



Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly 2024

December 3-5, 2024 • Rogers Centre Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario

Dialogue Session

Additions to Reserve and Specific Claims Redesign: Advancing First Nations Priorities

Monday, December 2, 2024 • 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM • Room 102, Rogers Centre

Session Description:

The Government of Canada is obliged to provide redress to First Nations for breaches of the Crown's lawful obligations throughout history. Additionally, the Government of Canada must provide restitution for lands that have been stolen or unlawfully taken from First Nations. The Specific Claims process and the Additions to Reserve (ATR) Policy, which provide the policy framework for this redress, are deeply flawed and require transformative change.

The Government of Canada has committed to working with First Nations to re-design both the Specific Claims process and the ATR Policy. The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the Government of Canada are currently working through the Specific Claims Implementation Working Group (SCIWG) to establish an Independent Centre for the Resolution of Specific Claims (the Independent Centre). The AFN also participates on the Technical Advisory Committee on Additions to Reserve (TAC), which was established in June 2024.

This 2024 AFN Dialogue Session will provide First Nations leadership and technicians a focused opportunity to receive updates from the AFN on the ongoing efforts to jointly establish an Independent Centre, while pursuing policy reforms to ensure access to justice for First Nations. Additionally, the AFN will provide an update on the re-design of the ATR Policy, including the interim changes developed by the TAC. This will be an important opportunity for participants to provide feedback on the future direction of both Specific Claims and ATR reform.

SPEAKERS LIST:

- Knowledge Keeper Calvin White
- Ontario Regional Chief Abram Benedict
- Jesse Donovan, A/Director, AFN Lands
- Branden Trochymchuk, Policy Analyst, AFN Lands
- Kathleen Lickers, AFN External Legal Counsel



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Time	Agenda Item	Leads
1:00 PM	Opening Prayer	Knowledge Keeper Calvin White
1:05 PM	Welcome and Introductions	Regional Chief Abram Benedict
1:10 PM	Specific Claims Reform Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-Development of an Independent Centre• Specific Claims Policy Reform	Branden Trochymchuk
1:30 PM	ATR Redesign Process Update <i>High level update on ATR reform process</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ATR Policy: Interim Changes• ATR Policy: Broader Re-Design• AFN Resolution X, <i>Full Involvement of First Nations in Additions to Reserve Re-Design</i>	Jesse Donovan
1:45 PM	Summary of Discussions	Kathleen Lickers
2:00 PM	Questions & Discussion	All
2:25 PM	Closing Remarks	Regional Chief Abram Benedict
2:30 PM	Closing Prayer	Knowledge Keeper Calvin White