



January 12, 2008

To The Honourable Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada Stéphane Dion;

On Saturday, January 12, 2008 approximately one hundred and eighty people attended a meeting in Prince Albert. Most in attendance were concerned Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill Constituents. Several came to observe while some gave their opinion. Many in attendance traveled great distances, at their own expense.

The general consensus at the meeting is that the democratic process for selecting a candidate must be followed. Constituents are tired of being told “What is best for them”. Aboriginal people, in particular First Nations, have been encouraged to participate in the political process, to vote, to be involved. Then, they are told who they have to vote for. That is not democracy.

This meeting was not about Beatty, Dorion or Orchard but rather the lack of respect towards a democratic process. Aboriginal people are the majority here and they feel slighted. Hundreds of memberships have been sold and two other potential candidates are left with huge expense, all for not. If you want more Aboriginals and Women in your shadow government, then, those candidates should be nominated in their constituency.

An interim Executive has been established with instructions to call for a General Constituency Meeting. The immediate directive that we received is two-fold:

- (a) That you rescind the appointment of Joan Beatty as the Candidate for the Desnethé-Missinippi-Churchill River Riding; and
- (b) That Joan Beatty resign her appointment to be Federal Liberal Candidate and, furthermore, that she file for nomination papers so due process can prevail.

The Constituents want a Leader that will work with them keeping in mind, “The Duty to Consult”, should be paramount before decisions are made that affect any constituency. Your attention on this extremely important issue would be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Chief Marcel Head
Pakwaw Sakahigan (Shoal Lake), Saskatchewan
Interim Chairperson