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Enduring neoliberalism in Alberta's oil sands: the troubling effects of private-public partnerships for First Nation and Métis communities

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Notes

1. Aboriginal rights, as referred to under Section 35, are based on the idea that the Aboriginal peoples of Canada have the right to govern themselves in relation to matters that are internal to their communities, integral to their unique cultures, identities, traditions, languages, and institutions, and with respect to their special relationship to their lands and resources.

2. The act including commentary was accessed online at:
http://www2.parl.gc.ca/Sites/LOP/LegislativeSummaries/Bills_ls.asp?lang = E&ls = C7&source = library_prb&Parl = 37&Ses = 2 [January 2010].

3. INAC is the successor to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

4. However, in a 10-year anniversary assessment of the government's fulfillment of the plan set out in the RCAP report, the Assembly of First Nations (2006) argued that many pr

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weakening 'once important distinctions between public and private, left and rights, government and industry, state and market' ([2004](#), p. 3).

10. Bradford ([2003](#)) draws on the ideas of Hall and Soskice about LMEs and CMEs in his discussion of policies introduced by New Democrat and Conservative governments in Ontario. He argues that neoliberal partnerships are more often associated with LMEs because of their historical absence of institutionalized networks and structures to support partnership. An institutional focus, in his view, helps to explain implementation challenges to social democratic partnership innovations that he observed in Ontario.

11. Max Weber suggested that for certain jobs to confer high income and special advantages, it is important for their incumbents to have various means of excluding others from access to them, a process described as 'social closure' or 'opportunity hoarding' (Wright [2009](#), p. 104). Educational credentials are a common way of restricting access to jobs.

12. The five First Nations that compose the ATC are the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Chipewyan Prairie First Nation, Fort McKay First Nation, Fort McMurray 468 First Nation, and the Mikisew Cree. There are significant numbers of Métis living in Fort McMurray, Fort McKay, Fort Chipewyan, Chard (Janvier), Willow Lake (Anzac), and Conklin. The number of individuals considered non-status is unclear. There are very few Inuit in the region. The report also discusses the presence of Métis in the region.

13. TLE (2008) discusses the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation and asserts that the region is a promised land under traditional governance.

14. Treaties and land claims in the north.

15. The region is rich in the oil sands) and is the focus of the scope of the Act, not a formal settlement between Canada/First Nations. The region is also a budgetary challenge (Slowey [2008](#)). The region is a group of



companies; MCFN-operated businesses employ close to 200 local people, translating into an annual impact on the community of roughly \$5 million (Slowey [2008](#)).

16. The majority of interviews (41) were audio-taped and transcribed and notes were taken for all others.

17. This information was presented by Dr. Ali Abdelrahman at a Statistics Canada conference in Edmonton called 'Strength in Numbers' in March [2008](#).

18. Information about this program was available on the following website:
http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/employment/aboriginal_training/about_asep/fact_sheet.shtml
[Accessed 19 October 2008].

19. Conflict between Métis and First Nations groups is not surprising given the differential treatment of groups by government. As Abele et al. note, 'First Nations are often uneasy when federal attention turns to Métis and Non-Status Indians, fearing that an already inadequate financial pie will be sliced into every smaller pieces, and ... that the importance of treaties will be eroded' (2005, p. 107). On the other side, Métis groups seek greater recognition of their rights by government.

20. Both of these programs were established in 2003. Information about these programs was available on the following website:

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