



REGROUPEMENT
DES CENTRES
D'AMITIÉ AUTOCHTONES
DU QUÉBEC INC.

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

The Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec denounces and rejects the racist comments made by Pierre Mailloux.

Wendake, September 28, 2005 – The Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec (RCAAQ) denounces and rejects the racist comments made by Mr. Pierre Mailloux during the show «*Tout le monde en parle*», broadcasted by the *Société Radio-Canada* on September 25, 2005.

« *We consider this an attack on fundamental rights* » stated Édith Cloutier, President of the RCAAQ. «*The UN International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination stipulates that theoretical constructions of discrimination between races are scientifically false, morally objectionable and socially unfair and dangerous. Nowhere can discrimination, be justified neither in theory nor practice.* »

We believe Mr. Mailloux's racist comments increase prejudice and intolerance towards Aboriginal people. Beyond freedom of speech and audience ratings, there is a need to question the intellectual and scientific relevance in holding such public debates.

The Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec is an organization that advocates for the individual and collective rights and interests of Urban Aboriginal People. As a joint structure of consultation, founded in 1976, the RCAAQ addresses the needs of the Native Friendship Centres. To this effect, our work aims at bridging the gaps between the different cultures to live in a just and fair society.

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Source : Josée Goulet, Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec
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