



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BLACKFOOT CONFEDERACY CHIEFS OPPOSE AFN, REAFFIRM TREATY AUTHORITY

Mohkinstsis (Calgary, AB), Blackfoot Territory – September 08, 2025 – The 1877 Blackfoot Treaty affirms our sovereignty - it is not negotiable. This is not about ownership, but about respect for Treaty, Canada's obligation to the Crown to uphold the Treaties in good faith. The Carney government's reliance on the Assembly of First Nations to make decisions without our consent undermines our authority.

The Blackfoot Confederacy Chiefs assert that individual Treaty First Nations hold the exclusive right to determine what happens on Blackfoot lands. No organization, including the AFN, may speak or act on our behalf without our consent.

Our treaty rights and jurisdiction are non-transferable. Infrastructure projects in Blackfoot Territory must be Blackfoot-led, rooted in our governance, and guided by free, prior, and informed consent. Sovereignty is not symbolic, it is our lived authority and must be respected in every government decision affecting our lands, as should be the case for all Treaty Nations from 1 to 11.

The misuse of "National Interest" to sideline our rights is unacceptable. Projects impacting our lands, resources, and communities must reflect our values and be approved through our own decision-making processes.

Therefore, we the Blackfoot Chiefs, of the Blackfoot Confederacy call on all levels of government to recognize whose lands these are, and to honor the nation-to-nation relationship. Indigenous human rights and treaty laws including the right to self-determination, languages, cultures, traditions, and these laws must be respected. Free, prior, and informed consent must be the foundation of any infrastructure initiative.

Chiefs' of the Blackfoot Confederacy - Chief Troy Knowlton, Chief Ouray Crowfoot, Chief Traveller Plaited Hair