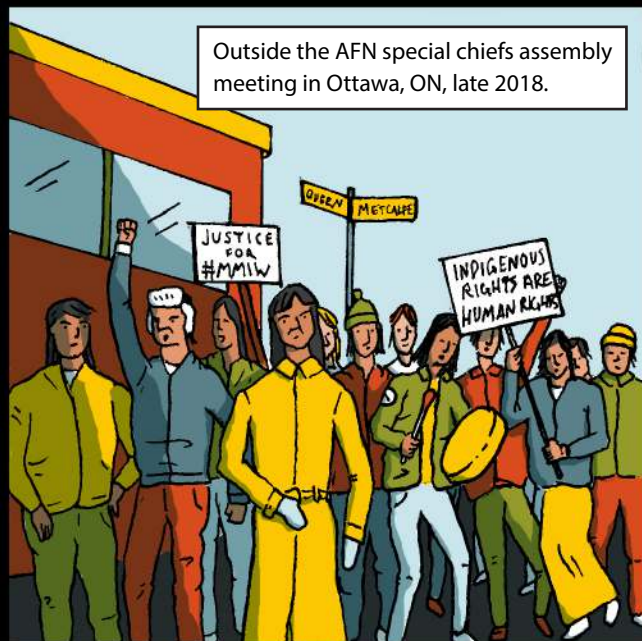
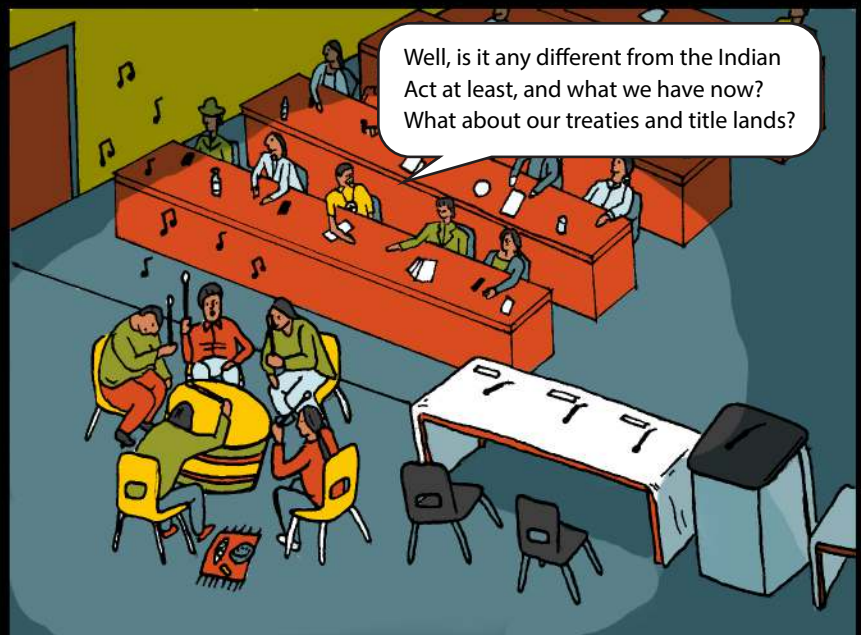
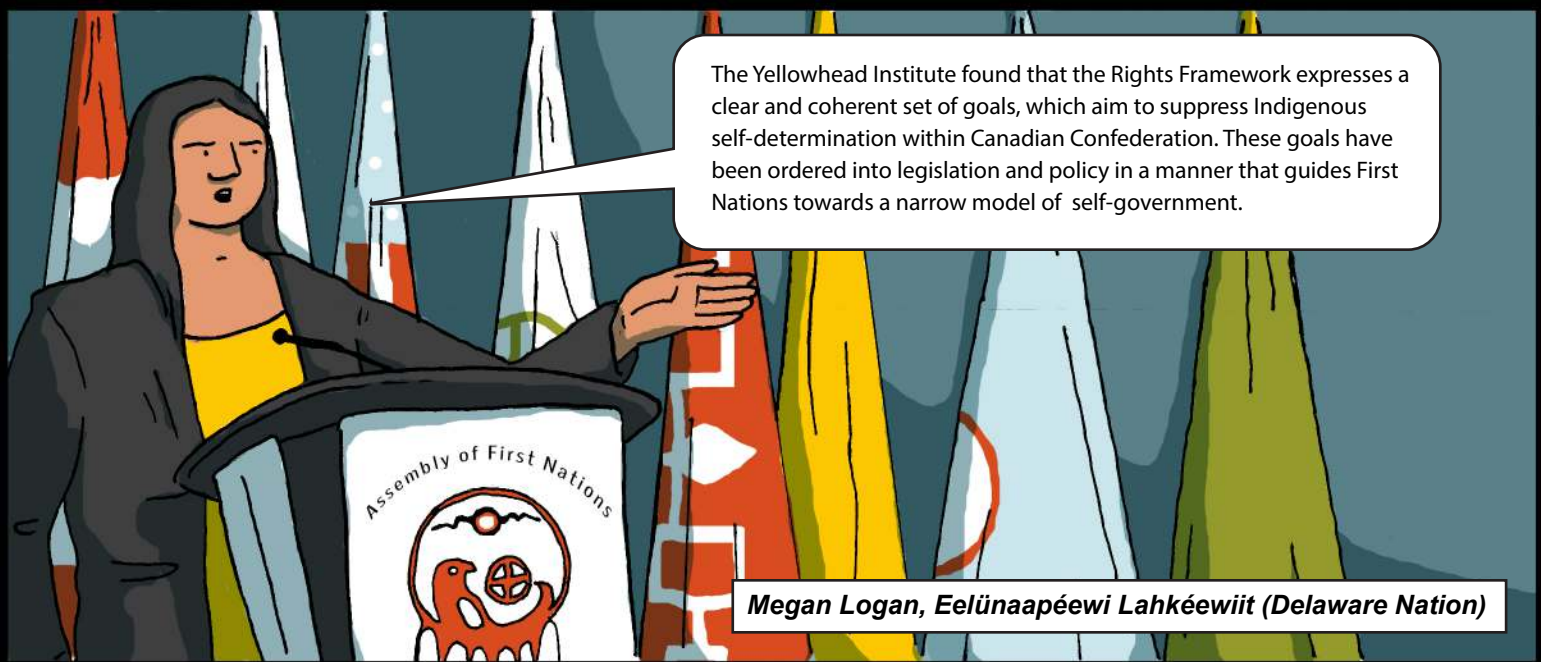


