Valley Dakota Nation. We look forward to being hosted by Chief Ken Whitecloud and the fine Dakota people of Sioux Valley.

On another matter, the SCO Chiefs' Executive Committee (CEC) met on September 12, 2006, and are in support of Chief Irvin McIvor and the Council Member's challenge against the Federal Minister of Indian Affairs' decision to set aside the band election results of September 8, 2005, based on allegations of vote-buying. As well, the CEC, will continue to officially recognize Chief McIvor and Council as the legitimate governing authority of the Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation. We are calling upon the Federal Minister of Indian Affairs to grant a fair and transparent hearing into this matter that would allow Chief McIvor and the Council Members to respond to the allegations.

In closing, I wish you and your families well. *Meegwetch!*



Chief Murray Clearsky
Waywayseecappo First Nation
Treaty No. 4



“That’s a threat if they are going to shut off our VLT’s by enforcing this ban! No agreement or regulation has been signed to abide by— other than gaming!”

Waywayseecappo First Nation manages the Gaming Centre

“There is a fundamental Treaty right as it relates to jurisdictional rights as Indigenous people, therefore, we will do whatever to protect and implement the rights of our peoples.”

Long Plain First Nation manages the Keeshkeemaqua Gaming Centre



Chief Dennis Meeches
Long Plain First Nation
Treaty No. 1



"to better understand the business of farming and how it can be improved"

First Nations Agriculture Committee Forum IV

**Wednesday, October 11, 2006
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Peguis Community Hall
Peguis First Nation, Hodgson, MB**

Further to the direction given at the third First Nations Agriculture Forum held in Waywayseecappo First Nation, on April 10, 2006, the First Nations Agriculture Committee agreed on a course of action for First Nation producers and incorporated the Indian Agriculture Council of Manitoba on August 23, 2006.

The terms of reference for the **Indian Agriculture Council of Manitoba** will be presented to First Nation producers at the fourth First Nations Agriculture Forum on October 11, 2006.

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October 22 — 25, 2006



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