



Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council

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For Immediate Release

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PIIKANI NATION OF CANADA TO JOIN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRIBAL LEADERS COUNCIL

Key topics: Canada, Piikani Nation, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Tribes

On June 6, 2018, 10:30-11:30, at Swords Park on the Billings Rimrocks, weather permitting, the Piikani Nation will be presenting their nation’s flag to the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council (RMTLC) for formal recognition of their accepted petition to join the Council. The Piikani Nation is a member of the Blackfoot Confederacy, along with the Blackfeet Nation of Montana.

The location will pay respect to the Piikani’s historic raid on Manuel Lisa’s company on May 31, 1823. Manuel Lisa was a fur trader and slave trader notorious throughout Montana. The raid, carried out by the Piikani, was responsible for causing Lisa’s company to go bankrupt, ending the Missouri Fur Company’s control of the region. This was an early event in the efforts to stem the trade in human misery that today is manifested in the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. Sacagawea was known to have been a child victim of trafficking, and post-the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the teenaged-mother endured the confines of Lisa’s trading post on the Missouri – a historical parallel to a contemporary issue. In that spirit, the Piikani will unveil a proposal to advance cross-border cooperation on the issue of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women.

The ceremony is to take place during the quarterly board meeting, following the 195th anniversary of the battle.

About Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council

RMTLC is dedicated to improving health, economic development, and education for Tribes and their members through a variety of programs, policy recommendations, and Tribal Leader meetings. RMTLC also endeavors to coordinate advocacy and promote the similar interest of member Tribes through various collaborative initiatives and projects.

To learn more visit www.rmtlc.org, or call us at 406-252-2550.

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