



Clerk's stamp:

COURT FILE NUMBER

1103 14112

COURT

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF ALBERTA

JUDICIAL CENTRE

EDMONTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUSTEE ACT,
R.S.A. 2000, c. T-8, AS AMENDED

IN THE MATTER OF THE SAWRIDGE BAND
INTER VIVOS SETTLEMENT CREATED BY
CHIEF WALTER PATRICK TWINN, OF THE
SAWRIDGE INDIAN BAND, NO. 19 now known
as SAWRIDGE FIRST NATION ON APRIL 15,
1985

APPLICANTS

ROLAND TWINN,
WALTER FELIX TWIN,
BERTHA L'HIRONDELLE,
CLARA MIDBO, and
CATHERINE TWINN, as trustees for the 1985
Sawridge Trust ("Sawridge Trustees")

DOCUMENT

**Application (Statement of Issues and
Relief Sought)**

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE AND
CONTACT INFORMATION OF
PARTY FILING THIS DOCUMENT

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File No: 551860-001-DCEB

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT(S)

This application is made against you. You are a respondent.

You have the right to state your side of this matter before the Case Management Justice.

To do so, you must be in Court when the application is heard as shown below:

Date	To Be Determined
Time	To Be Determined
Where	Law Courts, 1 A Sir Winston Churchill Square, Edmonton
Before Whom	To Be Determined

Go to the end of this document to see what you can do and when you must do it.

Basis for this claim:

1. The Applicants, the Sawridge Trustees, are the Trustees of the Sawridge Band Inter Vivos Settlement ("1985 Trust"). The Applicants seek determination of an issue and advice and directions from this Court. Pursuant to the comments of the Court of Appeal in *Twinn v Twinn*, 2017 ABCA 419, the Applicants file this document to set out and clarify the advice and directions sought in this Application.
2. The 1985 Trust was settled on April 15, 1985. Thereafter, section 15 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* came into force, following the signing of the *Charter* into law.
3. After the 1985 Trust was settled, Bill C-31 was passed into law, making significant amendments to the *Indian Act*, R.S.C. 1970, Chapter I-6. Those amendments included the reinstatement of status and membership to women who had married non-Indigenous men and therefore lost their status and membership under the *Indian Act* prior to the amendments.
4. The definition of "Beneficiary" in the Trust Deed of the 1985 Trust makes specific reference to determining members of the Sawridge First Nation ("SFN") by reference to the *Indian Act* as it read as at April 15, 1982, before Bill C-31 was passed. The Trust Deed specifically prohibits amendment of the definition of "Beneficiary".
5. The 1985 Trust was funded from assets that had belonged to the SFN. Currently, there are members of SFN who are not beneficiaries of the 1985 Trust, such as the Bill C-31 women. There are beneficiaries of the 1985 Trust who are not members of SFN.
6. There may be other forms of discrimination in the definition of "Beneficiary".
7. The Applicants seek a determination of the following issue:

Is the definition of "Beneficiary" in the Trust Deed of the 1985 Trust discriminatory, insofar as the

definition refers to provisions of the *Indian Act*, R.S.C. 1970, c I-6, which have since been amended, and reads:

"Beneficiary" at any particular time shall mean all persons who at that time qualify as members of the Sawridge Indian Band No. 19 pursuant to the provisions of the Indian Act R.S.C. 1970, Chapter I-6 as such provisions existed on the 15th day of April, 1982 and, in the event that such provisions are amended after the date of the execution of this Deed all persons who at such particular time would qualify for membership of the Sawridge Indian Band No. 19 pursuant the said provisions as such provisions existed on the 15th day of April, 1982 and, for greater certainty, no persons who would not qualify as members of the Sawridge Indian Band No. 19 pursuant to the said provisions, as such provisions existed on the 15th day of April, 1982, shall be regarded as "Beneficiaries" for the purpose of this Settlement whether or not such persons become or are at any time considered to be members of the Sawridge Indian Band No. 19 for all or any other purposes by virtue of amendments to the Indian Act R.S.C. 1970, Chapter I-6 that may come into force at any time after the date of the execution of this Deed or by virtue of any other legislation enacted by the Parliament of Canada or by any province or by virtue of any regulation, Order in Council, treaty or executive act of the Government of Canada or any province or by any other means whatsoever; provided, for greater certainty, that any person who shall become enfranchised, become a member of another Indian band or in any manner voluntarily cease to be a member of the Sawridge Indian Band No. 19 under the Indian Act R.S.C. 1970, Chapter I-6, as amended from time to time, or any consolidation thereof or successor legislation thereto shall thereupon cease to be a Beneficiary for all purposes of this Settlement;

Remedy sought:

8. If the definition of "Beneficiaries" is found not to be discriminatory, then the Applicants do not expect to seek any other relief.
9. If the definition of "Beneficiary" is discriminatory, the Applicants seek direction from this Court as to the appropriate remedy, and particularly whether the appropriate remedy is:
 - (a) To modify the definition by striking out language that has a discriminatory effect such that the definition of "Beneficiary" in the 1985 Trust will be reduced to members of the Sawridge First Nation?
 - (b) If the remedy in paragraph 9(a) is not granted to determine if the 1985 Trust can be amended pursuant to,
 - (i) the amending provisions of the Trust Deed, or
 - (ii) Section 42 of the *Trustee Act*?
10. If the definition of "Beneficiary" is modified, by striking out language or otherwise, then:
 - (a) Should there be "grandfathering" such that any of the individuals who met the definition of "Beneficiary" before this relief is granted will remain Beneficiaries?

(b) If the answer to 10(a) is "yes", what should the terms of such "grandfathering" be and who will be grandfathered?

11. Such further and other relief as this Court may deem appropriate.

Affidavit or other evidence to be used in support of this application:

12. Such material as has been filed to date and has been posted on the applicable court ordered website at www.sawridgetrusts.ca

13. Such further material as counsel may further advise and this Honourable Court may admit.

How the Application is to be heard:

14. The application is to be heard in Special Chambers before the presiding Justice at a date to be determined.

Applicable Acts and regulations and Orders:

15. *Alberta Rules of Court*, Alta Reg 124/2010;

16. *Trustee Act*, RSA 2000, c T-8;

17. Order of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta dated January 5, 2018 in case management.

WARNING

If you do not come to Court either in person or by your lawyer, the Court may give the applicant(s) what they want in your absence. You will be bound by any order that the Court makes. If you want to take part in this application, you or your lawyer must attend in Court on the date and time shown at the beginning of the form. If you intend to rely on an affidavit or other evidence when the application is heard or considered, you must reply by giving reasonable notice of the material to the applicant.