
News Release

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Government of Canada and the Federation of Newfoundland Indians Announce Appointment of Ronald G. Penney as Chair of the Qalipu Enrolment Committee

OTTAWA, ONTARIO (September 10, 2013) – The Honourable Bernard Valcourt, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, and Brendan Sheppard, President of the Federation of Newfoundland Indians (FNI), today welcomed the appointment of Mr. Ronald G. Penney as Chair of the [Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Enrolment Committee](#).

“Mr. Penney is a former Deputy Minister of Justice and has deep roots in the legal community in Newfoundland and Labrador,” said Minister Valcourt. “He brings integrity and extensive experience with negotiations of national significance and decades of civic engagement in his home province to this important process, and will be a great asset to the work of the committee.”

“I look forward to working with Mr. Penney to maintain the integrity and credibility of the enrolment process as the enrolment committee reviews the applications received in response to the recognition of our band,” said Qalipu First Nation Chief Brendan Sheppard.

“I am honoured to accept this appointment as Chair of the Enrolment Committee, and to continue to make a contribution to public life in Newfoundland and Labrador,” said Mr. Penney.

As outlined in the [2008 Agreement for the Recognition of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Band](#) and the [2013 Supplemental Agreement](#) agreed to by Canada and the FNI, the Enrolment Committee's function is to assess whether the applications received (except for those previously rejected) meet the eligibility criteria agreed to by the parties.

The Enrolment Committee is composed of five members, including two representatives of the Government of Canada, two Mi'kmaq representatives, and the Chair. Canada and the FNI are responsible for appointing their respective members to the committee while the chairperson is appointed through agreement between both parties.

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The Government of Canada and the FNI will continue to work to ensure all applicants are treated fairly and equitably during this review process. All applicants will be sent a letter in November 2013 that outlines the next steps. The 2013 Supplemental Agreement and [Directive to the Enrolment Committee](#) can be viewed online at www.aandc.gc.ca/qalipu and www.qalipu.ca.

Biographical Note: Ronald G. Penney
Frequently Asked Questions: Appointment of Ronald G. Penney as Chair of Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Enrolment Committee
[Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band Supplemental Agreement](#)

This release is also available on the Internet at www.aandc.gc.ca.

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