

## THE PRAIRIE TREATY NATIONS ALLIANCE

The Prairie Treaty Nations Alliance (PTNA) is regarded as the national voice of prairie treaty Indians on treaty issues, a mandate it seems to share with the AFN. It represents 120,000 people in 120 bands.

The PTNA is concerned with the proper implementation of the major numbered treaties that cover most of the territory of the prairie provinces. There are many outstanding issues regarding treaty entitlements, chief among them being land entitlements, and the relationship between Treaty Nations and the Government of Canada.

## THE NATIVE COUNCIL OF CANADA

The NCC is regarded as the primary voice of non-status Indians, although it also addresses Metis issues. Since the enactment of the 1985 amendments to *Indian Act* provided many of the non-status Indian people in the NCC's constituency an opportunity to become registered, the organization has acted as a spokesperson for these ("C-31") people as well. (The AFN primarily represent the views of the reserve based peoples faced with absorbing C-31 registrants into their communities.)

The NCC considers all non-status Indians and Metis people to fall within the legislative jurisdiction of the federal government under s. 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867* (a position the federal government generally refutes) and maintains that all descendants of treaty people have treaty rights regardless of whether or not they are registered under the *Indian Act*. The federal government rejects this position as well. Since 1985, the NCC has been quite active representing the interests of reinstated and newly registered persons under the 1985 amendments to the *Indian Act* (C-31). There are no reliable estimates of the non-status and Metis population but some estimates range from 500,000 to 1,000,000.