

EQUALITY

- Will we actually hold the pen or will it be public security Canada?
- Despite the good relationships between police services, the government of Quebec never saw our police services as equivalent to their police services.
- The bigger voices speak between themselves - how are we to make our case clear and be heard?
- Where there's failure is that there's no recognition that we are governments as well.
- We often have to beg to get our voices heard, unless we still play by their rules, it's not a fair resolution process. There is a power imbalance within the law.
- We need to ensure that the First Nations have more weight and more power in determining how the policing standards are put into place.
- At the end of the day if we don't have the ability to be a part of the drafting, then we're being put into these little boxes and the walls are defined for us.
- The relationship is getting better but at the end of the day, we're trying to have a partnership that doesn't really work. First Nations policing definitely doesn't have a fair shake or an equal place at the table. The province kind of wheels in their power over us. We are kind of always stuck. We need to find a way to coexist and be true partners.

LANGUAGE USED NEEDS TO ACCURATELY REPRESENT FIRST NATIONS

- There are issues with the language - it is important to flag some of the language.
- We are worried that the language will not reflect the changes needed.
- The wording takes us backwards. We must recognize First Nation Leadership.

JURISDICTION

- One of the main elements missing is the discussion around jurisdiction - the fundamental basis of why we're here and what we want out of our future police services.
- With regards to the jurisdiction, officers don't want to interfere because they're scared.

SOMETHING HAS TO HAPPEN NOW

- Why do we need a second engagement? Things have been told to Canada for decades of policing of what needs to be done - this should be a simple process - recognizing our policing service like everywhere else in the country - why has it been so complicated?
- This isn't going to happen, we have been talking about this for decades, and nothing ever happens. I don't know what the reality is but let's really get this done.
- I've been involved in this conversation for the past 8 years now and at some point I think we need to deliver what we committed to deliver to our communities.
- We need to realize that there must be a result somewhere. - not just have these communities wait and wait. We won't train officers overnight, but if we don't start today, we'll never start.
- What I've heard today is that we certainly need to advance.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND DECISION MAKERS AT THE TABLE

- How do we ensure that all levels of government are held accountable?
- We have at least a few cases before the courts - one namely is with the indigenous police chiefs of Ontario who went to the federal court, and even with a federal decision, there is still no deal.
- It's not about more time, it's about more time with the decision makers.

KEY POINTS/TOPICS – Quebec City, March 12th, 2024

- What I see is Canada engaging with First Nations but yet when you meet as a Canadian government with the provinces, we are nowhere near that process.
- The capacity to act as Government is what's needed! To be a decision maker and have that decision making capacity.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE FIRST NATIONS WAYS

- Trying to force the negotiation and take what it is you're given, is not necessarily a respectful response.
- The dispute resolution process is not currently fair. It's a take it or leave it offer/solution approach, and that is disrespectful and needs to be removed.
- The current draft is problematic because of the current power imbalances. The resolutions tend to be unfair. No law trumps the other law. The game is set so that it's already unfair to Indigenous people. Mediation process shouldn't be voluntary. The models are currently western but they should be more Indigenous models.