



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs  
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 19th, 2019**

## **AMC GRAND CHIEF ARLEN DUMAS RESPONDS TO PROVINCIAL THRONE SPEECH**

**Treaty 1 Territory, Manitoba** - Grand Chief Arlen Dumas and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs are optimistic about the Progressive Conservative 2019 Speech from the Throne today, which included more protection for crime victims, some tax concessions, and measures to tackle addictions. Many of the undertakings stem from campaign promises made during the election.

“Manitoba’s First Nations will be partners with the Province on accomplishing their stated goal of making Manitoba a better place. We’re going to have a guiding hand in this,” said **Grand Chief Arlen Dumas**. “First Nations leadership is already working toward improving the lives of their citizens in a meaningful and productive way. I was pleased to hear about the \$400 Million investment in infrastructure over the next four years, but will need to wait and see how much of this will affect First Nations citizens. The increase in tourism investment and the youth restorative justice opportunities also look very positive.”

Grand Chief Dumas said that although the consultation still needs to be developed, First Nations are willing to work with the Province. This reaction came after hearing the Province intends to push the Federal Government to complete the Lake Manitoba channel, which is already affecting the ability of First Nations fishermen to make a living. Water levels, silt and debris have damaged nets and wrecked motors, and affected existing fish stocks which are not insured by the government the way Agricultural crops are.

“I’m looking forward to seeing some of these promise come to fruition,” said Grand Chief Dumas. “If the province is ready to engage with First Nations and work collaboratively, I can promise you that all citizens in Manitoba will benefit.”

-30-

**For more information, please contact:**  
Andrew Thunder  
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs  
**Email:** [athunder@manitobachiefs.com](mailto:athunder@manitobachiefs.com)  
**Phone:** (204) 987-4139

**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 / Inineu (Cree), Anishinineu (Ojibwe-Cree), Denesuline (Dene) and Dakota Oyate (Dakota) people.*