



or Mr. P. Lesaux of the Dept. of Indian Affairs concerning the retaining of a lawyer to fight for Indians in this real -- not phony -- situation."

The new law, if passed, would not let Mohawk children go into an English language school in Caughnawaga if they do not face and pass with a 75% mark, a test of their ability in the English language.

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INDIAN'S RIGHT TO SPEAK THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Caughnawaga, Que. - Frank Taiotekane Horn, presently a student at McGill University of Law and the man who registered and founded the Quebec Indian Association in 1968 -- not to be confused with the Indians of Quebec Association, established in October of 1973 -- is chairman of a Committee to protect Indian language rights. He is presently organizing the group which includes such Indian leaders as Charles Canadian, Aileen Marquis and Ernest Jacobs.

Mr. Horn claims that he has conferred with a leading Montreal lawyer, and the present anti-English language legislation will bar many of the Mohawk children from going to an English language school.

According to Mr. Horn "at least 30% of the Indians of Caughnawaga are traditional and as infants they speak Mohawk. When they are 4 to 6 years of age, if they apply to go to school, they just cannot speak English yet. So they will be called on either to get a privilege which can be taken away at any time or they will be forced to go to a French-language school! I have asked the Department of Indian Affairs to finance opposition to this discriminatory law and I have demanded that the Hon. Frances Cloutier see our Committee.

According to Mr. Horn the Dept. of Indian Affairs put up \$1,000,000.00 to oppose the James Bay Project. "The \$million should be put up to protect Indian language rights as no French language organization has the right to take away our language, and the Canadian government must stand by us in this crisis. It is a shocking shame to see a law designed to force all Indians to become French-Canadians." So far he has had no answer from the Hon. Jean Chretien

TREATY RECORDS SAID TO BE "OFF LIMITS"

Edmonton - Richard Price, director of Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Research (TARR) for the Indian Association of Alberta, said that records vital to researchers digging into Indian treaties have been placed off limits by the federal and provincial governments. The governments are using various separate rules to seclude the files and it's hurting research aimed at interpreting treaties.

At stake are billions of dollars in benefits, land claims, and the reputations of individuals and the departments involved in carrying out treaty terms.

Both governments have closed files on the Natural Resources Transfer Agreement of 1930 between Alberta and Ottawa. Researchers have been denied access to files on Treaty Eight, signed in 1809, which involves natives in the Northwest Territories and northern Alberta, said Mr. Price.

An Indian Affairs spokesman in Ottawa said he wasn't aware of the problem. "If there are (problems), I'd like to hear about them and straighten them out." he said.

Mr. Price said questionable and illegal activities by Indian agents are hidden in government files. "These could be very damaging to federal Indian affairs."

Despite these recent setbacks, Mr. Price said T.A.R.R. has made progress through its research, having had preliminary negotiations with the provincial government on native trapping, hunting and fishing rights.

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