



## **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' SPACE**

### **OVERVIEW**

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The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) is continuing to work with partners to develop a vision for the future use of the Indigenous Peoples' Space.

On June 21, 2017, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that the former American embassy would become a space for Indigenous peoples, with its function and use to be determined in partnership with the AFN, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), Métis National Council (MNC) and Canada.

The Indigenous Peoples' Space project will encompass the 100 Wellington Street building and 119 Sparks Street.

Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution 29/2017, *100 Wellington Street*, in July 2017, giving the AFN a mandate to initiate a process to determine the most effective use of the 100 Wellington Street space as an Indigenous Peoples Space.

Resolution 29/2017 also directed the AFN to make sure that the appropriate protocols with the Algonquin Nations are engaged and to ensure Algonquin involvement.

In February 2018, the Department of Crown Indigenous Relations convened representatives from the AFN, ITK, and MNC to participate in a technical working group on the project. Following this, the AFN and the Algonquin Nations convened the All Algonquin Common Table to advance Resolution 29/2017. In February 2019, the Algonquin Nations joined Canada's technical working group.

The AFN is seeking early use of the 100 Wellington Street building to assert First Nations presence in the Parliamentary Precinct for intergovernmental business. It is expected that early or interim use of the site will continue until major construction commences.

### **UPDATE**

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In July 2019, a demonstration by the Algonquin Nations resulted in commitment from Canada to create a dedicated space for the Algonquin Nations between 100 Wellington St. and 119 Sparks St.

The AFN honoured Grand Chief Verna Polson, for her leadership during the demonstration,

at the 2019 Annual General Assembly in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution 29/2019, *100 Wellington St.*, supporting the Algonquin Nations in representing their own interests, rights and title by establishing a bilateral process with Canada to develop a

dedicated Algonquin space in a newly created building between 119 Sparks St. and 100 Wellington St.

### NEXT STEPS

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The AFN is proactively engaging with all project partners to finalize partnership agreements.

The AFN is pursuing resources to advance Resolution 29/2019 and the continuation of the project. For more information, please see the AFN website.

