

POLITICAL OFFICE:
Fort William First Nation
R.R. #4
Suite 101, 90 Anemki Drive
Fort William First Nation Office Complex
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7J 1A5
(807) 626-9339
(807) 626-9404 Fax



ADMINISTRATION OFFICE:
111 Peter Street, Suite 804
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 2H1
(416) 597-1266
Fax (416) 597-8365
1-877-517-6527
Website: www.chiefs-of-ontario.org

CHIEFS OF ONTARIO

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chiefs and Councils
Political Confederacy
Tribal Councils
Political / Territorial Organizations

FROM: Regional Chief Angus Toulouse

DATE: March 16, 2010

RE: ***Bill C-3 – Mclvor amendment bill passes First Reading in House of Commons***

Bill C-3 [An Act to promote gender equity in Indian registration by responding to the Court of Appeal for British Columbia decision in Mclvor v. Canada (Registrar of Indian and Northern Affairs)] passed First Reading in the House of Commons on March 11, 2010. The text of this bill is attached and can be found on the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) website, along with an explanatory document developed by INAC to accompany the proposed amendments outlined in bill C-3.

In a press release issued by INAC, Minister Strahl acknowledged “there are a number of broader issues related to the question of registration and membership, and important treaty realities and cultural perspectives that must be taken into account.” The Minister announced that these broader issues would be explored through “a joint process to be developed in conjunction with various national Aboriginal organizations and the participation of First Nations groups and individuals across the country.”

Currently the Chiefs of Ontario office is conducting an analysis of the draft legislation that will identify key considerations that First Nations must be aware of. This analysis will also inform the preparation of a presentation for the Ontario Regional Chief for the federal Aboriginal Affairs Committee when the draft bill reaches the committee stage of the parliamentary process.

Meegwetch.