SHOAL LAKE 40 FIRST NATION MUSEUM OF CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS

VIOLATIONS

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Press Release

SHOAL LAKE 40 LAUNCHES THE MUSEUM OF CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

One of Canada's First Nations is looking to educate the world about that country's true Human Rights record with the launch of a **Museum of Canadian Human Rights Violations**. Their 'living museum' consists of a guided tour of their own indigenous community located just two hours east of the new Canadian Museum for Human Rights, opening this week in Winnipeg. Shoal Lake happens to be the source of Winnipeg's water supply and the Shoal Lake 40 community has been cut off and economically repressed as a result of Canada's imposition of that city's intake on their reserve land. The ongoing difficulties and injustice experienced by the community has received widespread media attention and has attracted support from national and international Human Rights organizations. Ironically, Canada's museum architect, Antoine Predock, chose to use Shoal Lake water as a symbol of 'healing' in his building's "Garden of Contemplation."

Roxanne Greene, a past councilor and one of the Violations Museum's organizers explained, "At the settlers' end of the water pipe there's economic prosperity, clean drinking water and a \$350 million building that advertises 'healing' and brags about what a wonderful country Canada is. At our end of the pipe, we have 17 years of boil water order, no job opportunities and we are forced to risk our lives for basic necessities. It's important that the world have opportunity to see that huge Canadian contradiction."

"Their [Shoal Lake #40's] story is one that more Canadians need to hear because it can tell us so much about the deeply flawed relationship between the federal government and First Nations." Craig Benjamin, Campaigner for the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Amnesty International

"I've been touring politicians and bureaucrats around our reserve for years," said Stewart Redsky, a former Chief, "Showing them all the injustices and the ways we're blocked from accessing the necessities of life. Nothing has changed. A Violations Museum is at least a way to broaden the understanding of injustice to the rest of the world."

While the opening of Shoal Lake #40's **Museum of Canadian Human Rights Violations** coincides with the opening of the Canada's Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg, it is not a flash in the pan. The volunteers assert that their Museum's program of educating the world on Canada's hypocrisy will continue, "as long as the waters run" and as long as the violations continue.

"There's a whole cascade of human rights issues here [at Shoal Lake #40] including the forced isolation of this community, but we could also talk about the rights to health, personal security, freedom of movement and association and even the right to life." Clint Curle, Head of Stakeholder Relations, Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

"Our government is cooperating with the volunteers in showcasing the Violations. We're allowing access to some band facilities but mostly it's a lack of things like a water treatment and garbage disposal. People are opening their homes and telling their stories so it's a whole community thing. After centuries of colonialism, there's unfortunately lots to see," said Chief Erwin Redsky. "Who knows, if a lot of people come out, maybe we can turn 100 years of human and Treaty rights violations into an economic opportunity."

Daily tours of the Museum of Canadian Human Rights Violations are by appointment: Call or email:

Tours and General Info: (807) 733-2315, Fax: (807) 733-3115, Email: sl40secretary@hotmail.ca

Media Relations: Cuyler Cotton, (807) 467-1492 (voice and text), Email: dovetail@kmts.ca

Attachments: 2

What visitors to Shoal Lake #40 First Nation, site of the <u>Museum of Canadian</u> Human Rights Violations have said about the experience:

"Their [Shoal Lake #40's] story is one that more Canadians need to hear because it can tell us so much about the deeply flawed relationship between the federal government and First Nations." Craig Benjamin, Campaigner for the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Amnesty International

http://www.amnesty.ca/blog/justice-almost-within-reach-for-shoal-lake-40-first-nation

"When most people think of Shoal Lake 40, they think of the right to clean water, but that's really just the tip of the iceberg. There's a whole cascade of human rights issues here including the forced isolation of this community, but we could also talk about the rights to health, personal security, freedom of movement and association and even the right to life. All of these are live issues here because of the canal," Clint Curle, Head of Stakeholder Relations, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, (which features Shoal Lake water.)

http://www.kenoradailyminerandnews.com/2014/07/11/shoal-lake-40-first-nation-marks-100-years-of-isolation-by-sharing-their-stories

"Many lives have been lost and damaged by this man-made isolation, [at Shoal Lake #40] while Winnipeg has benefited and profited from the water."

