The Honourable Marco E. L. Mendicino, P.C., M.P. Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship 365 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 1L1

February 20, 2020

Re: "Oath of Citizenship bill tabled in Parliament"

Dear Minister Mendicino,

CAPIC welcomes the proposed change to the Canadian Oath of Citizenship to recognize the rights of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. Recognizing Indigenous peoples in this way is important step toward reconciliation.

As Canada remains a welcoming place for newcomers, we must not forget Indigenous peoples' history. It is crucial to help new Canadians learn about and appreciate this history. This process will help foster greater understanding and respect between Canada's diverse groups.

And while Canadian citizenship is a shining beacon of hope for countless people around the world, this hasn't always been the case for Indigenous peoples. Fortunately, today we are one step closer to creating a more inclusive society for Indigenous peoples. We trust that Canadians will never waver from the commitment to reconciliation.

For our part, CAPIC is happy to provide consultation and feedback to help the Minister and his team to ensure Canada's continued progress toward greater inclusivity. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Dory Jade, C.Dir

Chief Executive Officer

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