STRENGTH
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UNITY

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Kenténha/October 30th, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

RE: Exclusion of First Nations in Canada–Europe Relationship Summit in Montreal

Shé:kon,

Kahnawà:ke Tsi Ietsenhaientáhkwa/ The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) wishes to express its deep concern and disappointment regarding the exclusion of Onkwehónwe/First Nations leadership at the summit you held in Tiotià:ke/Montreal October 29th-30th, 2026. At the First Nations-First Ministers meeting October 25-26th, 2026, Elder Commanda was provided the opportunity to open the meeting with the proper territorial acknowledgement of Ottawa as unceded Algonquin Territory. The Kanien'kehá:ka are the original people and custodians of the land on which this summit is taking place, and welcoming guests with warmth and respect is a fundamental part of who we are.

We are deeply frustrated and concerned that the summit in Montreal not only failed to open with a Kanien'kehá:ka elder or leader and neglected to acknowledge the unceded territory on which it was held, but also entirely excluded our leadership and perspectives from the discussion. Such omissions are particularly troubling given our role as the original people of this land and our direct stake in the issues being addressed. The exclusion of our voice from the meeting is unfortunately consistent with a broader pattern in which your government fails to adequately recognize or engage with our perspectives, and the minimum requires set out in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

The MCK reminds you that the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and its regional Office Assembly of First Nations Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL) do not speak on our behalf as First Nations rights holders. Your Government has subverted the voices of First Nations leaders by engaging organizations like the AFN which are purely advocacy bodies seemingly to avoid actual First Nations leaders while maintaining the façade of consultation This problematic approach in clear in various areas including Bill C-5 "One Canadian Economy Act" (2025), and proposed Bill C-39 "Building Canada Strong Act" (2026) which have involved little to no meaningful consultation with First Nations rights holders.

We also wish to remind you of our ongoing commitment to peaceful coexistence and cooperation with Canada as engrained in the Two Row Wampum. We have repeatedly upheld our end of the relationship through our participation in the construction and defence of Canada from foreign

powers including the United States. We point out that Canada has consistently failed to uphold its duties and obligations towards our people. We stress that Canada cannot continue to act without us in matters about us.

The MCK has extended numerous requests for meetings, but your government has made it apparent that Canada has no intention for or interest in diplomacy. Given your lack of attention Kahnawà:ke will act unilaterally in the interest of our community. We remind you of your obligation to stay out of our way. We will trade whatever resource we see fit; we will engage with anyone we see fit and we will do whatever is needed for our community and won't be subjected to Canadian colonial power.

Sincerely,

ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL OF CHIEFS



Ohén:ton I:rate ne Ratitsénhaienhs
Grand Chief Cody Diabo of Kahnawake