



## **SUMMARY: IFNA and KI Human Rights Case for EMS**

### **I. What is Happening**

Independent First Nation Alliance (“IFNA”) and Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (“KI”) are making a human rights complaint against Ontario for discrimination in providing sufficient and equitable emergency medical services (“EMS”) based on their status as First Nations peoples.

### **II. Why We Are in Court**

The Applicants argue that:

- The Ontario Minister of Health has a legal obligation to provide ambulance services across Ontario, and the law does not exclude First Nations peoples from that obligation.
- The limited funding and resources IFNA and KI receive are not enough to provide sufficient and equitable EMS to IFNA-member Nations.
- Non-First Nations communities in Ontario with similar population size and remoteness as IFNA-member Nations have sufficient EMS resources.

### **III. What We Are Asking the Court**

IFNA and KI are seeking

1. A finding that Ontario has discriminated against IFNA and KI, and an Order that they stop doing so.
2. An Order that the Ministry of Health provide IFNA with enough funding to deliver EMS to their member-First Nations, and that the funding is sufficient and equitable, and takes remoteness into account.
3. Compensation for injury to dignity.

### **IV. Why This Matters**

The lack of sufficient EMS has led to a state of emergency in the IFNA-member Nations. The Ministry of Health’s refusal to properly fund EMS means that IFNA-member Nations will continue to experience an ongoing unacceptable risk to their community members and youth. Through this human rights complaint, the Ministry of Health will be forced to acknowledge their discriminatory lack of funding for EMS in the IFNA-member Nations.