

Provincial Court of Nova Scotia

Between:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

and

CONNOR PAUL and SCOTT PAUL

AFFIDAVIT OF CONNOR PAUL

I, Connor Paul, Mi'kmaw citizen, residing at 20 Polchies Ct, in the unceded lands of Mi'kma'ki, New Brunswick, MAKE OATH AND SAY AS FOLLOWS:

Introduction

1. I have personal knowledge of the evidence sworn to in this affidavit except where otherwise stated to be based on information and belief.
2. I state, in this affidavit, the source of any information that is not based on my own personal knowledge, and I state my belief of the source.
3. I make this affidavit in support of the constitutional question I raised regarding my right to be represented in court by my traditional Elders, including Chief Delbert Riley.

Personal Background

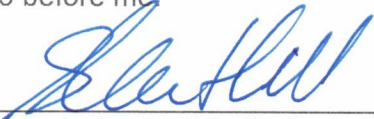
4. I was born in Fredericton, New Brunswick and was originally registered as an Indian Brook First Nation band member. I switched my membership to Sitansisk Wolastoqey (St. Mary's First Nation) when I was adopted by step-father in 2013.

5. I attended Chief Harold Sappier Memorial School, where I often found it challenging to feel a sense of familiarity, especially as an adoptee. Transitioning to Devon Middle School, I faced restrictions on speaking Maliseet, which was a significant part of my identity.
6. In high school at Leo Hayes, I started focusing on both my physical and mental well-being, which helped me overcome challenges like depression and find a deeper sense of self, thanks in part to guidance from my elders and learning traditional ceremonies.
7. After high school, I worked security for St. Mary's First Nation, dealing with various community challenges and supporting those in need. Those experiences were intense but taught me a lot about resilience and community care.
8. My father owns and operates a treaty truck house in St. Mary's First Nation which sells cannabis. His store is one of about a dozen such stores. The shops bring economic and social benefit to the community and provide employment for our people. I worked in my father's store, and after gaining experience in his shop I decided I would exercise my constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights by opening a treaty truckhouse on Crown land near Amherst, Nova Scotia.
9. After my truckhouse in Amherst was raided, my sister Jessica Haji Mohamad who is an executive member of the Micmac Rights Association (MRA), recommended that I connect with Chief Del Riley and his assistant Tom Keefer for assistance in my case as she was familiar with their work with the MRA.
10. We got on a call together to discuss my case and the constitutional issues involved. After speaking to Chief Riley and Mr. Keefer I decided that I wanted them to help me with my case.
11. I am aware of the many contributions that Chief Riley has made to the advancement of Indigenous rights, and I view him as being the most knowledgeable Indigenous elder that I have access to who can best help me raise a constitutional challenge to the laws which infringe on my Aboriginal and treaty rights.
12. I am aware that Chief Riley and his assistant Tom Keefer are not lawyers and cannot provide me with "legal advice." They are providing me with what Chief Riley calls "a traditional treaty defence" which is based upon constitutionally protected Mi'kmaw Aboriginal and treaty rights. This is the path I wish to pursue.
13. I think that having the Indigenous leader who put sections 25 and 35 in Canada's Constitution explain to the court what the Indigenous intention was in negotiating these protections for Aboriginal and treaty rights will be key to winning my case.

14. I don't believe that lawyers that swear an oath to the Crown and who are fundamentally a part of the Canadian legal system are truly able to understand the Indigenous experience or have the same motivation to fight for our rights and interests in the way that Indigenous elders such as Chief Riley will.

SWORN TO/AFFIRMED at

Fredericton, in the County of New Brunswick
York, Province of Nova,
Scotia this 24 day of July,
2025 before me:


A Commissioner of Oaths in and for
the Province of New Brunswick
Being a Solicitor



Connor
CONNOR PETER PAUL