



**Assemblée des Premières Nations
Québec–Labrador**

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RESOLUTION NO. 23

**FOR A FEDERAL COMPREHENSIVE LAND CLAIMS POLICY THAT RESPECTS
THE ABORIGINAL TITLE, THE ABORIGINAL AND TREATY RIGHTS OF THE
FIRST NATIONS, THE HONOUR OF THE CROWN, CANADA'S CONSTITUTIONAL
ACT AND THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

WHEREAS the First Nations hold an Aboriginal title and Aboriginal and treaty rights to their territories and their resources; and

WHEREAS the principle of the honour of the Crown places a duty on the Government of Canada, including those of the provinces, to allow, with the First Nations, terms of consultation, accommodation and mitigation leading to informed consent of First Nations that are respectful of their Aboriginal title and Aboriginal and treaty rights and are beneficial for the development of both the First Nations and Canada; and

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada rendered, ten years ago, the Haida and Taku River decisions, and in June 2014, the Tsilhqot'in decision, which provide very clear indications for accommodations, with the First Nations, that are respectful of their Aboriginal title and their Aboriginal and treaty rights, and are beneficial for Canada; and

WHEREAS neither the current Comprehensive Land Claims policy of the Government of Canada nor the Interim Policy proposed by the current Federal Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development respect the Aboriginal title and the Aboriginal and treaty rights of the First Nations and continue to be based on the colonialist concept of extinguishment of rights which are, in fact, recognized and guaranteed by Canada's Constitution Act; and

WHEREAS the United Nations adopted in 2007 the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which Canada has subscribed to; and

WHEREAS on the basis of Aboriginal title, Aboriginal and treaty rights, First Nations plan to develop their land and resources for the benefit of their Nations,

FOR THESE REASONS, IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Chiefs in Assembly denounce and reject Canada's Comprehensive Land Claims Policy, and most specifically the recent attempt by the Federal Minister of Aboriginal Affairs to propose an Interim Policy on Comprehensive Land Claims which does not respect the Aboriginal title and the Aboriginal and treaty rights of the First Nations, the principle of the honour of the Crown, or the relevant decisions of the highest court in the country, the Supreme Court of Canada.

MOVED BY: Chief Terence McBride, Timiskaming
SECONDED BY: Alexis Wawanoloath, Proxy, Odanak
ABSTENTIONS: Chief Salomé McKenzie, Lac Simon
Chief Bruno Kistabish, Pikogan
Chief Claude Jeanotte, Gespeg
ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 23, 2014 IN MONTREAL

The AFNQL Interim Chiefs' Committee,



Grand Chief Anne Archambault



Chief Gilbert Whiteduck



Chief Terence McBride



Chief Lloyd Phillips