



# JOIN THE FIGHT TO PROTECT YOUR HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS

Manitoba Wildlife Federation

## Licensed Moose Tags Reduced by 75% in 4 Northern Game Hunting Area's

The provincial government has implemented a 75% reduction in tags for resident Manitoba licensed moose hunters in GHAs 9A, 15, 15A and 10. This knee-jerk decision was made in response to pressure from MKO (Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakinak), a non-profit, political advocacy group representing 26 First Nation communities in the North. The Manitoba Wildlife Federation (MWF) feels the decision lacks scientific justification because it was made without adequate information (such as data on moose populations and moose harvest by First Nations) and is contrary to the principles of conservation and reconciliation. Licensed hunters were not engaged in this process or decision, unnecessarily creating divisions between us and Indigenous communities.

On behalf of all licensed hunters in the province, MWF has consulted with legal counsel and is proceeding with an application for judicial review. A judicial review application essentially asks the court to review and potentially overturn this decision, if it finds that the government acted arbitrarily or unreasonably, which we and our lawyers believe to be the case.

MWF believes that if this decision goes unchallenged, it could lead to more attacks on licensed anglers and hunters, jeopardizing our access to public lands and wildlife resources throughout the province. The most effective way to defend ourselves is by educating all hunters and anglers in Manitoba about the situation and involving everyone in opposing this decision. Together, we will strive to safeguard our hunting and fishing rights, ensuring that both we and future generations can continue to enjoy our outdoor traditions.

## The Threats

Indigenous communities and organizations are advocating for exclusive access to natural resources, and at the moment, the government appears to be listening only to those voices. All Manitobans should be involved in discussions about the sustainable management of our public resources.

The demands from indigenous advocates go far beyond moose. Chief David Monias of Pimicikimak First Nation (Cross Lake) said in the attached Winnipeg Free Press article (July 12), "we stated to Manitoba by letter that they're not to issue any licenses or permits for hunting or fishing in our territory." The MKO vision is in part to achieve : "the legal recognition and extension of First Nations' jurisdiction and self governing authority over our traditional lands" ([www.mkonation.com](http://www.mkonation.com))

It is government's responsibility to represent all Manitobans as they reconcile these demands with the aspirations of all Manitobans to enjoy our natural resources. The fish, wildlife, forests, lakes and rivers on our public lands belong to all Manitobans.

MWF seeks your support for its campaign to defend the interests of licensed hunters and anglers.

Donate Here



SCAN ME

## Brief Summary of Events to Date:

### June 17

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) met with Premier and Ministers. On June 18 MKO posted to Facebook the meeting discussions: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/ubpHNdWZBosCzEwM/?>

### June 20

Within forty-eight hours of MKO's demands, an email was sent to all big game draw applicants informing of the pause to the draw process. No rationale for the decision was provided at that time.

### June 27

MWF releases statement to the media and distributes the release to MWF membership via MWF Enewsletter (included below).

### July 8

On July 5, MWF staff met with legal counsel to discuss drafting a letter stating MWF's position to Min. Jamie Moses in advance of government meetings, in hopes it would have influence on the decision. On July 8, a letter sent on behalf of MWF legal counsel (Jonathan Andrews) outlining MWF's position to Minister Jamie Moses RE: 2024 Manitoba Resident Big Game Draw (included below).

### July 11

Deputy Minister notified MWF of decision on draw via letter.

### July 12

Draw results announced to hunters which created a media flurry:

- Wpg Free Press published article, with quotes from Carly Deacon (MWF Managing Director) (Included below).
- CBC live interview with Chris Heald and Chief David Monias that you must listen to if you are a hunter, <https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-101-radio-noon-manitoba/clip/16081266-fewer-manitoba-hunters-allowed-hunt-moose-parts-northern>

### Aug 12

MWF has consulted with legal counsel and filed an application for judicial review. A judicial review application essentially asks the court to review and potentially overturn this decision, if it finds (as we feel) that the government acted arbitrarily or unreasonably.

“We demand the Manitoba government repeal or amend the provisions of Manitoba regulations which are unconstitutional, immediately terminate the draw for Manitoba resident hunter licences in the specific game hunting areas where First Nations traditionally hunt, and to cease enforcement of Manitoba regulations against First Nation hunters.” And, “by acting on these demands, the government can show that it is living up to its commitment for the betterment of our nations as an act of reconciliation.”

**MKO**

## We Need Your Help:

It takes a team to defend our outdoor lifestyle and the MWF seeks your support for its campaign to defend the interests of licensed hunters and anglers.

### Here is how you can help!

- Sign up for the MWF newsletter to get informed and stay up to date. Please ask all of your hunting and angling friends and family to do the same. Knowledge is power.
- Join the MWF as a Supporting Member or through one of our many Affiliate Clubs! There is strength in numbers. If you hunt or fish in Manitoba, please join up and be counted. For the cost of a box of ammunition (\$40), you can be part of the solution.
- Donate to the MWF. We need immediate financial support to sustain our campaign and to cover our legal costs. This is the fight of our lives, so we all need to be in this to win. Any size of donation helps. Tax deductible receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more (Charitable Reg. No. 1190308 RR0001), and donations can remain anonymous.
- Every membership sold or contribution made will help us influence the government to reconsider this decision, avoid future bad decisions, and to uphold their responsibility to safeguard hunting and angling rights for ALL Manitobans.

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Sincerely,  
The Manitoba Wildlife Federation Team