

Here's what it looks like.

Indigenous outcomes, measured against everyone else.

How much more likely — First Nations vs. other Canadians

MURDERED / MISSING
Indigenous women



OPIOID DEATHS
accidental poisoning



INCARCERATION
4.3% of adults → 33% of prisoners



FOSTER CARE
7.7% of kids → 53.8% in care



YOUTH SUICIDE
vs non-Indigenous youth



POVERTY RATE
despite billions spent



Each bar shows how many times more likely, relative to non-Indigenous Canadians (1x). Sources: Statistics Canada · National Inquiry into MMIWG · Indigenous Services Canada.

LIFE EXPECTANCY

First Nations ~73 yrs

Other Canadians ~82 yrs

A 9–10 year gap. For Inuit, up to 17.7 years. Statistics Canada

Why would anyone want to fight to continue like this?

These are the results 150 years of Ottawa rule has delivered.

This is the system a federally appointed judge has ruled Albertans cannot vote to change.

www.letstalkalberta.com



VISIT THE CONVERSATION



www.letstalkalberta.com

This pamphlet reaches your mailbox because Albertans like you funded it. Every dollar helps us reach the next neighbour with the truth.

SUPPORT THE WORK



e-transfer: letstalkalberta@gmail.com

RETURN TO:

Let's Talk Alberta · Box 105 · Mirror, Alberta T0B 3C0



AN HONEST CONVERSATION

What if independence is the path Indigenous Albertans have been waiting for?

46%

of First Nations respondents said they would vote YES to Alberta independence.

“Indigenous communities are not one voice. Albertans are not one voice. That's the whole point of a vote.”

SCAN TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION



www.letstalkalberta.com

THE POLL

What Indigenous Albertans actually said.

First Nations Albertans — YES to independence

46%

General Alberta population — YES to independence

33%

Mainstreet Research (A-rated) · 3,000 Albertans, weighted to census.

Field: April 19–29, 2026 · Released: May 8, 2026.

Margin: ±1.8%, 19/20 · Commissioned by: Act For Alberta.

“Treaties were meant to free people. Ottawa made them chains instead.”

— Christopher Scott

↳ Read the essay: whistlestoptruckstop.ca/blog

Activist chiefs claim to speak for a unified Indigenous opposition. The data shows nearly half of First Nations Albertans want a different future.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Who benefits most from keeping things exactly as they are?

Typical member, on reserve — median income, 2020

\$32,000

O’Chiese chief — salary, 2013–14

\$164,453

Fort McKay chief — salary, 2013–14

\$644,441

Member income (all sources): Statistics Canada, 2021 Census · Chief salaries (tax-free): Transparency Act filings. Stoney Nakoda’s 17 elected leaders were paid \$2.7M combined that year.

Their leadership earned five to twenty times a typical member’s income. **The people a system rewards most have the most reason to keep it.**

These 2013–14 figures are the last made public — Ottawa stopped enforcing the transparency law in December 2015. **Everyone deserves to see where the money goes.**

THE HONEST ANSWERS

What about the treaties?

Doesn’t independence violate Treaties 6, 7, and 8?

A federally appointed judge has already addressed this. In December 2025, Justice Colin Feasby wrote:

“This case has not decided that First Nations have a veto over Alberta independence.”

Treaties survive jurisdictional change — they survived the HBC, Confederation, and the 1930 NRTAs. **An independent Alberta would inherit every Crown obligation in full.**

What about the May 13, 2026 ruling?

A federally appointed judge ruled Alberta cannot ask its citizens — **including its First Nations citizens** — a question without first getting permission from a handful of chiefs.

We agree consultation matters. We do *not* agree consultation should precede the asking of the question itself. A referendum is not separation — it is democracy in action for all 4.5 million Albertans, First Nations included. Several chiefs now refuse to consult on anything, on any terms — turning “duty to consult” into a **permanent veto** on Alberta’s right to ask its own people a question. The same federally appointed judges who claim to protect First Nations have presided over the system that produced every number on the other flap.

What about reserve lands and the Indian Act?

The Indian Act of 1876 has failed. An independent Alberta could end it entirely — replaced with self-government **negotiated nation-to-nation**, not imposed by Ottawa.

Every treaty right — annuities, reserve protections, hunting and fishing — entrenched in Alberta’s founding constitution at protection equal to or stronger than Section 35.

The law doesn’t change the question that needs answering: What has 150 years of federal control done for Indigenous Albertans?

A DIFFERENT FUTURE

What independence could mean.

End the Indian Act.

A 150-year-old colonial statute — ended. Replaced with self-government negotiated nation-to-nation, not imposed from Ottawa.

Opportunity Sharing.

Not dependence on federal transfers that shift with every election — a real stake in what gets built here, and the freedom to build it. **We do the work together, we prosper together.**

The Fort McKay model, scaled.

Indigenous communities with real economic agency have built genuine prosperity. Make that the rule, not the exception.

Constitutional treaty protection.

Treaties 6, 7, and 8 entrenched in Alberta’s founding documents at strength equal to or greater than Section 35.

Systems designed here.

Health, justice, and child welfare — built for the people who actually live here, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, together.

Better than 150 years of Ottawa isn’t a high bar. It’s a moral one.