



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**31 March 2021**

(amiskwacîwâskahikan) The Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations Chiefs in a zoom conference call with Alberta Minister of Justice, Kaycee Madu and Minister of Indigenous Relations, Rick Wilson informed the Chiefs that the first phase of Rural Alberta Provincial Integrated Defence (RAPID) will start on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2021.

The Chiefs were shocked to learn that the province without any process to engage our Nations has taken on itself the decision to deploy the Peace Officers, Fish and Wildlife Officers, and other provincial enforcement agents on the sovereign lands along with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Confederacy Chiefs have by resolution completely rejected this initiative as unworkable.

The Chiefs want to remind our citizens that we entered into a Peace and Friendship Treaty with the Crown. The Province of Alberta did not exist when we made Treaty. It is completely unacceptable that our sovereign lands will be open to provincial officials.

The Confederacy Chiefs learnt that the Province of Alberta does not respect our Peoples or our Territories by the imposition of RAPID. The province of Alberta needs to step back in the implementation of RAPID if the spirit of reconciliation is going to continue.

The Confederacy Chiefs want to caution our citizens to remain calm as you might be stopped or confronted by these officials. The **Chiefs have not authorized these officials** to come into the Treaty Sovereign Lands.

We are attaching the resolution passed by the Confederacy Chiefs on 31 March 2021.

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