



**Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs**  
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AMC statement of support for Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Miller remarks on systemic racism in the RCMP**

**Treaty One Territory, Manitoba** – The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) Grand Chief Arlen Dumas issues the following statement in support of Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Marc Miller statements on systemic and institutional racism in the RCMP. The AMC calls on the federal government to expedite the RCMP reforms that have been referenced recently by the Prime Minister, Minister Miller, and Minister Blair, by engaging and consulting directly with the Chiefs in Manitoba. A key part of any reform, or potential legislative measures, would be holding the RCMP accountable for the funding they receive to serve and protect First Nations in Manitoba.

Grand Chief Dumas stated: “Canadians have heard some contradictory and confusing statements this week on “systemic racism” from the RCMP Commissioner, Brenda Lucki. There can be no ambiguity or uncertainty on this issue: the RCMP, as an institution of colonialism, is premised on systemic anti-Indigenous racism originally developed to displace and dispossess First Nations of their rights and title, as acknowledged by the Prime Minister and Minister Miller this week.”

“The systemic racism was graphically illustrated for all Canadians to see yesterday with the release of the RCMP dash cam video of the vicious assault on Chief Adams by RCMP members in Alberta. The AMC is in agreement with the statements made by the Prime Minister and Minister Miller on the deeply engrained systemic anti-indigenous racism that is an underpinning component and key feature of many of Canada’s institutional and political systems.”

“The RCMP are mandated to serve and protect our citizens within our Nations, and they must be held accountable for the quality of service and policing given that they are provided with targeted funding. Incidents such as the assault of Chief Adams and the denial of systemic racism by senior officers in the RCMP do not justify the continued use of First Nations funding for the RCMP. In fact, these acknowledgements from the federal government cabinet along with the examples of RCMP brutality and the denial of systemic racism by the Commissioner illustrate the need to redirect RCMP funding to First Nations law enforcement agencies as part of a broader reform or transformation of policing for First Nations.”

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