



Yves-François Blanchet
Leader of the Bloc Québécois
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6

March 25, 2025

Dear Yves-François Blanchet,

On behalf of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP), I am writing in regard to your party's positions for the upcoming federal election related to our constituency, the off-reserve status and non-status Indians, Metis and Southern Inuit living in urban, rural and remote areas of Canada.

For 54 years, CAP has advocated to improve the socio-economic conditions of the peoples we serve. We work collectively with our eleven (11) provincial and territorial affiliate organizations (PTOs) across Canada to promote and advance the common interests, collective and individual rights, and needs of our constituents. Our vision is that all Indigenous peoples in Canada will experience the highest quality of life, founded on the rebuilding of our Nations. All Indigenous citizens will rightfully be treated with respect, dignity, integrity, and equality.

The people represented by CAP have a unique and distinct relationship with Canada and the federal government which is grounded in Indigenous rights and are protected in section 35(1) of the Canadian Constitution and affirmed by the supreme court of Canada in the Daniels Decision.

CAP engages with the federal government to work collaboratively on a number of matters to bridge socio-economic divide between our constituents and non-Indigenous Canadians. We remain steadfast and dedicated to enhancing the relationship between Canada and our community and the advancement of their socio-economic success and in turn the success of all Canadians.

Election 2025 presents a significant opportunity to address the concerns of our community members by highlighting your commitment to our peoples and your commitment to reconciliation. Our PTOs across the country are actively working with community members to participate in the federal election. As I am sure you are aware, data has shown that Indigenous voters have significantly influenced results in many riding across turtle island and CAP being a truly National Indigenous Organization (NIO) has representative organizations and community members in every province.

CAP is bringing forward some key concerns and questions from our community for your consideration and response by your party during the 2025 federal election. We are preparing our

election resources that will help to inform our constituency and provide them with the tools necessary to make an informed decision. The package will include basic voting information, federal party platforms and responses to our queries by all federal parties.

CAP would appreciate your response to the following questions:

1. What is your party's position on the rights and interests of unaffiliated non-status and Métis peoples?
2. How will your party implement the 2016 Daniels v. Canada decision that confirmed the federal responsibility to Métis and non-status Indians?
3. How will your party include off-reserve/non-status Indigenous communities in federal initiatives? (National Housing Strategy, child and family services, post-secondary student support etc.)
4. How will you work with CAP and PTOs to address issues faced by our peoples such as discrimination, unemployment, homelessness, children in care, overincarceration, etc.?
5. Does your party believe CAP should be represented at the annual First Ministers Meetings?
6. How would your party work with CAP to honour and implement our 2018 Canada-Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Political Accord? A copy of the Accord is attached for reference.

CAP is an expert and a data leader in the Indigenous space, and we would be pleased to be a resource to you and your party during and after the election. We wish you the very best throughout your campaign and look forward to working with you.

Wela'lin,



National Chief Brendan Moore
Congress of Aboriginal Peoples

CC: CAP Board of Directors

CC: Jim Devoe, CAP Chief Executive Officer