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Telephone: (780) 444-9366
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www.treaty8.ca

Sovereign Nations of Treaty No. 8

~Office of the Grand Chief~

SENT VIA E-MAIL

May 26, 2020

The Honourable Jason Kenney
Office of the Premier
307 Legislature Building
10800 -97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Minister Rick Wilson
Office of Indigenous Relations
104 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Honorable Premier Kenney and Minister Wilson:

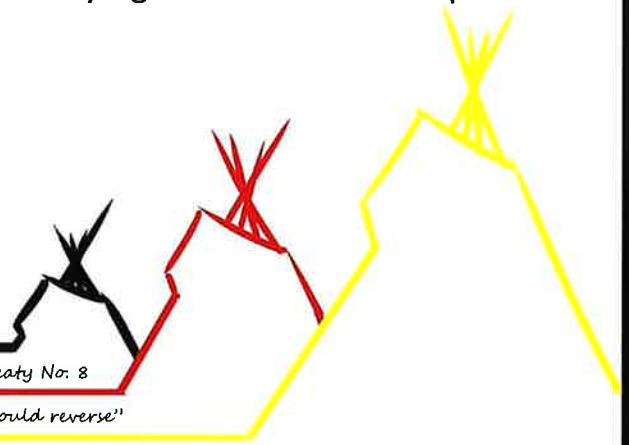
RE: Fort McKay First Nations vs. Prosper Petroleum Ltd and Alberta Energy Regulator

We write as the Sovereign Nations of Treaty 8 Chiefs regarding the recent Alberta Court of Appeal ruling on April 24, 2020. We are delighted with Court's ruling, which affirms that the Government of Alberta must act in a manner which advances the intended purposes of Treaty 8 when making decisions about our territory and rights.

As the Treaty 8 Chiefs, we represent the collective interests and rights of the Nations in Treaty 8. The Nations are the original Nehiyaw, Denesoline and Tsattine peoples who have been connected to our lands, waters, environment, animals and spirit beings since time immemorial. Today we continue to assert our decision-making authority in our lands in accordance with our laws and our responsibilities. We have been stating this position for 121 years with all levels of government. However, the Government of Alberta has repeatedly disregarded our Inherent and Treaty rights and failed to respect our authority over our territory.

To Protect, Promote, Bring to Life, Implement and Sustain the True Spirit and Intent of Treaty No. 8

"as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, the rivers flow and until such time as yidah should reverse"



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The Court of Appeal's decision affirms what we have always known – that the Government of Alberta must treat us as partners in decisions about Treaty 8, and that no decisions should be made which are contrary to the intended purposes of our Treaty.

The Court's decision also reaffirms our commitment to protecting and advancing our Inherent and Treaty rights. We have consistently held that Treaty 8 constitutes a Nation-to-Nation relationship with the Crown, and that no decisions about the use and disposition of lands in our territory should be made without the full and complete participation of our Nations.

We reiterate our expectation that the Government of Alberta must act in accordance with the direction of the Court and the spirit and intent of our Treaty, including by immediately suspending decisions relating to the disposition of our Treaty lands.

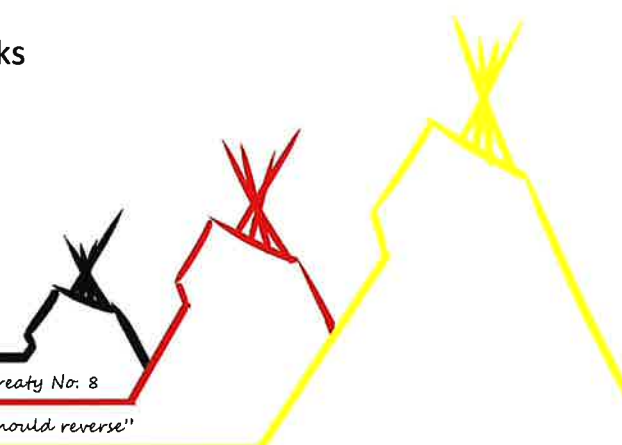
Feel free to contact me to arrange a meeting to discuss these matters further.

Sincerely,



Arthur Noskey
Grand Chief
Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta

c.c. Sovereign Nations of Treaty 8 Chiefs
Sonya Savage, Minister of Energy
Jason Nixon, Minister of Environment and Parks
First Peoples Law



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