

“The consultation process being imposed by the Province is unreasonable, unfair, unconstitutional (under the Constitution Act, 1982, Sec. 35) as Bill 191 significantly and negatively affects the traditional land and resource rights of all NAN First Nations,” said Beardy. “We are prepared to enter a fresh dialogue with Ontario on land-use planning, but only on the condition that Bill 191 is withdrawn and artificial deadlines on land-use planning are eliminated.”

NAN is appealing to First Nations, industry, environmental organizations and members of the general public to voice their opposition to Bill 191. A petition calling for Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty to withdraw Bill 191 is available at the Oski-Machiitawin website at www.oski-machiitawin.ca.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities in James Bay Treaty 9 and Ontario portions of Treaty 5 – an area covering two thirds of the province of Ontario.

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