



HUL'QUMI'NUM TREATY GROUP



MEDIA ADVISORY

October 26, 2011

Canadian First Nations Secure Hearing before International Rights Commission in Washington, D.C.

Ladysmith BC – The Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group (HTG) will hold a media briefing conference call on Friday, October 28, 2011, following the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) hearing on the merits of their land rights claims. This case is significant because it is the first time that IACHR is considering a Canadian indigenous land rights issue.

“This represents a historic opportunity to address a human rights issue in Canada that could have far-reaching implications for the indigenous movement worldwide,” said Robert Morales, Chief Negotiator for the HTG.

HTG has had a longstanding petition against Government of Canada for failing to secure, recognize and safeguard the property rights of the Hul'qumi'num indigenous peoples in their ancestral lands.

Morales added: “We are not asking to turn back the clock and investigate historic wrongs; rather urging effective resolution of land rights and consultations with the Hul'qumi'num indigenous peoples regarding the on-going deforestation and development activities by private corporations.”

WHAT: Press briefing conference call following IACHR hearing on Hul'qumi'num land rights case.

WHEN: Friday, October 28, 2011 at 12:00 noon U.S. EDT/ 9 a.m. BC time.

WHERE: Dial in to the following conference numbers:

U.S. Toll free: 1-888-529-0347

Canada/International: +1-719-234-7500

Pass code: 283634

WHO: Chief Richard Thomas, Chief Lydia Hwitsum, Robert A. Williams, Robert Morales HTG Spokespersons; Craig Benjamin, Amnesty International; Heather Neun, Lawyers Rights Watch Canada; and, Jody Wilson Raybould, Assembly of First Nations.

For additional details and to RSVP, please contact:

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