

**From:** [Burrage, Don](#)  
**To:** [Collins, Felix](#); [Morrissey, Ken](#); [Barron, Tracy B.](#); [Noble, Paul](#); [Moores, Len](#); [Parrott, William](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: QC Innu to hunt in Labrador to protest New Dawn  
**Date:** Saturday, February 20, 2010 8:33:05 PM

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Department of Justice  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
P.O.Box 8700  
St.John's, NL  
Canada  
A1B 4J6

Sent Via BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Dutton, Sean  
To: Gover, Aubrey; Tompkins, John; Oliver, Val; Burrage, Don  
Sent: Sat Feb 20 20:29:46 2010  
Subject: Fw: QC Innu to hunt in Labrador to protest New Dawn

Sent Via BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Harvey, Michael  
To: Dutton, Sean; Scott, Paul G.; Norman, Katie  
Cc: Clarke, Lesley  
Sent: Sat Feb 20 20:28:18 2010  
Subject: QC Innu to hunt in Labrador to protest New Dawn

[http://www.brandonsun.com/story.php?story\\_id=186497](http://www.brandonsun.com/story.php?story_id=186497)

Quebec Innu use caribou hunt to defy Newfoundland deal signed by Innu Nation MONTREAL - Some 150  
Aboriginals from five Quebec-based Innu groups are exercising land-rights claims by embarking on a week-long  
caribou hunt Saturday that will take them across the provincial border into Newfoundland and Labrador. The hunt  
serves as a statement against the New Dawn Agreement, a contentious deal that has split the Innu community. "It  
draws a line between the Quebec Innu and the Innu from Labrador," said Armand MacKenzie, an adviser with the  
La Romaine Innu community on Quebec's Lower North Shore. "And it draws a map of where the Innu in Labrador  
will always be considered first in Labrador, leaving the Quebec Innu out of the loop." The New Dawn Agreement  
offered the Labrador Innu hunting rights within 34,000 square kilometres of land, plus \$2 million annually in  
compensation for flooding caused by construction of the Churchill Falls dam 40 years ago. In 2008, its signing was  
hailed by Newfoundland Premier Danny Williams as a new era of partnership and co-operation between the Innu  
people of Labrador and the province. Last week, the Innu Nation and the province signed an agreement in principle  
that brings Newfoundland a giant step closer to developing the Lower Churchill hydroelectric megaproject and gives  
legal weight to New Dawn. It was hailed by Innu Nation Deputy Grand Chief Peter Penashue on his Twitter  
account as "an historical day for us, Innu people of Labrador. After 20 years, we resolved all outstanding issues with  
the prov. of NL." But MacKenzie said the deals have driven a wedge between the communities. "The border was  
not even an issue a couple of years ago," he said. "We were a nomadic people going from one place to another  
without taking into account the provincial border. For many, many years we were one people." MacKenzie  
contends Quebec Innu may losing a litany of privileges in the neighbouring province because of the deal. "It's all  
the constitutional rights, dealing with economic development, hunting rights, cultural rights, all of those rights that  
belong to Innu as a people," he said. The Innu Strategic Alliance, an organization that represents a number of Innu  
people in Quebec, released a statement Saturday that slammed the proposal. "Our ancestral land, which ignores all

boundaries imposed by non-Aboriginal governments, is largely located in Labrador where we have always hunted caribou and we will continue to do so," said Real McKenzie, chief of the Matimekush-Lac John community. Neither Penashue, nor provincial authorities, were available for comment Saturday. But Mackenzie said the Quebec Innu were left with no choice but to ramp up the action through the courts, international pressure or civil disobedience. "It leaves us with no other options but to assert those rights on the ground, in the trenches, by asserting our Aboriginal right to hunt in Labrador and by using all legal recourse we might have," he said. "It's a first step for further actions in the future." The hunters are expected to speak to the media upon their return next week. [Top 10 most read stories](#)

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