Outside the AFN special chiefs assembly meeting in Ottawa, ON, late 2018.



Youth leaders carry the drum into the AFN special chiefs assembly to give a statement and a welcoming song.





I don't think it is much different. Getting out of the Act but in name only. Apparently they are delaying this Rights Framework law now. But I'm still waiting for the PM to speak about honouring treaties and title lands.



LATER THAT DAY...

We are committed to a new relationship with Indigenous People. What does that mean? It means being guided by a recognition of rights and decolonizing our laws. A new relationship means working together.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

Prime Minister, you're talking about the United Nations and how you're going to go along with the self-determination and consent, but why wasn't that applied with the Trans Mountain pipeline extension? You can't count a few small agreements with some of the communities as consent because they aren't the proper title holders of those nations.



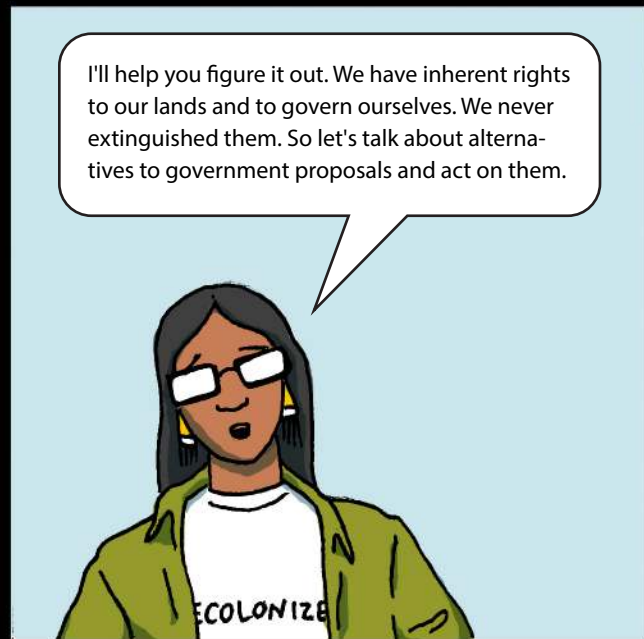
Chief Judy Wilson, Neskonlith

Judy, I would be careful about minimizing or ascribing reasons for people who take positions that disagree with you... I don't think we should be criticizing them, just because they disagree with you.

