



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A2

January 7, 2021

Dear Mr. Swampy:

Thank you for taking the time to write to me regarding your concerns on Bill C-15.

Our government sees the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as a vehicle that will bring greater clarity and capacity to enhance the ability of Indigenous Peoples to participate in and benefit from economic development opportunities. This proposed legislation also compliments the work undertaken to enact the *Impact Assessment Act, 2019* which will continue to facilitate conversations and solutions to address the concerns you raise in your letter. While COVID-19 has created new challenges and circumstances that we must adapt to, this pandemic has demonstrated the need for immediate action. Our parliamentary process and action plan are opportunities to contribute to the implementation of UNDRIP.

With respect to the three-year action plan outlined in the bill, please note that further information will be forthcoming. I encourage and invite you to continue to share your views with Minister Lametti and Minister Bennett.

Once again, thank you for writing to me on this important issue. Throughout this pandemic, our government has been working closely with National Indigenous Organizations on a path forward that is adapted to the new circumstances imposed by the pandemic, while also continuing to work in full partnership with Indigenous partners and rights holders on the development of the legislation. We look forward to having more to share soon.

Please accept my warmest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Justin Trudeau', written in a cursive style.

Mr. Dale Swampy
President
National Coalition of Chiefs