

CONCLUSION

The Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform has now concluded its work, leaving the people of Saskatchewan to achieve the necessary changes we have outlined in our report, Legacy of Hope.

It is the wish of this Commission that Champions for Change will continue to work towards the reform of justice in Saskatchewan, to improve the conditions in the lives of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The goal of this Commission was to identify efficient, effective and financially responsible reforms to the justice system. The reforms we recommended will improve the justice system so it reflects the strengths and values of First Nations and Metis people, and will ultimately lead to safer communities in Saskatchewan.

The time for change is now, justice must be returned to the communities. Partnerships must be formed with the common outcome being to have a just and prosperous future in this province, to move forward in peace, harmony and respect for each other.

Let us not look back in another 150 years and see no change.

The more intelligent and educated Indians, of which there are great number, are extremely anxious that the experiment should now be tried of allowing them the control of their own private funds, and express themselves ready and willing to assume the consequent liabilities. This desire seems most natural, and I trust that if it be complied within the manner proposed, individual enterprise and industry will be developed to an extent which will justify so important an alteration in the administration of Indian Affairs. (The Earl of Elgin, Governor-General of Upper Canada, 1854)

