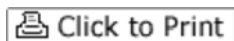


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Treaty group welcomes support from Amnesty International

Published: April 02, 2010 4:00 AM

The Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group is pleased by gesture of support from Amnesty International.

A press release issued by the HTG says the recent statement by Amnesty International's Secretary General Alex Neve validated the HTG's complaint regarding the violation of the human rights of indigenous people whose traditional territories were confiscated and then privatized.

"Amnesty International's support of the human rights violations experienced by the HTG is a substantial milestone," said HTG chief negotiator Robert Morales, in a press release. "This support comes from the preeminent worldwide human rights organization and further validates the work that we've been doing."

The roots of the HTG's complaint reach back to 1884 when the Canadian government gave a massive private land grant to E&N Railway — some 750,000 acres on Vancouver Island, including about 80 per cent of HTG's traditional territory.

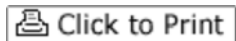
"The statement by Amnesty International helps us continue to send a clear signal that human rights abuses must be addressed," said Cowichan Chief Lydia Hwitsum in the same release.

"Indigenous Canadians have suffered many

historical abuses to their human rights which continue in Hul'qumi'num territory today.”

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