



**PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
January 25, 2016

**RESPONSE TO THE ASSEMBLY OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ CHIEFS JANUARY 22, 2016  
PRESS RELEASE**

(INDIAN BROOK FIRST NATION, NS) – Sipekne'katik leadership is disappointed with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs January 22, 2016 press release. Overall, Sipekne'katik's leadership maintains that community members must be included in consultation discussions that impact rights, access, and title.

In our view the consultation process being administered by the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative (KMKNO) does not include individual community members. For example, the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative has accepted funding from industry without any meaningful input from Mi'kmaq community members. Additionally, the Band questions if industry has contributed financially to Assembly/KMKNO meetings.

Sipekne'katik leadership has suggested the consultation process administered by the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative (KMKNO) is not a good fit with the band's mission, vision, and strategic direction.

Sipekne'katik respects other Mi'kmaq community's decision to utilize the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiatives consultation tables, and expect our leadership decisions be afforded that same respect. Suggesting Sipekne'katik is irresponsible demonstrates the lack of respect the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative (KMKNO) has for Sipekne'katik and our autonomy.

*Sipekne'katik is a Mi'kmaq Band in Nova Scotia with 2,598 members. Sipekne'katik is unique as it stands alone in representing itself in all consultation and negotiation matters that concern Sipekne'katik. The Mi'kmaq of Sipekne'katik is the original signatory to the 1752 Peace and Friendship Treaty.*

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