



...continued from page 17



BEYOND THE INDIAN ACT

Restoring Aboriginal Property Rights

Tom Flanagan, Christopher Alcantara, and André Le Dressay
Foreword by C.T. (Manny) Jules

Beyond the Indian Act: Restoring Aboriginal Property Rights

Tom Flanagan, Christopher Alcantara, and André Le Dressay

*Foreword by C.T. (Manny) Jules
2010; 978-0-7735-3686-9*

For teacher-librarians, teachers of Native Studies, History, Geography or Native Studies, administrators

Poverty and social challenges afflicting Canada’s aboriginal citizens get lots of attention, but how best to remedy these challenges? With Native Canadian issue long mandated by the Ontario Ministry of Education, finding fresh new resources to address these issues can be helpful.

More a scholarly work than a textbook, the information in *Beyond the Indian Act* can supplement and enhance classes, particularly at more senior grades, dealing with Native Canadian issues. The book focuses on Aboriginal land claims and property rights, which are in the news almost every day.

The book has attracted substantial public attention, including nomination for the Donner Prize in 2001. As a result, there are internet resources discussing the book which can also help to expand the classroom experience.

In order to escape chronic, systemic poverty — to go beyond the Indian Act — the book’s solutions, among

others, aim at providing First Nations with a property rights regime that can attract private investment. The authors propose reform in the registration of the land-title system to recognize individual property ownership on First Nations Land. With sufficient certainty, aboriginal people would be able to invest in their own homes and establish an infrastructure for business. The book proposes the transfer of property tax jurisdiction on aboriginal land to the local, i.e., native level, for strengthened local decision making.

Tom Flanagan is a frequent commentator in the *Globe and Mail* and many other media outlets, a professor of Political Science at the University of Calgary, translator and editor of Métis leader Louis Riel’s diaries, did a stint in politics as manager of Stephen Harper’s Conservative 2004 election campaign, and is currently a Senior Fellow of the Fraser Institute.

Christopher Alcantara is assistant professor of political science at Wilfrid Laurier University.

André Le Dressay is director of Fiscal Realities Economists and holds a PhD in economics from Simon Fraser University.

C.T. (Manny) Jules is chief of the First Nations Tax Commission and a former chief of the Kamloops Indian Band. ■

