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BLACKFOOT
CONFEDERACY

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BLACKFOOT CONFEDERACY CHIEFS OPPOSE PROPOSED UCP RESOLUTIONS AND CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF PROTOCOL AGREEMENT

Mohkinstsis (Calgary, AB), Blackfoot Territory – November 26, 2026 — Blackfoot Confederacy Chiefs strongly oppose two proposed policy resolutions scheduled for consideration at the upcoming United Conservative Party (UCP) Annual General Meeting taking place November 27 to 29, 2026 in Calgary. The resolutions call to "Discontinue the use of land acknowledgements by the Government of Alberta, and all publicly funded institutions" and "Mandate that the province of Alberta use all possible legal options to block federal land claims."

Both resolutions represent a concerning political direction that undermines Treaty recognition, First Nations rights, and the government-to-government relationship between Blackfoot Nations and the Province of Alberta. The Blackfoot Treaty of 1877 predates the establishment of Alberta by nearly three decades. Recognition of Blackfoot Territory is not a matter of political preference. It is grounded in our history, sovereignty, and longstanding Treaty relationship with the Crown.

Blackfoot Confederacy Chiefs reject attempts by the UCP, Alberta's current majority government and the proponents of these resolutions, to characterize First Nations land claims as a threat to private property ownership. Many land claims have arisen because of the Crown's failure to honour promises made at the time of Treaty, and carry out its fiduciary obligations to First Nations, including in relation to those Treaty promises. These claims are not simply about land; they are directed towards remedying historical injustices. Promoting fear surrounding legitimate land claims creates public division and undermines opportunities for economic partnership and meaningful reconciliation.

These proposed resolutions come amid the continued suspension of work under the Government of Alberta and Blackfoot Confederacy Protocol Agreement. Despite the conclusion of the October 19 provincial referendum, the Province has yet to resume engagement under the agreement.

Blackfoot Confederacy Chiefs are calling on Indigenous Relations Minister Rajan Sawhney to publicly confirm that neither proposed resolution, if passed, will be implemented through legislation or government policy. Blackfoot Confederacy Chiefs also call on Minister Sawhney to immediately resume all work under the Protocol Agreement and commit to an in-person leadership meeting that provides sufficient time to address these outstanding matters. Blackfoot Nations are sovereign Nations and Treaty partners, not stakeholders within a provincial political process. The Government of Alberta cannot claim to advance reconciliation while entertaining policies that seek to diminish Treaty recognition, obstruct legitimate land claims and disregard established government-to-government commitments.

Blackfoot Confederacy Chiefs will continue to defend Blackfoot sovereignty, inherent and Treaty rights, Blackfoot Territory and the interests of Niitsitapi. The Province must demonstrate through its actions that it respects the Treaty relationship and the responsibilities that accompany it.

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