

Message from SCO Grand Chief Chris Henderson



1-r: Chief Ken Chalmers, Birdtail Sioux First Nation; Chief Norman Bone, Keeseekoowenin Ojibway First Nation; and Grand Chief Henderson; Chief Robert Daniels, Swan Lake First Nation; AMC Grand Chief Ron Evans, Honourable Senator Gerry St. Germain, P.C.; and Mr. Larry Soldier, Owner/Manager ARBOC Smoke Shop & Gas Bar cut the ribbon on the Grand Opening of both the Gas Bar and VLT Lounge on the Swan Lake First Nation located in Headingley, Manitoba, on November 24, 2006.

Boozhoo, Washtay, Tansi, Greetings!

I am saddened, disappointed and outraged at the United Nations General Assembly's decision to delay the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

On November 28, 2006, in New York, a resolution was introduced in Third Committee of the UN General Assembly by the Namibian delegation which called for a non-action motion on the Declaration. The resolution passed with the support of 82 Nation States, 67 Nation States voting not in favour and 25 Nation States abstaining.

On behalf of all Indigenous peoples in Southern Manitoba, I am absolutely disappointed by the outcome of this vote, which will surely lead to the demise of this historic and symbolic document. I am also outraged by the actions and insidious conduct of this Canadian Government who worked behind the scenes to ensure that this procedural motion was in fact moved by the African Union and supported by the United States, Australia and New Zealand. This is a sad moment for First Nations people in Canada and all Indigenous Peoples around the globe.

Earlier this year in June, the Declaration was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council and was recommended for adoption by the General Assembly. At the time, Canada and Russia voted against the Declaration.

Meegwetch!

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

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SWAN LAKE FIRST NATION FIGHTS TO STOP **CONSTRUCTION OF HOG BARN**

n Friday December 1, 2006, at a press conference held at the Winnipeg Sub-Office of the SCO, Chief Robert Daniels of the Swan Lake First Nation called on the Provincial Government to stop the construction of a proposed hog barn, one mile north of the reserve.

"Our community is opposed to this 4,400 head facility proposed by the Rock 'N" Roll Farm Ltd.," stated Chief Daniels. "We are gravely concerned about our water quality being negatively impacted by such a facility, particularly our water aquifers and the quality of



Chief Daniels was joined by SCO Grand Chief Chris Henderson and Mr. Glen Koroluk of the Beyond Factory Farming Coalition at the press conference and all called on the provincial government to suspend all hog barn construction by including them in the province's recently announced moratorium on hog barn developments.

Currently, there are at least 17 hog barn proposals, including the Rock 'N' Roll Farm proposal near Swan

Lake First Nation, that are exempt from moratorium.

At a recent Southern First Nations Agriculture Forum on November 21, 2006, at the Peguis First Nation, a resolution of support was tabled by Chief Daniels rejecting this swine operation. All First Nations ranchers



Chief Robert Daniels, Swan Lake First Nation

and producers unanimously supported the resolution.

Chief Daniels is also seeking meetings with the Manitoba Minister of Conservation Stan Struthers and Premier Gary Doer to express Swan Lake First Nation's opposition to the Rock 'N' Roll hog barn.

SOUTHERN FIRST NATION AGRICULTURE FORUM

Growing the Future for First Natio

RESOLUTION:

Rejection - Proposed Swine Operation

Chief Murray Clearsky, Waywayseecappo First Nation

SECONDED BY:

WHEREAS, Swan Lake First Nation is bringing forth concerns in respect to a proposed 4400 Swine Barn to be built by Rock 'N' Roll Farm Ltd., one mile north of Swan Lake First Nation; and

WHEREAS, The major concerns of the Swan Lake First Nation is to protect our aquifers and the quality of air; and

WHEREAS, The construction of the proposed swine operation puts our very valuable water source at high risk to contaminate and the potential to pollute the quality of air; and

WHEREAS, The technical review report supporting the construction of the proposition operation does not adequately address the issue relative to the protection of the aquifer and other environmental concerns expresse the Swan Lake First Nation and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, First Nations must not forced to accept dangerous, negative and co-impacts by proposed initiatives of distant investors and corporation destroy the quality of life of others.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the due to potential risk of contaminating t aquifer and the air quality for the residents of Swan Lake First Nation, Swan Lake First Nation requests that the proposed swine operation be immediately rejected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Indian Agriculture Council of Manitoba hereby supports the Swan Lake First Nation to ensure that the health, safety and environmental concerns of the Swan Lake First Nation are fully investigated and addressed.

