



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs  
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**AMC to host Winnipeg protest in response to Manitoba Hydro's imposed service changes in Misipawistik Cree Nation**

**Treaty One Territory, MB** \_ In solidarity with Misipawistik Cree Nation (Grand Rapids), the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) will be hosting a protest in Winnipeg today at 10 a.m. regarding Manitoba Hydro's imposed service changes to the Grand Rapids Generating Station. Grand Chief Arlen Dumas will be joining the simultaneous community protest in Grand Rapids, MB in unity with Chief Harold Turner and the citizens of Misipawistik Cree Nation.

Grand Rapids is the first hydroelectric generating station built in northern Manitoba to produce electricity for the provincial power system after the Winnipeg River had been fully developed. The Grand Rapids Generating Station is located on the Saskatchewan River, about 145 km southeast of The Pas. About 1,500 people live in Misipawistik Cree First Nation and Town of Grand Rapids, both located just metres from the 479 megawatt generating station.

People living down river of the Grand Rapids generating station are concerned over Manitoba Hydro's plan to automate the facility, a change that will leave the 40-metre-high dam unmanned for more than 12 hours every night. There's also concerns that new fencing built around the dam will cut off access to sacred Indigenous sites.

"Manitoba Hydro cannot just dictate to First Nations how the station is run. They failed in their duty to acquire Misipawistik Cree Nation's consent for the modifications. We must stand in unity with our Nations when it comes to government and crown corporations' policy and decision making. It is not acceptable for Manitoba Hydro to simply impose wreckless changes to our communities' vital resource systems," said Grand Chief Arlen Dumas.

All walkers will gather at the AMC office at 275 Portage Avenue today at 10:00 a.m. and walk to the Manitoba Hydro building at 360 Portage Avenue to protest the imposed changes to the Grand Rapids Generating Station. We invite all members of our communities to join and show their support for Misipawistik Cree Nation and the Town of Grand Rapids.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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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 per cent of the provincial population. AMC represents a diversity of Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Nehetho (Cree), Oji-Cree, Dene and Dakota people and traditions.*