



13 June 2019

The Honourable Andrew Scheer
Leader of the Opposition
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Dear Leader of the Opposition:

I am writing regarding *Bill C-262 - An Act to ensure that the laws of Canada are in harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

Already in 2015 church leaders and faith leaders in Canada called on the Government of Canada to: *respond fully to those recommendations directed to government in the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Indian Residential Schools (TRC), including using the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the foundation for improved relations with Indigenous Peoples and to publish regular accounts concerning its implementation* (Faith Communities in Canada Speak Out, September 2015).

Many churches and faith communities across Canada have faithfully worked – hand in hand with Indigenous Peoples – for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to be established in Canada as a framework for reconciliation.

This Bill has passed the House of Commons and is now before the Senate. **As the Leader of the Opposition, what actions will you take to ensure that Bill C-262 passes the third and final reading in the Senate?**

Churches and faith communities have an important and deeply felt commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Please be assured of our continued prayers for your leadership and your efforts to work for justice for all.

Peter Noteboom
General Secretary

cc: Senator Larry W. Smith, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Canada
Senator Yonah Martin, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Canada
Senator Donald Neil Plett, Opposition Whip in the Senate of Canada