









Athabasca Denesuline Final Agreement - North of 60

Negotiations Timeline



How did this start? Canada did not recognize that the Athabasca Denesuline had Treaty #8 or #10 rights North of 60 (NWT and Nunavut). We took Canada to court to have our Treaty or aboriginal rights recognized. This has led to out-of-court settlement negotiations that will outline our rights, benefits and obligations that will be protected under the Constitution.



1899 – 1992	1993 - 1999	2000 – 2004	2005 - 2008	2009 - 2012	2013 - 2014	2015 - 2016
AD takes Canada to court		Court action on pause Negotiations begins				
<p>Participants: AD</p> <p>We want recognition of our Treaty and or unextinguished Aboriginal Rights and we want damages for infringement of those rights.</p> <p>1899: Black Lake and Fond du Lac First Nations Sign Treaty #8 1906: Hatchet Lake First Nations Sign Treaty #10.</p> <p><i>Oral Understanding: « As long as the sun shines, the rivers flow and that big rocks exist across the lake (Athabasca)». The AD were assured that they could continue to hunt, fish and trap over their lands exactly as they had always done so.</i></p> <p><i>Written text: A blanket extinguishment clause exists, where signatories supposedly surrendered their rights to all other lands in Canada. However, no such clause was explained at time of Treaty.</i></p> <p>1991: Athabasca Dene (AD) file the statement of claim (Benoanie v. Canada et al.)</p> <p>1992: AD couldn't stop the ratification of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement</p>	<p>AD – GKD – Inuit</p> <p>We went to the Indian Specific Claims Commission (ICC) looking for a declaration of our Rights North of 60.</p>  <p>1993: the Inuit promise to support the Athabasca Denesuline and Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene (GKD) claims.</p> <p>1995: The ICC recommends that Canada formally recognize and Constitutionally protect AD's rights north of 60.</p> <p>1999: The Nunavut Territory is created.</p>	<p>AD – GKD – Inuit – Canada – GN - GNWT</p> <p>Out-of-court negotiations began in 2000</p>  <p>2000: AD and Canada sign two MOUs.</p> <p>2001: Canada tables an outline of legal rights north of 60°.</p> <p>2003: Nunavut (GN) begins participating. Canada, Northwest Territories (GNWT), and AD enter into an Interim Measure Agreement (IMA).</p>	<p>AD – GKD – Inuit – Canada – GN - GNWT</p> <p>We signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with GKD and Inuit</p>  <p>2006 : Canada makes various land offers.</p> <p>2007 : AD, GKD, and the Inuit reach an MOA for settlement area, land, harvesting and other rights, and resource management regime in Nunavut and NWT.</p> <p>2007: the NWT did not support an AD Land Component in Canada's offer.</p>	<p>AD – GKD – Inuit – Canada – GN - GNWT</p> <p>Negotiations continue</p> <p>2010: In consultation with the GNWT, Canada tables offers to GKD and AD which did not meet with previous commitments.</p> <p>2011: AD rejects offer from Canada</p> <p>2012: Canada presents a revised offer to AD that meets with previous commitments.</p> <p>GNWT no longer participate in AD negotiations. GN also withdraw from both AD and GKD negotiations.</p> 	<p>AD – GKD – Inuit – Canada</p> <p>We obtain an Interim Land Withdrawal (ILW) to protect our selected lands</p> <p>2013: Canada puts in place an ILW.</p> <p>2014: On April 1, Devolution happens. The GNWT becomes responsible for managing public land, water, and resources in the NWT. GNWT is obligated to mirror Canada's ILW.</p>  <p>2012 – 2015: AD (and Canada) work to reengage the GNWT in the negotiations. GNWT remains opposed to Canada's land offer to the AD.</p>	<p>AD – GKD – Inuit – Canada</p> <p>We complete the drafting of the Final Agreement</p> <p>Land quantum currently offered to AD : NWT: 2400 km² Nunavut: 700 km²</p> <p>2015: Aboriginal groups meet with INAC to develop a bilateral approach to conclude the negotiations within Canada's deadline (end of mandate on May 18, 2016).</p> <p>2016: ILW is up for renewal. GNWT withdrew 80% of AD-Canada identified lands. AD launches legal action to get the remaining 20% of the lands protected.</p> <p>AD is now awaiting Canada's renewed mandate.</p> 

Federal representatives have characterized the AD situation as the most complex in the country due to overlapping interests and territories of many aboriginal groups and multiple governmental jurisdictions. In spite of this complexity, we are making progress and we are committed to resolving our issues through negotiations.