



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2020

AMC reminds Canada of Duty to Consult with First Nations

Treaty One Territory, Manitoba – The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada issued a press release today inviting the public to comment on the potential environmental effects and mitigation measures for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels project. The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) Grand Chief Arlen Dumas acknowledges the federal government’s responsibility to conduct environmental assessments and grant approvals for various infrastructure projects in Manitoba but the AMC wants to remind Canada of its duty to consult and accommodate First Nations.

AMC Grand Chief Arlen Dumas says, “It is no longer acceptable for any government to conduct assessments and grant approval for construction of infrastructure without First Nations consultation and participation. First Nations need to be full participants as it relates to the discussion on the potential environmental effects of the project and any proposed measures to prevent or mitigate those effects. This cannot just be done via an open invitation to the general public and Indigenous groups to comment online up until April 23, 2020. The AMC stands beside our First Nations to ensure that environmental stewardship is front and centre when it comes to the construction of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels project. The Duty to Consult and accommodate requires First Nation-based meetings and dialogue.”

“We will also be working with our First Nations to ensure these impacted have full economic participation in the construction of this infrastructure that will be save Manitobans money over the long run,” concluded Grand Chief Arlen Dumas.

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About the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

The AMC was formed in 1988 by the Chiefs in Manitoba to advocate on issues that commonly affect First Nations in Manitoba. AMC is an authorized representative of 62 of the 63 First Nations in Manitoba with a total of more than 151,000 First Nation citizens in the province, accounting for approximately 12 percent of the provincial population. AMC represents a diversity of Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Nehetho / Inineu (Cree), Anishinew (Ojibwe-Cree), Denesuline (Dene) and Dakota Oyate (Dakota) people.