



WHITE PAPER 2.0 — WHAT OUR PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW

Protecting Our Rights, Lands & Treaties

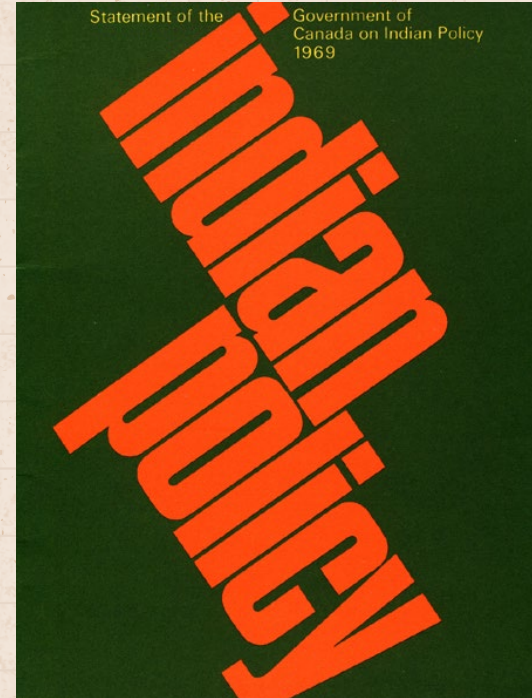
Prepared by Russ Diabo, Truth Before Reconciliation Education & Advocacy Network

August 28, 2026

1. WHAT'S GOING ON?

The Big Message

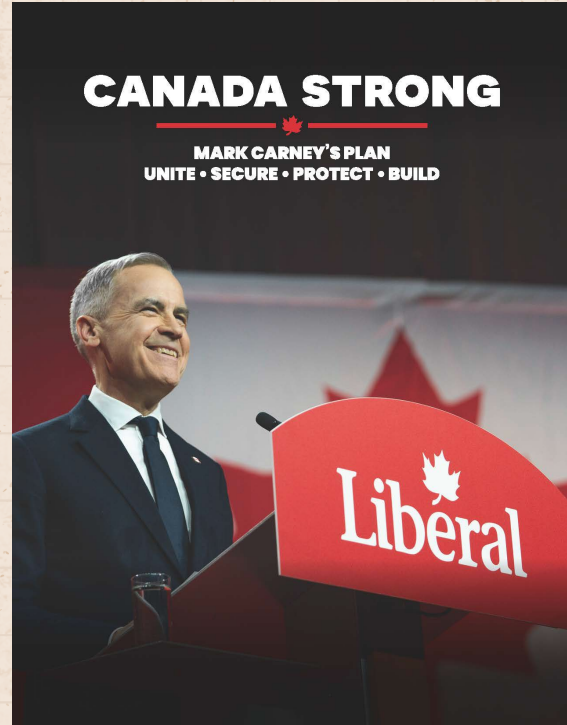
- For over 50 years, the federal government has been trying to:
- End “*Indian*” status
- Turn First Nations into small local governments
- Push us into the same system as towns and municipalities
- Move away from Treaties and Nation-to-Nation relationships
- This plan started in 1969. It never stopped. Today they call it “*Reconciliation.*”



What Is White Paper 2.0?

- **White Paper 2.0** is the modern version of the 1969 plan. It tries to:
- Change who is considered “*status Indian*”
- Change how Bands are governed
- Change how land is controlled
- Change how Treaties are understood
- Move us into a provincial-style system

This weakens our Nations.

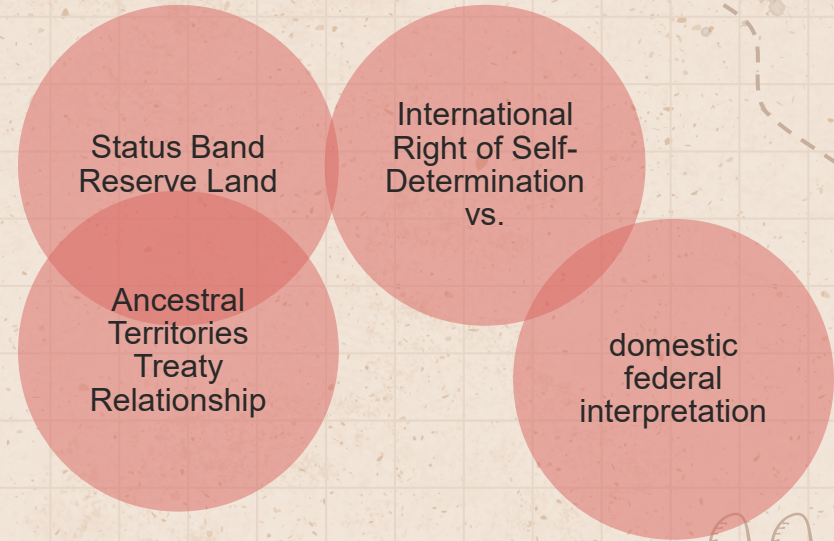


2. WHY THIS MATTERS TO OUR PEOPLE

Our Rights Are Connected

- These things rise or fall together:
- **Status**
- **Band membership**
- **Reserve land**
- **Treaty rights**
- **Our ancestral territories**

If one is weakened, all are weakened.



