



Ken Neumann  
National Director/ Directeur national

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**Via email: [Romeo.Saganash@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Romeo.Saganash@parl.gc.ca)**

Mr. Romeo Saganash  
MP for Abitibi – Baie James – Nunavik - Eeyou  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

**Re: Bill C-262: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act**

Brother Saganash,

I am writing to offer the United Steelworkers' support for your private-member's 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 (UNDRIP).

At our union's 2016 National Policy Conference, delegates discussed and approved policies and action items calling on USW to play an active role in improving living and working conditions for Aboriginal peoples in Canada. The United Steelworkers recognize Canada's shameful history in dealing with Aboriginal peoples and the abuse suffered by First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples. As a union we must and will be part of processes of reconciliation and healing.

In my statement for National Aboriginal Day 2016, I announce that USW supports and endorses the final report and calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). Given the TRC's emphasis on UNDRIP's foundational role, it is consistent and important that our union also support the Declaration's full adoption and implementation. We will also encourage union members to sign your petition and become more knowledgeable about the Declaration.

Thank you for your hard work on this matter.

In solidarity,

Ken Neumann  
USW National Director

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United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union  
Syndicat international des travailleurs unis de la métallurgie, du papier et de la foresterie, du caoutchouc,  
de la fabrication, de l'énergie, des services et industries connexes

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