

UNDRIP UPDATE

Update on the United Nations
Declaration on the Rights of
Indigenous Peoples Project

Feb 2023



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Ahnii Boozhoo!

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) Working Group, would like to provide you with information regarding the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation UNDRIP Project.

WHAT IS UNDRIP

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, also known as UNDRIP, is a document adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007. It was developed by Indigenous experts and lawyers from all over the world with the goal of protecting Indigenous Peoples from oppression, discrimination, marginalization, exploitation and human rights abuses. It has 46 articles and can be read using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/undrip-nawash>

The 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report called for implementation of UNDRIP as the framework for reconciliation. That report can be read using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/trc-nawash>. In 2021, Canada passed legislation to take measures to make their laws consistent with the UNDRIP. Canada's UNDRIP Act requires an Action Plan be developed by June 2023.

The Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation (CNUFN) has received funding from Canada on a project to learn about the UNDRIP and gather input and feedback from the community on the path forward. The project is also funded by the Edkaagmik Nbiizh Neyaashiinigamiingninwag Edbendaagzijig Coldwater Trust. We have partnered with Shared Value Solutions to assist with the project.

WEBINARS

In January, we held two virtual webinars:

- 1) Understanding UNDRIP with Darlene Johnston; and
- 2) Anishinaabe Law and UNDRIP with Dr. John Borrows. The videos from these sessions are no available for re-watching online on the Nawash website: <https://www.nawash.ca/undrip/>

NEXT:

Next, we are planning in-person sessions, interviews with community members, and will provide all such details in an upcoming newsletter.

More information, including the UNDRIP Articles and Canada's legislation and implementation process can also be found at <https://www.nawash.ca/undrip/>

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THE UNDRIP WORKING GROUP:

Darlene Johnston, Alexander Duncan, Paul Jones, Miriam Johnston, Mark Nadjiwan

UNDRIP UPDATE CONTINUED

Introductions: Meet the UNDRIP Working Group



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WORKING GROUP INTRODUCTIONS

MARK NADJIWAN

Mark Nadjiwan is a Nawash member. He is pleased to be a part of the UNDRIP Working Group to help to provide input on the processes for CNUFN's engagement with UNDRIP implementation. His previous work has included many years as an Indigenous Advisor within a federal agency, following the completion of his university degrees, including one in law. He is currently a full-time visual artist.

MIRIAM JOHNSTON

Miriam Johnston is a band member who currently works for the Ontario government as a manager for supportive housing at the Ministry of Health. She is the daughter of Basil and Lucie Johnston.

DARLENE JOHNSTON

Darlene Johnston is a member of the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation. She has recently retired from 20 years of teaching Law at the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia. Prior to that she served as the Land Claims Research Coordinator for Nawash and Saugeen from 1991 – 2001. She is the daughter of Ted and Phyllis Johnston.

ALEXANDER DUNCAN

Alex is a member of Nawash. He is currently a graduate student in the Centre for Indigenous Fisheries at the University of British Columbia based out of Vancouver but engaging in research on sea lamprey control in the Great Lakes. He is the son of Edie and James Duncan.

PAUL JONES

Paul has served on the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Council for 26 years. In his role as member of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) Joint Council Nuclear File Advisory Committee he worked to secure our nation's right to free, prior and informed consent on the proposed project and the siting of a location to bury nuclear waste in deep geologic repositories in SON territory. Currently, Paul is a member of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's Indigenous Advisory Committee and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization Elders committee providing advice and guidance on high level nuclear waste management.

SHARED VALUE SOLUTIONS PROJECT TEAM:

JEREMY SHUTE, JESSICA KEESHIG-MARTIN
AND OLIVIA SHOTYK