

Points of Opposition
To
UNDRIP

The following document will clearly identify and summarize the many issues we have with UNDRIP and the proposed bill presently in committee, C-15.

1. Canadians fully expect that policies, regulations, bills, OIC's, etc, are created, developed and instituted by Canadians (elected or otherwise), for Canadians and in the best interests of Canadians. The first and primary opposition to this bill must be that it is based on a document that was created and developed by an unelected foreign entity that is hyper focussed on massive globally centralized governance. A cookie cutter, supranational agreement, NOT created specifically for the Canadian people, including the first nations communities in Canada. An agenda that ignores the specific needs of all Canadians and ignores the specific needs of our first nations, in order to essentially dictate policy from a global perspective and platform. We simply can not agree or submit to policy created & developed by a foreign entity that does not have the best interests of ALL Canadians at heart. This plan is part of a much bigger agenda to destroy the idea of the nation state. It consistent with and an element

of the overall UN agenda to destroy national sovereignty. Not only in Canada, but around the world.

2. The creators of UNDRIP, from concept, creation, and development have not defined the definition of “indigenous” anywhere in the document. This is of enormous concern. It has been claimed that Bill C-15 addresses this issue, however, courts have already made rulings in Canada based on the UNDRIP agreement and the language therein. Judges will default to the international document as it will supersede Canadian law.
3. Article 32 2. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources.

For too many decades Canadian Indian's suffered under legislation called the Indian Act. In 1969 the Indian Affairs Minister proposed abolishing this Act but was met with fierce resistance, protests and violence across Canada. The Indian chiefs stirred the Indian pot to keep this despotic legislation in place. The Chiefs desired the Indian

Act as an instrument to leverage political power through compassion and sacrifice of Canadian politicians. Canadian people have been paying for lack of development on Indian reserves since. The following is my letter to the federal committee seeking Canadian alignment to UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People).

4. Canada is a world leader in dealing with native issues and UNDRIP could upend decades of progress in this area.

5. Canadian leaders need to begin to understand the liberating, and problem-solving ability of individual rights before signing international agreements for perceived domestic human relation problems. The Assembly of First nations seeking international solutions means domestic solutions no longer exist or has been exhausted by the bands and they are intellectually bankrupt in this area. This is not true. The Indian Act is against all decency and moral living as well as being existentially impossible. Nothing can make it work if it's at core, corrupt. Abolishing the Indian Act would solve most of Indian grievances, including and especially those poorest of the poor. The Indian Act is the rotten apple in the barrel and must be severed

completely. So let us have genuine heart and introduce freedom based on individual rights, property rights and real security to those who do not possess it

Individual rights must be protected always. My parents were full blooded Shuswap Indians (Squilax/Chase B.C.) whose lands were taken unjustly by the Chief in the 1960's without compensation. Land surveyors plotted reserve lands according to who lived there at the time. Since my parents were off reserve, they were not counted and the Chief took the land. This was fraudulent practice and no doubt was wide spread across Canada's 300 + reserves during that time.

Such theft may well increase with any changes of legislation, including Bill C-15. Such positioning may have already started. How?

Consider squatters rights. With the co-operation of the Ontario government, Teranet Inc. has converted Ontario's 4.3 million land titles from a paper registry to an electronic format. Who on reserves even knows how the Chiefs will allocate, "collective ownership" of property if and when converting this data method applies to reserves"? Off reserve Indians are left out of informed, meaningful negotiations although they constitute a vast majority of the Indigenous population. Many Indian reserves cover vast areas of land

but are controlled through nepotism, and benefit only small family groups.

Bill C-15 cannot exclude urban Indigenous citizens of Canada meaning non-status Indians who have already reconciled their lives, and moved forward. Urban Canadian Indians have thrived without the Indian Act. Off-reserve, no-status people's lives prove this. The Indian Act is the greatest systemic barrier to Indigenous development and should have been abolished when Jean Chretien offered it in 1969. It is the Assembly of Chiefs and Indigenous leaders who retain this unjust, destructive Act. The endless trail of tears will end with freedom.

Let me offer this solution to solve the government of Canada's fears of including non-status Indigenous people in Bill C-15. First UNDRIP is non-legally binding, so this entire endeavour is voluntary. I also prefer this Bill not pass, but if it does, solving massive inclusion is possible only by clarifying what rights are and how to acknowledge rights through freedom.

