



Dear Chief Michael Sack of the Sipekne'katik First Nation,

We are a group of Christians associated with Lutheran Church of the Cross in Victoria, BC who are supportive of the Truth and Reconciliation recommendations we are actively working to advocate for their completion.

We are alarmed and horrified at the violence your fishers are experiencing.

We support your peoples' right to make a moderate living.

We are outraged that your community is daily facing intimidation and threats.

We agree with the Minister of Indigenous Services that fishers in Nova Scotia have been "let down by police."

We see the contradiction in RCMP enforcement actions for ensuring the safety of the Coastal Gas Pipeline company in Wet'suwet'en territory (heavily armed tactical teams, canine units, helicopters, drones) and the lack of RCMP preparation to protect your fishers. The Assembly of Mi'kmaq Chiefs has been pushing for the federal government to intervene in the waters and on the shores in the Digby area since the moderate livelihood fishery was launched in September.

We stand with Minister Miller's public statement: "Throughout history, Indigenous peoples have experienced continuous discrimination and to this day still suffer the consequences of colonial practices, but they have shown an extreme resilience and courage in standing up for their rights."

We have sent a copy of this letter to the Minister of Fisheries, Minister of Indigenous Services, and to the Prime Minister reminding them of the government's commitment made at the July 2015 Assembly of First Nations to develop a "plan for real change that will restore the federal government's relationship with Aboriginal Peoples."

In friendship and solidarity,

Terrance Berscheid David Lefsrud Barb Smart Janet Molnar Craig Knight Murray Nelson

Martin Bergbusch Lyle McKenzie Lyndon Sayers Jack Braniff David Ramsay