How They Change the System



Rebecca Alty, Federal Minister of Termination (Crown-Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada).



Mandy Gull-Masty, Federal Minister of Re-Colonization (Indigenous Services Canada).

Trudeau's White Paper 2.0 Two-Track Termination Process
To Replace Indian Act & Original Treaties



Step-by-step:

- 1. Change status rules (C-31, Bill S-2).
- 2. Turn Bands into “*Indigenous Governments*” with corporate-style powers.
- 3. Use **UNDRIP** language to make it sound good.
- 4. Move “*beyond the **Indian Act***” without giving land back or enforcing Treaties.
- 5. This is municipalization — not self-determination.

3. HOW WE GOT HERE 1969–1980s

- Government tried to end status and Treaties.
- Chiefs and communities fought back with the **Red Paper & Other Position Papers**.
- Government slowed down but kept the same goals.



1980s–1990s



- **Section 35** added to the Constitution.
- Government recognized modern land claims as “*Treaties*,” but ignored **historic Treaties**.
- Reports calling for real self-government were ignored.

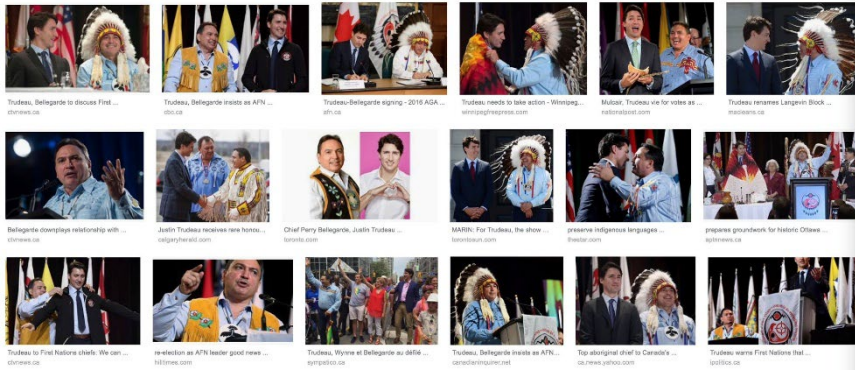
2000s–2015

- New policy & laws under **Chretien government** pushed Bands toward corporate-style governance.
- **Harper government** cut funding and pushed “*individual rights*” over collective rights



2015–2026

- Trudeau (now Carney) government talks about “*Nation-to-Nation*,” but:
 - Calls Indigenous governments the “*4th level of government*.”
 - Uses **UNDRIP** to support federal definitions of rights.
 - Builds institutions to move Bands into municipal-style systems.



4. WHAT'S COMING ON OCT. 26, 2026 First Nations–First Ministers' Meeting



- This meeting could:
- Lock in municipal-style governance
- Focus only on services (water, policing, social issues)
- Ignore land, Treaties, sovereignty, and real self-determination

If the meeting only talks about
“services,” we lose ground.

Questions Communities Must Ask

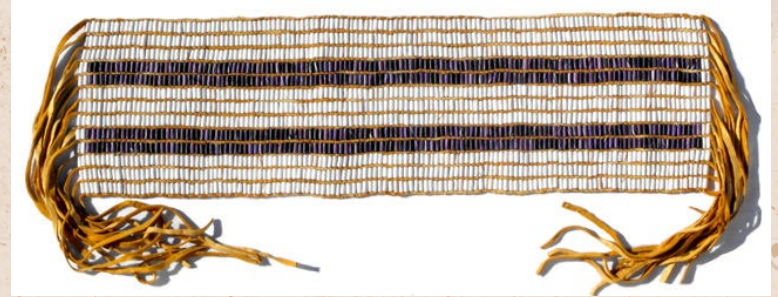
- **Status & Bill S-2**
 - Who loses status?
 - How does this affect our future generations?
- **Self-Government & UNDRIPA/CANDRIP**
 - Are we in any **federal negotiation tables**?
 - Have members seen the agreements?
 - Do they protect our **Treaty rights**?
- **Meeting Strategy**
 - Who speaks us?
 - What are our non-negotiables?
 - How are grassroots people get involved?

