

Ontario Government and NAN Moving Forward on Iacobucci Report*Enhancing First Nation Representation on Juries*

June 21, 2013 1:00 p.m.

The Ontario government is partnering with First Nations to take an important first step to address the representation of First Nations people on the province's juries.

Today, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler was appointed co-chair of a committee that will oversee the implementation of recommendations in a report by former Supreme Court of Canada Justice Frank Iacobucci.

Together with co-chair Assistant Deputy Attorney General Irwin Glasberg, Deputy Grand Chief Fiddler will lead an implementation committee that will include First Nations leaders, public servants and others in the justice sector, including a youth representative.

The co-chairs' first responsibility will be to provide advice to the Ministry of the Attorney General on the selection of committee members. We anticipate that the full committee will be established later this summer.

Addressing First Nations representation on juries is part of the government's plan to build a stronger, more accessible justice system and a fair society for all.

QUOTES

" Deputy Grand Chief Fiddler's expertise and passion for improving our justice system in Aboriginal communities make him a tremendous asset to the implementation committee. By working together as partners, I'm confident we can find timely and effective solutions to address the under-representation of First Nations people on juries."

- John Gerretsen
Attorney General

" I look forward to working with the Ministry of the Attorney General to ensure that the recommendations of Justice Iacobucci's report are implemented in a way that truly addresses the crisis of First Nations in the justice system. By working together we are taking positive steps to ensure that all First Nations can exercise their right to serve on juries and to ensure that there

is a path forward to achieving justice for First Nations."

- Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler

Nishnawbe Aski Nation

QUICK FACTS

- On [Feb. 26, 2013](#), Ontario received the Honourable Frank Iacobucci's report, *First Nations Representation on Ontario Juries*, which proposes ways to increase First Nations representation on juries and strengthen the justice system.
- The government immediately committed to establishing an implementation committee, one of the report's recommendations.
- The Ministry of the Attorney General has also committed to implementing Mr. Iacobucci's recommendation to establish an advisory group that will provide the Attorney General with advice on broader justice issues affecting First Nations. It is anticipated that the committee will be established in fall 2013.

LEARN MORE

- [Read the Honourable Frank Iacobucci's report: First Nations Representation on Ontario Juries.](#)

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