



Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta

To Protect, Promote, Bring to Life, Implement, and Sustain the True Spirit and Intent of Treaty No. 8 as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the waters flow.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Treaty 8 Chiefs Optimistic After Meeting With Prentice

Edmonton, Alberta – December 5, 2014 – Treaty 8 Chiefs met with Premier Prentice today at a meeting between the provincial government and the Chiefs of Alberta. This meeting was composed of the Premier, Ministers and the Chiefs of Treaty 6, 7 and 8. The Chiefs have expressed their cautious optimism after the meeting.

“For all the discussion the Premier has had with the media regarding working with First Nations, it is hopeful to see a willingness to work with us,” states Chief Steve Courtoreille, Grand Chief with Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta before adding, “we have serious issues with consultation in this province and it sounds like he is willing to step forward with some action”.

The provincial consultation system has a history of being controversial for First Nations and the province of Alberta has tried to create a system, it has largely been imposed and created with minimal First Nations input. Premier Prentice has been in the media lately stating that the consultation needs to be reworked.

“If he [Premier Prentice] continues down the road he laid out today, the Treaty 8 Chiefs will do what is necessary to create a better consultation system in this province,” states Grand Chief Courtoreille before continuing, “these are changes that must be made so that everyone, First Nations and Albertans, live in prosperous, healthy communities.”

“The one thing I can guarantee is that the Chiefs of Treaty No. 8 [Alberta] are willing to put in the work necessary to make a better consultation system, it’s time and our communities need it,” states Chief Courtoreille.

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