

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
10<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY, 4<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 63-85(1)**

**TABLED ON MARCH 25, 1985**

JOINT CHIEFS AND METIS BOARD MEETING

FORT PROVIDENCE, N.W.T.

MARCH 18 - 22, 1985

**MOTION #1**

**RE: BOUNDARY FOR DIVISION**

**WHEREAS**, on January 1985, the Constitutional Alliance of the N.W.T. which includes all members of the Western and Nunavut Constitutional Forums reached a tentative agreement on a process to determine a boundary for division; and

**WHEREAS** this agreement states that land claims settlement regions should have integrity and be honoured as much as possible and, therefore, that the location of the southern portion of the boundary will take into account the results of Inuit and Dene/Metis negotiations on a boundary to separate their claim settlement regions; and

**WHEREAS** the agreement also states that the Inuvialuit Settlement Region will be in the west, subject to the WCF and the Inuvialuit reaching an agreement on principles to enable the Inuvialuit to find a satisfactory future in a western territory; and

**WHEREAS** the communities of Kitikmeot West will have the opportunity to join either territory; and

**WHEREAS** the Dene and Metis would welcome a decision on the part of Kitikmeot West Inuit to join a western territory and would offer them full membership in the WCF, plus political rights in a western territory equal to the rights of other aboriginal peoples; and

**WHEREAS** the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs clearly indicated before the Legislative Assembly on February 6, 1985, his support for division based upon the principles of the alliance's boundary agreement; and

**WHEREAS** the treeline would never be an acceptable boundary for division under any circumstances;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that, if division is to occur, the Dene Nation Leadership and the Metis Association Board of Directors hereby unanimously support the tentative Alliance agreement of January 13, 1985 which was negotiated in good faith by WCV members and which was approved by all members of the Legislative Assembly's Western caucus via Motion 8-(85)1 of the Legislative Assembly, passed February 25, 1985; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the four conditions for division outlined by the previous Liberal government be retained, including:

- (a) That any decision on a boundary must first be agreed upon by the Constitutional Alliance and then ratified by the public before it is accepted by the federal government.
- (b) That all claims must be settled or be close to resolution before division takes place.
- (c) That constitutions for each territory must be completed before division takes place.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the traditional hunting, trapping, and fishing rights of the Dene and Metis of Manitoba and Saskatchewan must be respected and protected in a Nunavut Territory.

**MOVED BY:** Larry Tourangeau, President, Metis Association

**SECONDED BY:** John Bekale, Vice-President, Dene Nation

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**March 21, 1985**



