



For Immediate Release

Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation Announces Decolonizing Land and Water Summit on September 16 and 17, 2025

(Fort Chipewyan, AB, September 8, 2025)-The government of the day recently claimed that our lands in the boreal forest are more resilient than ever post oil sands development due to reclamation efforts from industry. This is despite having only .1% (point one percent) of the oil sands certified reclaimed in 60+ years and billions in liability unaccounted for.

The reality is the standards set by communities for reclamation that is protective of our rights has not been met. The Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation has spent decades countering rhetoric like this and more and have decided that enough is enough – we must now formally create a space whereby our communities can openly come together and stand strong for our way of life.

The **Decolonizing Land and Water Summit** is presented by the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation in partnership with Indigenous Climate Action as a forum to centre our priorities and best practices. This Summit is our way of highlighting the breadth and body of work being done by indigenous leaders within their communities across Treaty 6, 7, and 8 territory. Like other First Nations across Turtle Island, ACFN faces critical challenges in consultation, governance, environmental monitoring and cumulative effects management. This Summit will showcase Indigenous-led solutions that restore sovereignty over our homelands, reaffirming our duty as land and water stewards.

Join us on September 16th and 17th at Métis Crossing for 2 days of important relationship building, strategic thinking and storytelling that will recentre us in our commitment to uphold Indigenous sovereignty. The Summit brings together Indigenous leaders, knowledge holders and allies to share tools and strategies for decolonizing land and water governance. We welcome government, industry, and organizations from all fields to attend the Decolonizing Land and Waters Summit.

Key topics include:

- Improving Consultation & Implementing Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)
- Community-Based Environmental Monitoring
- Data Sovereignty & Indigenous-Led Research
- Legal Strategies Supporting First Nations' Treaty Rights
- Restoring Land Stewardship & Traditional Knowledge (TK)

- Cumulative Effects Assessments & Management
- Land Use Planning & Strategic Decision-Making

You can find more information on the **Decolonizing Land and Water Summit** here:
[Decolonizing Land and Water Summit | Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation](#)

-30-

For more information:

Callie Davies-Flett
callie.davies-flett@acfn.com

KG Banjoko
kg.banjoko@acfn.com