

## "PROPOSED FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION ACT – RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL REBOOTED"

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We have always educated our children. Our elders and our oral histories tell us that, the day before Treaty, we taught our children our cultures and our ways of life through our languages and our laws. Our Ancestors never gave that up. All numbered treaties contain articles of Education promises. Our oral histories also tell us that when we entered into Treaty, these promises were on top of what we already had: we would continue to keep our languages, and our right to educate our children in our ways.

What this does this legislation do?

- The Provinces will be given the authorities through this legislation to control and dictate to First Nations, the languages, and the curriculum it will continue to teach our children. (if we don't comply then the government imposes third party management)
- This is mandatory legislation – no opt in or opt out – only real way out that the state government says as Nations is through implementation of a "Self-Government Agreement" Section 60 Indian Act which still indemnifies the Crown from decisions made on Indians and Lands Reserved for Indians (Section 91.24 BNA).
- The state government of Canada says that the only legislative framework is the *Indian Act*, therefore they want introduce this because the state government is repealing sections of the *Indian Act* relating to Residential Schools. This statement of no legal framework is NOT true, and why?
  - As indigenous peoples we never gave up our indigenous governance, including our indigenous jurisdictions of educating our children.
  - We have to have a plan! What does this look like for us, from us, with funding and curriculum redevelopment that re-affirms our jurisdiction, with budgets to operate a school(s) for our children? And WE say and design what that means for us and for our children in our schools with full jurisdiction. (meaning, a curriculum, budgets, program requirements, school calendars etc. or at least a framework thereof) based on our inherent teachings, our inherent legal and inherent governance frameworks that the state government must recognize.
- This legislation lifts "Indians and lands reserved for Indians" out of the reserved lands to Provincial Lands and therefore no liability to the Crown (as represented by the state of Canada). All matters related to the schools and liabilities rest solely with Chiefs and Council.

How is this like residential schools again?

- We will have no say and this proposed legislation takes away our jurisdiction to educate our children in our languages, our cultures and our ways of life.
- The state government is USING our children once again, if we do not comply with their plan, then what will happen to our reserved schools. (they can be shut down or funding cut)
- The state government is taking control of our schools when they should be talking about adequate resourcing and funding and a true dialogue about what we want for our children to learn in our schools systems. In addition, how can "Canadians" learn about the true truths of this state and how it came to be? Without Treaty, the state of Canada would not even exist.

What can we do?

- We as mothers, fathers, educators, grandparents can say NO! Did you know that there are Native Organizations saying this is a good thing? Did you know that the state of Canada is using these organizations to represent YOUR consent?
- Sign the petitions when released to communities, send in letters of non-consent to these organizations and state government saying NO to the Proposed FNEA!
- Let's be the voice, talk to others about this impact. We should have a say for our kids for our unborn children as we have to think of the collective Treaty and Inherent Rights of our peoples, not how these organizations and Provinces will benefit financially for the short term. The state government will and can cut funding to our schools at any time.
- Talk to your leadership, and help them understand that the future of our children is not for sale, that we have the obligation to teach our children our languages, our cultures, our ceremonies, our ways of life. Not the Provincial Governments.