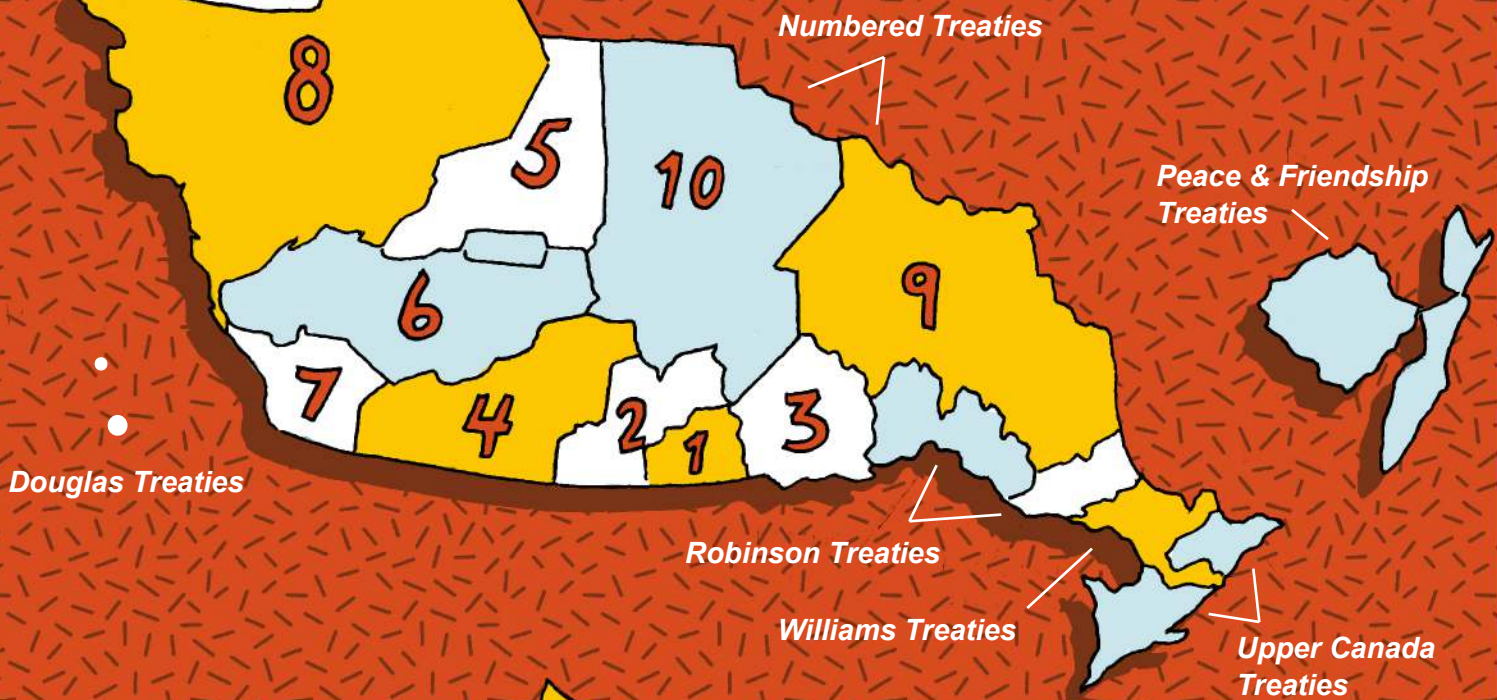


GASP! GASP! GASP! GASP!





First, all the nations that made pre and post confederation era treaties - like those "Numbered" treaties, should get some land back. No one ever imagined reserves to be the extent of our territory. So all that Crown land? Let's take it, or at least fight for it. If we need to update our treaties in some kind of negotiation, so be it. But there are many squatters on our lands.



Then there are all those nations who never signed a treaty or agree to share the land. They have an even stronger claim to the land and jurisdiction over it. Here, why don't we create taxation systems for all those Canadians who prosper in and on our lands and waters? I think that's only fair.



Non-Treaty BC territory



Obviously there are "modern" treaties to address cases where no treaties have been made. But the new treaties are starting to look like the old treaties, with provinces and territories encroaching on lands and powers. Many of the modern treaties are starting to end up in court, too. So we need to creatively push back against Crown interpretations of our rights here.



This is the briefest of proposals, but I hope you understand that we can do things differently. That means looking at our internal policies too, which have often been exclusionary for a long time, to women, queer and two-spirited indigenous people, to youth. Some communities are doing this already and well. We need to keep going. There are alternatives.

