



## **ALBERTA COURT STRIKES DOWN LEGITIMACY OF SECESSIONIST REFERENDUM QUESTION & BILL 14 - ATHABASCA CHIPEWYAN FIRST NATION DECLARES VICTORY, AGAIN**

*Fort Chipewyan, AB, December 5, 2025* - Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation is proud to have played an important role in blocking secessionist efforts to destroy Canada and the Indigenous rights guaranteed by the Canadian Crown.

In an unequivocal ruling, the Court of King's Bench of Alberta ruled that the proposed secessionist referendum proposal contravenes the Charter and section 35 of the Constitution Act.

In a desperate last-minute gambit to avoid this ruling, the Alberta Government tabled Bill 14 yesterday, which would have ended the case and pushed through the referendum. Nonetheless the Court made its ruling, and said of Bill 14:

*The legal consequence of discontinuing this proceeding prior to a decision would be to silence the Court. Legislating an end to litigation is extraordinary.*

and:

*Legislating to pre-emptively end this court proceeding disrespects the administration of justice.*

The Dené have lived in the Peace Athabasca Delta since time immemorial. The establishment of Treaty 8, an agreement between the region's original inhabitants and the Crown pre-dates the creation of Alberta.

ACFN Chief Allan Adam commented, "Albertans who wish to leave Canada have every right to do so. I recommend they load up their cars and head south on Highway 2 to the border. If they need directions, I would be happy to draw them a map. In the meantime, there will be no separatist referendum in Alberta. This is a confirmation of Indigenous rights and a victory for all patriotic Canadians."

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Media Contact:

[Jay.Tegeldi@acfn.com](mailto:Jay.Tegeldi@acfn.com)

780-881-7062