CONGRESS OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLES



CONGRÈS DES PEUPLES AUTOCHTONES

Press Statement

CAP Calls for Top Down Reform As LaRonge RCMP Continue to Discriminate Against Emily Kammermayer

SASKATOON, May 28, 2021 – Just weeks after holding a press conference on alleged police brutality, Emily Kammermayer continues to be subject to misconduct and discriminatory practices by the LaRonge RCMP detachment. On May 23rd, Ms. Kammermayer was assaulted by her brother when picking up her child from her mother's house. Ms. Kammermayer's mother and brother prevented her from seeing her child who she has sole legal custody over. While visiting the LaRonge RCMP detachment to provide her statement on the child abduction and assault, officers ended up charging her with assault despite hearing from a witness who stated her brother instigated the confrontation, and Ms. Kammermayer acted in self-defense.

The LaRonge RCMP continued to fail in their duties when they chose not to investigate the family's abduction of Ms. Kammermayer's son, citing it being a civil, rather than criminal matter. As Ms. Kammermayer has sole custody, the family has no legal right to her child.

Statement from Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Vice-Chief Kim Beaudin:

"We are seeing continued, unacceptable conduct from LaRonge RCMP as it relates to Ms. Kammermayer. In any other case, the RCMP would have investigated Ms. Kammermayer's complaint of child abduction and assault. However, it's clear through this detachment's interactions with her over the last 6 months that they cannot be trusted to carry out their mandate to keep Canadians safe, investigate crimes, and enforce the law. There was a witness to the May 23rd assault, and Ms. Kammermayer has sole custody of her child. It does not get more cut and dry for the police than that".

Statement from Emily Kammermayer:

"I feel that the LaRonge RCMP are biased and the way in which they have been dealing with me is deeply concerning as it also involves my young child. I went to mother's home to retrieve my child on the night of the 23rd after she failed to contact me, and I witnessed her abuse of alcohol over social media. I was then assaulted by own brother, who I believe will not be charged as he is the Fire Chief at LaRonge Regional Fire. I believe my son is in danger due to my mother's mental health issues and history of alcohol abuse."

Currently, the LaRonge RCMP are failing to provide a formal note which states why they will not investigate the matter of her child's abduction. CAP is concerned that the LaRonge RCMP cannot be entrusted to handle Ms. Kammermayer's case with impartiality. It has also been brought to our attention that one of the officers who arrested Ms. Kammermayer in December allegedly harassed her while she was at home in May. The officer was caught taking pictures of her from his property on the same street.

"We cannot allow the police to continue to persecute our people, and deny them the rights which are afforded to them under Canadian law" added National Vice-Chief Kim Beaudin.

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"After 6 months of dealing with the unprofessional conduct of the LaRonge RCMP, it's time RCMP leadership gets involved to investigate the detachment and prevent further transgressions and abuse in the community."

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Background

The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) is the second-oldest national aboriginal organization in Canada. It was founded in 1971, one year after the AFN. CAP represents the interests of off reserve status and non-status Indians, Métis and Southern Inuit Aboriginal Peoples throughout Canada. CAP is one of five national Indigenous organizations recognized by the federal government, and holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.