With Indian Act abolition, I suggest all existing reserve lands that tribal council holds "collectively" be turned into a public corporation under control of Indigenous organizations who cannot sell the lands themselves, but act as stewards. One year after reserves have been

turned into Indigenous crown property, that media broadcast unused portions of reserve lands become available for purchase to Indigenous purchasers. Those unused, un-lived in portions of the reserves can be held available for purchase in limited size and amounts, say in sub-divided plots for a period of say, 25 years (arbitrary). This will give time for as many Urban Indigenous people to “go back home” and purchase a plot of land for themselves – if they wish. Land with existing homes can easily be turned into a form of rent to own, where the band council no longer keeps ownership perpetually while charging rent to Indigenous payers. Private ownership must be an option according to UNDRIP i.e., 25 yr. mortgages, where no Indigenous person will be denied the freedom of his beliefs and personal property.

Some sub divided plots would be eligible for immediate ownership having paid rent most of their lives in their homes. After 25 years, when most urban Indigenous people able to purchase lands, have bought what they want, free and clear title can be introduced, thus evolving once reservation property towards the same status as Canadian ownership before the law. The private property owners can also have the option of turning their owned area into a municipality. Article 7 and 17 UNDRIP necessitates some form of this. Article 8.

Private property will enhance and strengthen cultural tradition. Article 18. Definition not possible without individual rights underlying the fundamental Harmony of Interest required by the current understanding of Canadian and Indigenous. Individual sovereignty satisfies all involved.

6. The Indian act is nearly 150 years old; it must be substantially amended to comply with UNDRIP and its repeal must be seriously considered with or without UNDRIP
7. "free, prior and informed consent" or FPIC has been major bone of contention for almost all participants at committee and on every call
8. We must turn Canada around, not upside down - and the indigenous peoples must be FULLY consulted, instead of trying to rush and ram C-15 through
9. UNDRIP can be used as an obstructionist club for power and control, rather than the ladder it's intended to be
10. We must avoid doing this out of the threat of civil unrest (blocking rail lines, rioting, destruction of property, burning court orders, etc.)
11. Self-sufficiency, governance without interference, with individual participation and personal responsibility must be strongly encouraged

12. In the Cree tradition, we must make this legislation count for the next 7 generations and can't afford to get it wrong like we have with the Indian Act

13. The UK was one of the UNDRIP signatories in 2007. Back in 2017, they became embroiled in a dispute regarding compensation for their horrible treatment of their expulsion of the autochthonous peoples of Diego Garcia and the Chagos Islands. Despite repeated conferences by the UN General Assembly, and decisions made by the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, there is no end in sight. The expelled peoples have not been compensated. UNDRIP has been a complete and utter failure in terms of holding the UK accountable and compensating these truly oppressed peoples.

14. China was one of the UNDRIP signatories in 2007. Their flagrant mistreatment of the Tibetan peoples has been documented since the Chinese invaded Tibet in 1949. The Dalai Lama escaped to India in 1959 and has been in exile ever since. In 1995, the Panchen Lama was essentially "disappeared" by the Chinese Communist Party and has not been independently observed ever since. His replacement was chosen by the Chinese regime. Only the Panchen Lama may

select the next Dalai Lama upon the passing of the current incarnation. This type of treatment and total control of a people and their religion makes a complete mockery of UNDRIP.

15. The Chinese Communist Party's flagrant mistreatment of the Uighurs has similarly been documented since 2014. Over that period of time, the Chinese regime has engaged in a campaign of what can only be classified as genocide- both in terms of the takeover of their culture, and the collapse of their birth rate by way of forced sterilization and abortion. Over a million Uighurs have been held in re-education camps without any due process or fundamental justice, whatsoever. Where has Canada and the UN been during these ongoing, appalling abuses of human rights? UNDRIP is a dead letter in China.

16. Bill C-15 cedes power to unnamed people who will ultimately determine the future of this country. This legislation does not stipulate who will table the UNDRIP report to Parliament, which will inevitably result in a power vacuum and a seizure of said power. There are no express, statutory definitions or limits regarding Articles 19, 26, 28 and 32. This will all necessarily either be delegated to an executive authority or administrative decision-maker, or be decided by the courts. Either way, our elected representatives will have no say in

how UNDRIP is implemented in Canada. Absent express, statutory language in C-15 or its subsequent legislation, we will all be subject to the executive decrees or administrative edicts of unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats. Especially our indigenous peoples who have not been properly consulted. So much for "free, prior and informed consent".

Thank you for your consideration.

Concerned Citizens of Canada C3