-Linda Goossen, Council of Canadians

http://www.canadianswinnipeg.org/apps/blog/show/42492677-the-other-end-of-the-aqueduct "And we support the Shoal Lake First Nation in its fight for justice." –Maude Barlow, Chair, Council of Canadians

https://twitter.com/MaudeBarlow/status/491944804951945217

"Today marks 100 years since the water diversion for the Greater Winnipeg Water District impacted the lives of members from the Shoal Lake First Nations for generations. Many Winnipeggers are unaware, or take for granted, that we obtain our drinking water from Indian Bay – an arm of Shoal Lake. ... it will take everyone working together as equals and partners to ensure a just solution is found."

"Thank you to Chief Erwin Redsky, the elders, and the entire Band of Shoal Lake #40, for continuing to educate us." Sam Katz, Mayor of the City of Winnipeg Written statement of Mayor Sam Katz on the occasion of the "Price of Water" event, Shoal Lake #40, July 9, 2014.

Attachment 2: Promo Material (2 pages)

Shoal Lake #40 <u>Museum of Canadian Human Rights Violations</u>: Promotional Material



call 807-733-2315 or 807-733-2250 email sl40secretary@hotmail.ca www.sl40

Exhibits made possible by the GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

SEE RIGHTS DENIED

Real Dislocation from Ancestral Homelands! (Article 17 UDHR)

VIEW* STOLEN LANDS AND DESECRATED BURIAL GROUNDS

*from a distance – no trespassing, no photographs and



strict security surveillance by occupiers will apply.

GENUINE ECONOMIC DEPRIVATION

(Article 23 UDHR)

Meet real people struggling to survive with little hope of development in a severely restricted designated area.

CAUTION: Handouts may trigger offended response

LOADS OF INADEQUATE SHELTER AND SERVICES! (Articles 25 and 26 UDHR)

Visit your choice of dilapidated homes or infrastructure - school, day care, offices.

*health and safety waiver required



EXPERIENCE!

Actual Restrictions of Your Own Freedom of movement! (Article 13 UDHR)

PAY REAL COSTS TO GET TO THE SITE RISK YOUR LIFE* ACCESSING THE MUSEUM

*level of risk may vary by season and weather



UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

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SL~40~MHRV~BROCHURE~Pg~2

MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACT: Cuyler Cotton, (807)467-1492, dovetail@kmts.ca 1 September 15, 2014

Shoal Lake #40 <u>Museum of Canadian Human Rights Violations</u>: Promotional Material

"AS LONG AS THE SUN SHINES AND THE WATERS FLOW" (UNDRIP)

A genuine Treaty is on site ... realistically obscured by the Indian Act and easily ignored by the whole family.

BE REFUSED CLEAN DRINKING WATER GENUINE UNCLEAN* WATER AVAILABLE

17+ years certified boil water order by Health Canada



TESTIMONIALS

What visitors to Shoal Lake #40, site of the Museum for Canadian Human Rights Violations have said.

"Their [Shoal Lake #40's] story is one that more Canadians need to hear because it can tell us so much about the deeply flawed relationship between the federal government and First Nations."

Craig Benjamin, Campaigner for the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Amnesty International

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Clint Curle, Head of Stakeholder Relations, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, which features Shoal Lake water.

Informative, stimulating, real-life violations of rights such as:

RIGHT TO CLEAN WATER RIGHT TO SAFETY AND SECURITY RIGHT TO THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE

UNDRIP: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

SL 40 MHRV BROCHURE Pg 3

MORE TESTIMONIALS

"Many lives have been lost and damaged by this man-made isolation, [at Shoal Lake #40] while Winnipeg has benefited and profited from the water."

Linda Goossen, Council of Canadians Winnipeg Chapter

"And we support the Shoal Lake First Nation in its fight for justice."

Maude Barlow, Chair, Council of Canadians

"Today marks 100 years since the water diversion for the Greater Winnipeg Water District impacted the lives of members from the Shoal Lake First Nation for generations. Many Winnipeggers are unaware, or take for granted, that we obtain our drinking water from Indian Bay – an arm of Shoal Lake. ... it will take everyone working together as equals and partners to ensure a just solution is found."

"Thank you to Chief Erwin Redsky, the elders, and the entire Band of Shoal Lake #40, for continuing to educate us."

Sam Katz, Mayor of the City of Winnipeg

Statement by Mayor Sam Katz for the "Price of Water" event, Shoal Lake #40, July 9, 2014.

How to get there:

Begin at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in downtown Winnipeg.

Go to the 'healing waters' featured in ______ Antoine Predock's "Garden of Contemplation".



Follow the 'healing waters' supply pipe to its source at Shoal Lake #40 First Nation

EXPERIENCE THE TRUTH ABOUT CANADA'S REAL HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD

A project of the Shoal Lake #40 community Price of Water group

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