

Evidence presented by the Coroner's Counsel at the pre-inquest motions in the Coroners Inquest into the deaths of Jamie Goodwin and Ricardo Wesley revealed that the legal steps required to include First Nation people from reserves on the jury roll were ignored between the years 2000 and 2006. As a result, only 44 First Nations individuals residing on reserves (out of a total First Nations population of 12,111) are included on the Kenora District's current jury roll.

"The Government of Ontario must conduct a formal inquiry into the legality of the jury selection system employed in the Territorial District of Kenora since 2000 and across the Province of Ontario," said Chiefs of Ontario Regional Chief Angus Toulouse. "By not being selected for juries, First Nations are being denied their rightful roles as equal participants in the justice system."

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is an Aboriginal political organization representing 49 First Nation communities within James Bay Treaty 9 and Ontario First Nations part of Treaty 5 – an area spanning two-thirds of Ontario. Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto is a multi-service legal agency providing services to First Nation communities across the province.

Grand Council Treaty 3 is the Political Territorial Organization for the 28 First Nations Members in the treaty area. The Union of Ontario Indians is a political advocate for 42 member First Nations across Ontario and is the oldest political organization in Ontario. Chiefs of Ontario is a coordinating body for 134 First Nation communities located within the boundaries of the Province of Ontario.

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