

PETITION ADDRESSED TO THE PARLIAMENT OF CANADA CONCERNING THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

CONSIDERING THAT, on September 13 2007, under the Conservative government of Stephen Harper, Canada was part of the only four countries to vote against the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);

CONSIDERING THAT the UNDRIP was adopted by 144 votes by the General Assembly of the United Nations;

CONSIDERING THAT, on April 3 2009, the Government of Australia changed its earlier position against and decided to support the UNDRIP and that since, other governments have endorsed the Declaration;

CONSIDERING THAT, by its adoption, the UNDRIP constitutes a major step towards the end of colonialism, of which Indigenous Peoples are the victims;

CONSIDERING THAT First Nations across Canada, Indigenous Rights supporters and the House of Commons have strongly recommended the Canadian government formally support the UNDRIP;

CONSIDERING THAT the Canadian government refuses to take action on these demands;

We, the undersigned, acknowledging that:

- The Indigenous Peoples of Canada are victims of discrimination and violations towards their most fundamental human rights, in a disproportionate manner;
- Based on studies, the Indigenous Peoples of Canada would be rated at the 63rd rank in accordance with the human development index, while Canada is ranked 4th in the world;
- Canada is part of the only three countries which, so far, have not yet endorsed the UNDRIP;
- By refusing to endorse the UNDRIP, Canada does not recognize fully the rights that constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous peoples of the world,

are asking the government of Canada to :

- Endorse the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007, in order to ensure the respect of the most fundamental collective and individual human rights of the Indigenous Peoples of Canada.

Signatures

(Sign your name. Do not write in block letters.)

Addresses

(Write your full mailing address or indicate your town and province, or your province and your postal code.)

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This is an Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL) and Amnesty International initiative supported by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN)

Please return the petition with the original signatures as soon as possible to:
**Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador, 250, Place Chef Michel-Laveau, suite 201
 Wendake (Québec) G0A 4V0**

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