



Secrétariat  
de l'Assemblée des  
Premières Nations  
du Québec  
et du Labrador

Secretariat of the  
Assembly of the  
First Nations  
of Quebec  
and Labrador

250, Place Chef Michel Laveau, suite 201, Wendake, QC G0A 4V0  
Tél.: (418) 842-5020 / 842-5274 FAX: 842-2660

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Racist Comments: The Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador request immediate and stern sanctions against Richard Pound**

**Wendake, October 17, 2008** – Mr. Ghislain Picard, Chief of the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador, is appalled and outraged over racist comments delivered by the Former President of the Canadian Olympic Committee and President and Founder of the World Anti-Doping Agency and has requested that stern sanctions be taken. "It is inadmissible that such remarks are still made in this day and age. I truly believed that the racist image of Indian savages in North America had long disappeared. It is very regrettable to see that such an image is still alive and well" stated Chief Picard.

"Contrary to the beliefs of Richard Pound, the First Nations of Quebec are descendant from great societies that have occupied the territory of Quebec for more than 5,000 years. Before the arrival of Christopher Columbus, America was inhabited by Nations that lived in well organized societies. We were not mere herds." clarified Mr. Picard.

We point out that in an interview given last August 9, Richard Pound stated: "It shouldn't be forgotten that 400 years ago was a country of savages, with barely 10,000 European inhabitants, whereas in China, has been established for 5,000 years."

#### **Immediate Resignation**

According to the AFNQL, such comments must be denounced strongly and the author of the comments sternly sanctioned. The AFNQL fully endorses the complaint filed with the IOC by the group Terres en Vues, stating that excuses alone are not acceptable. Chief Picard has announced that the AFNQL will make an official request to McGill University to impose sanctions on Mr. Pound, who is currently Chancellor of this prestigious institution.

"Mr. Pound should himself understand the immense discourtesy of his remarks and offer to resign" concluded Chief Picard.

**The Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador** is the regional organization that represents the First Nation Chiefs of Quebec and Labrador.

-30-

Information: Alain Garon, Communications and Information Officer  
AFNQL  
Tel.: (418) 842-5020  
Cell.: (418) 956-5720