

NEWS RELEASE

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Treaty no. 7 Territory, Mîni Thnî & Gahnă, Alberta

Bears paw First Nation and Assembly of First Nations Delegation Meets with His Majesty King Charles III at Buckingham Palace

Chief Darcy Dixon of the Bears paw First Nation (Alberta, Canada) met today with His Majesty King Charles III at Buckingham Palace as part of a delegation of Chiefs, including National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak, and Regional Chiefs, who were accompanied by Elders and Knowledge Keepers. Today's meeting continues a long history of international diplomatic and Treaty relations between Canadian First Nations and the British Crown.

Chief Dixon states *"as our Elders teach, a promise made before the Creator is a promise that lives forever. Treaty No. 7, entered into in 1877 between our ancestors and the Crown, was understood by our people as a sacred covenant intended to establish a lasting nation-to-nation relationship based upon peace, friendship, mutual benefit, and respect"*.

In 2027, the Treaty No. 7 Nations will commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Treaty No. 7. This milestone provides an opportunity not only to celebrate our enduring relationship with the Crown, but also to reflect honestly upon the commitments that remain unfulfilled.

Chief Dixon conveyed to King Charles III that the Treaty relationship was never intended to be merely a historical agreement. It was meant to be a living covenant between sovereign peoples and the Crown, to endure for future generations. He said *"as we approach this significant anniversary, we hope that its commemoration can serve as a catalyst for renewed commitment to the honour of the Crown and the promises upon which Treaty No. 7 was founded."*

The Canadian delegation said they are hopeful that their Treaty Partner, King Charles III, could attend the 150th Anniversary Commemorations of Treaty No. 7 in Southern Alberta, Canada. King Charles III was requested to continue his meaningful dialogue and efforts toward reconciliation, justice and the overdue fulfilment of promises made under Treaty No. 7.

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