

ABORIGINAL STATUS NOTES

What is the difference between Aboriginal and Indigenous and First Nations?

Aboriginal peoples in Canada include First Nations, Metis and Inuit. On the other hand, First Nations refer to indigenous people in Canada other than Metis and Inuit. 4. Aboriginal is used in the larger sense and refers to all indigenous people whereas First Nations is not like that./

→ *There is resistance to its usage from some groups for “Indigenous vs. Aboriginal” & “Indigenous vs. First Nations [?]”

→ Indigenous means “coming from here” – Native could mean “coming from anywhere” (cross Canada)

→ Most Indigenous people now prefer (with exceptions) the term “Indigenous/ Indigeneity” – unlike First Nation or First People which connotes the idea of being part of the Canadian State Society, and achieving equality within it

→ Indigenous people connotes a separateness – back to the original idea and intention to “share the land/ space” [self-determination/ self-governance]

→ And now the federal government has moved to embrace “Indigenous” and all of its legal ramifications. →

{{{But there are still other ‘official’ terms used as sub-categories of Indigenous people}}}

What is a Status Indian?

“Indian Status” refers to **a specific “legal identity” of an Aboriginal person in Canada.** With the creation of the in 1876, the Canadian government developed criteria for who would be legally considered an Indian. ... The Indian Act applies only to status Indians, *and has not historically recognized Métis and Inuit peoples.*

→ **Historically**, the government **also outlined how one may lose their Indian status and become a full Canadian citizen.** The process of losing one’s Indian status for citizenship rights was called **“enfranchisement.”**

→ Initially, any Indians who [1] **obtained a university degree and/or became a professional such as a doctor or lawyer would automatically lose their status.** The same process would occur for [2] **any Indian who served in the armed forces,** or [3] **any status Indian woman who married a non-status man.**

What is a Status Card?

An Indian status card (formally known as a Certificate of Indian Status) is an identity document that confirms you are registered as a Status Indian under the Indian Act. You need to apply for the card through the Canadian government.

What is a Non-Status Indian?

In Canada, a non-status Indian is a legal term referring to any First Nations individual who for whatever reason is not registered with the federal government, or is not registered to a band which signed a

treaty with the Crown. ... In 2016, the Supreme Court of Canada upheld that verdict.

What is a treaty Indian in Canada?

Registered Indians are persons who are registered under the Indian Act of Canada. Treaty Indians are persons who belong to a First Nation or Indian band that signed a treaty with the Crown. Registered or Treaty Indians are sometimes also called Status Indians.

What are Metis in Canada?

The Métis in Canada (/meɪˈtiː/; Canadian French: [meˈʔsɪs]; Standard French: [meˈtis]; Michif: [mɪˈtʃɪf]) are **a group of peoples in Canada who trace their descent to First Nations peoples and European settlers**.

Can a Metis have a status card?

The Inuit and **Métis** do not **have status cards** because they are not an "Indian" as defined by the Indian Act — at least not yet. In the case of Daniels v. Canada, the Federal Court recognized them as "Indians" under the Constitution.

Who are Inuit?

There are about 40 000 – 60 000 Inuit → [former Eskimos - "eaters of raw flesh" in Cree]. They enjoy and special status and relationship with federal government despite never signing any treaties. [Their language is] In/uk/ti/tut is widely spoken in the 53 communities across North West, Northern Quebec and Labrador. → [In the

1990s] they completed successful negotiations with Ottawa for **control over their homeland, “Nunavut”, in the Eastern Artic.**

What is the Bill C 31?

Bill C-31, or a Bill to **Amend the Indian Act**, passed into law in April 1985 to **bring the Indian Act into line with gender equality under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.**

Ex: “First Generation Cut-Off Rule