



Alternatives North

28th January 2019

The Honourable Margaret Dawn Senator
The Senate
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A4

Alternatives North is requesting that you support Bill C-262, an Act to ensure that the laws of Canada are in harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Alternatives North is a NWT based social justice coalition working on social, economic and environmental issues.

Bill C-262 would ensure that Canada's laws live up to the human rights affirmed in the UN Declaration and require the federal government to collaborate with Indigenous peoples in developing a national action plan to implement the *UN Declaration*.

Bill C-262 would establish principles that must guide implementation of the *Declaration*, including understanding the impact of colonialism. In addition, it would provide transparency and accountability by requiring annual reporting to Parliament on progress made toward implementation of the *Declaration*.

Our organization strongly believes that the collaborative, non-adversarial approach set out in Bill C-262 is in the spirit of reconciliation and in the best interest of all Canadians. We strongly encourage all Senators to actively support Bill C-262 from this principled perspective.

If the Bill does not reach third reading in the Senate before Parliament is prorogued in June for the federal election, it will die. As a senator representing a jurisdiction where Indigenous are the majority, we urge you to support Bill C-262 and work towards the completion of its reading and adoption by the Senate. We look forward to your response.

Suzette Montreuil
For Alternatives North