



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec and the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Formalize Their Partnership by an Agreement of Relations.

Québec, May 17, 2005 – Ms. Édith Cloutier, President of the Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec (RCAAQ), and Mr. Ghislain Picard, Regional Chief of the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL), have formalized, after twelve years of partnership, their mutual commitment by signing a historic Agreement of Relations at the Chiefs Table on May 17.

The purpose of this agreement is to reinforce the existing collaboration between the AFNQL and the RCAAQ in order to achieve the common goal of the First Nations well being, notwithstanding their status and their place of residence. To this effect, the AFNQL recognizes the RCAAQ as the preferred interlocutor on urban First Nations issues and service delivery.

For its part, the RCAAQ recognizes the AFNQL as the political authority of the First Nations governments of Quebec and the mission of its regional and local administrative structures.

The RCAAQ advocates in favour of the rights and interests of the urban First Nations community and commits to promote the urban reality of First Nations as well as sharing its expertise in the organization of services to the AFNQL Chiefs Table.

The RCAAQ is pleased by the approval of this agreement that reflects the spirit of collaboration with the AFNQL in carrying out the common goals of the First Nations.

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Sources:

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