

Treaty 6, 7 and 8 Chief's Gathering Session – August 15/16, 2023

Legal Strategy Support

PROPOSED BCR/SUPPORT LETTER LANGUAGE

ON BCR Form or Letterhead - Insert Date

Whereas: Chief and Council of _____ reject the advancement of the proposed federal Act respecting drinking water, wastewater and related infrastructure on First Nations lands announced by the Government of Canada (the proposed *First Nations Drinking Water and Wastewater Act*) on the basis of jurisdictional overreach, breach of treaty promises, lack of free, prior and informed consent, breach of fiduciary duty; failure to uphold the honour of the Crown, UNDRIP principles; violation of s. 7 and s. 15 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*; substandard, unsustainable implementation; and,

Whereas: the proposed legislation *First Nations Drinking and Wastewater Act* has been co-developed without the free, prior and informed consent of the peoples of the inherent and Treaty rights holders of _____;

Therefore be it resolved that the Chief and Council of _____:

1. Reject the proposed *First Nations Drinking Water and Wastewater Act* legislation and any ongoing and unilateral effort of the Government of Canada to further transfer large scale programs and services including capital and infrastructure;
2. Demand a First Minister's meeting with the Treaty 6, 7 and 8 Chiefs in the Alberta Region to be meaningfully consulted and to address the outstanding issues related to the development of legislation related to water and related infrastructure in Alberta.
3. Support the advancement of a strong legal strategy to reclaim First Nations jurisdiction as Treaty and inherent rights holders related to all matters of water and related infrastructure and as delegated with continued assistance and support of the Technical Services Advisory Group (TSAG) and designated representative(s) of each Nation.