5. WHAT REAL SELF-DETERMINATION LOOKS LIKE

True Nation-to-Nation

- Our Nations are sovereign
- Treaties are honoured
- Our lands taken without our consent are returned or compensation for lands not returned
- No provincial veto
- No delegated authority
- Funding based on rights, not “*own-source revenue*”
- Our laws and traditions respected

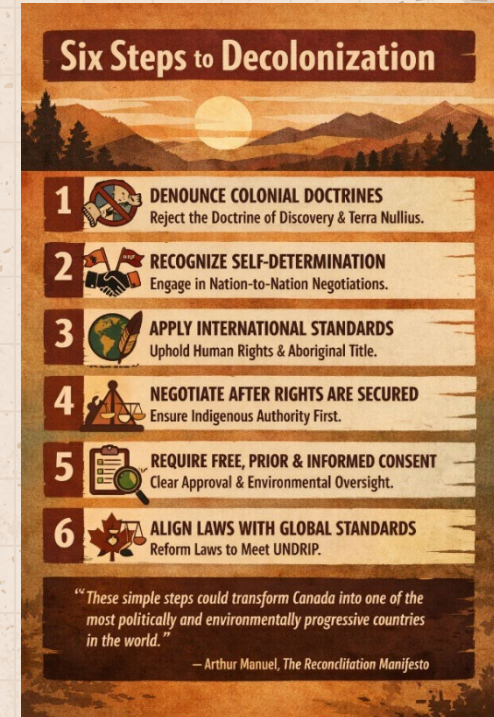
Anything less is not self-determination!



6. HOW WE STOP WHITE PAPER 2.0

Four Things Communities Can Do

- **1. Stand Up for Our Treaties**
 - Teach them
 - Assert them
 - Use them in negotiations
- **2. Protect Our People's Status**
 - Fight second-generation cut-off
 - Protect collective rights
- **3. Reject Municipal-Style Agreements**
 - Don't sign "*Indigenous Governing Body*" deals
 - Demand real recognition of Inherent & Treaty rights
- **4. Organize as Nations, Not Just Bands**
 - Bring Elders, youth, families together
 - Build Treaty-based plans
 - Create community mandates



7. HOW TO READ GOVERNMENT LANGUAGE

Translation Guide

Government Language	What to Watch For
<i>“Distinctions-based”</i>	Is there still one standard First Nations, Metis, Inuit model?
<i>“Modern Treaty / self-government”</i>	Municipal type constitution/charter?
<i>“New fiscal relationship”</i>	Whose powers grow?
<i>“Moving beyond the <u>Indian Act</u>”</i>	On whose terms?
<i>“UNDRIP implementation”</i>	Real FPIC or just Duty to Consult tied to strength of claim ?

8. MESSAGE FOR ALLIES

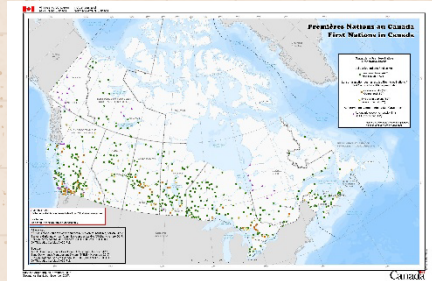
How Allies Can Help

Ask:

- Who controls the land and resources?
- Are First Nations treated as **Treaty partners** or local municipal governments?

Watch for:

- Focus on “*services*” instead of rights
- Talk about “*efficiency*” instead of sovereignty
- No mention of **Land Back** or **Treaties**



9. FINAL MESSAGE FOR OUR PEOPLES

We Are Nations

- We are not future municipalities. We are Treaty Peoples. We are Sovereign Nations. We have responsibilities to our ancestors and future generations.
- **White Paper 2.0** can be stopped — **but only if our people organize together.**

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

**OCTOBER 26,
2026**

**DEFEND OUR RIGHTS.
STAND UP FOR OUR FUTURE.**



NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION — OCTOBER 26, 2026

JOIN THE NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

- Our **Truth Before Reconciliation Network** calls on all First Nation Peoples and Allies to join us on October 26, 2026, in a peaceful **National Day of Action** in Ottawa and across Canada to:
- **Protect Aboriginal Title & Treaties**
- **Defend Self-Determination and**
- **Stop Federal Extinguishment Policies.**

WHAT'S AT STAKE

- **Our Lands and Territories** — Without Title, or Treaty Rights, we lose control.
- **Our Sovereignty** — Governments aim to redefine our Nations and reinterpret our Treaties.
- **Our Future Generations** — They Inherit what we defend today.

• OUR DEMANDS:

- 1. **Recognition and Respect** for Aboriginal Title, Inherent Rights, and Treaties.
- 2. **A New Policy Framework** based on Nation-to-Nation relations, not federal delegation.
- 3. **Restoration and Restitution** for lands and resources taken without consent.

• HOW TO TAKE ACTION:

- **March on Ottawa** — Gather at the **FIRST NATIONS—FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING** venue.
- **Local Rallies** — Organize community events and teach-ins.
- **Bridge & Road Demonstrations** — Peaceful visibility actions.
- **Social Media Blitz** — Share messages, photos, and videos.

INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED IN NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION? CONTACT TRUTH BEFORE RECONCILIATION NETWORK:

Truth Before Reconciliation Education & Advocacy Network Contact:

russdiabo@rogers.com

Website: russdiabo.com



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