



LA VERSION LUE EN ANGLAIS FAIT FOI

**QUESTION DE
M. GHISLAIN PICARD
CHEF
ASSEMBLÉE DES PREMIÈRES NATIONS DU QUÉBEC ET DU LABRADOR**

À

**LA HUITIÈME SESSION DE L'INSTANCE PERMANENTE
DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LES QUESTIONS AUTOCHTONES**

NEW YORK, LE 22 MAI 2009

**QUESTION BY
MR. GHISLAIN PICARD
CHIEF
ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS OF QUEBEC AND LABRADOR**

TO

**THE EIGHT SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS PERMENENT FORUM
ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES**

NEW YORK, MAY 22, 2009

Thank you Madame Chairperson,

Question:

The right to adequate housing is a fundamental human right. In Kitcisakik, Quebec, Canada, 425 Algonquin people, live in a community that has no water, no sanitation services and no electricity. Difficult to believe, I would even say, disturbing that we speak about this situation in Canada where the occupancy rate in indigenous homes is almost twice the national average.

Following his mission to Canada, the former special rapporteur on adequate housing, Miloon Kothari, concluded in his report, that the situation for indigenous peoples in Canada, in the area of housing, safe water and proper sanitation, is unacceptable.

We urge the office of the High Commissioner to press on the government of Canada to implement those recommendations of the report of the special rapporteur on adequate housing, pertaining to indigenous peoples.

We also would like to encourage the Office of the High commissioner and the High Commissioner herself to promote and implement the Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. We would like to ask what other activities your office can do to promote the Declaration.