

Tansi

Haå

Bonjour

Boozhoo

Shé:kon

Hello

Edlanét'e

# Acknowledgment

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation.

The University of Manitoba is committed to a renewed relationship and dialogue with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples based on the principles of mutual trust, respect, and reciprocity. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

The University of Manitoba is committed to ensuring that First Nations, Métis and Inuit knowledge, cultures and traditions are embraced and reflected in the pursuit of its mission.

The background of the slide is a colorful, painterly landscape. It depicts a rocky coastline with a blue lake or bay in the foreground. The shoreline is rugged with dark rocks and patches of green vegetation. In the background, there are rolling green hills and mountains under a bright, slightly hazy sky. The overall style is reminiscent of a watercolor or oil painting, with soft edges and a rich color palette of blues, greens, and earthy tones.

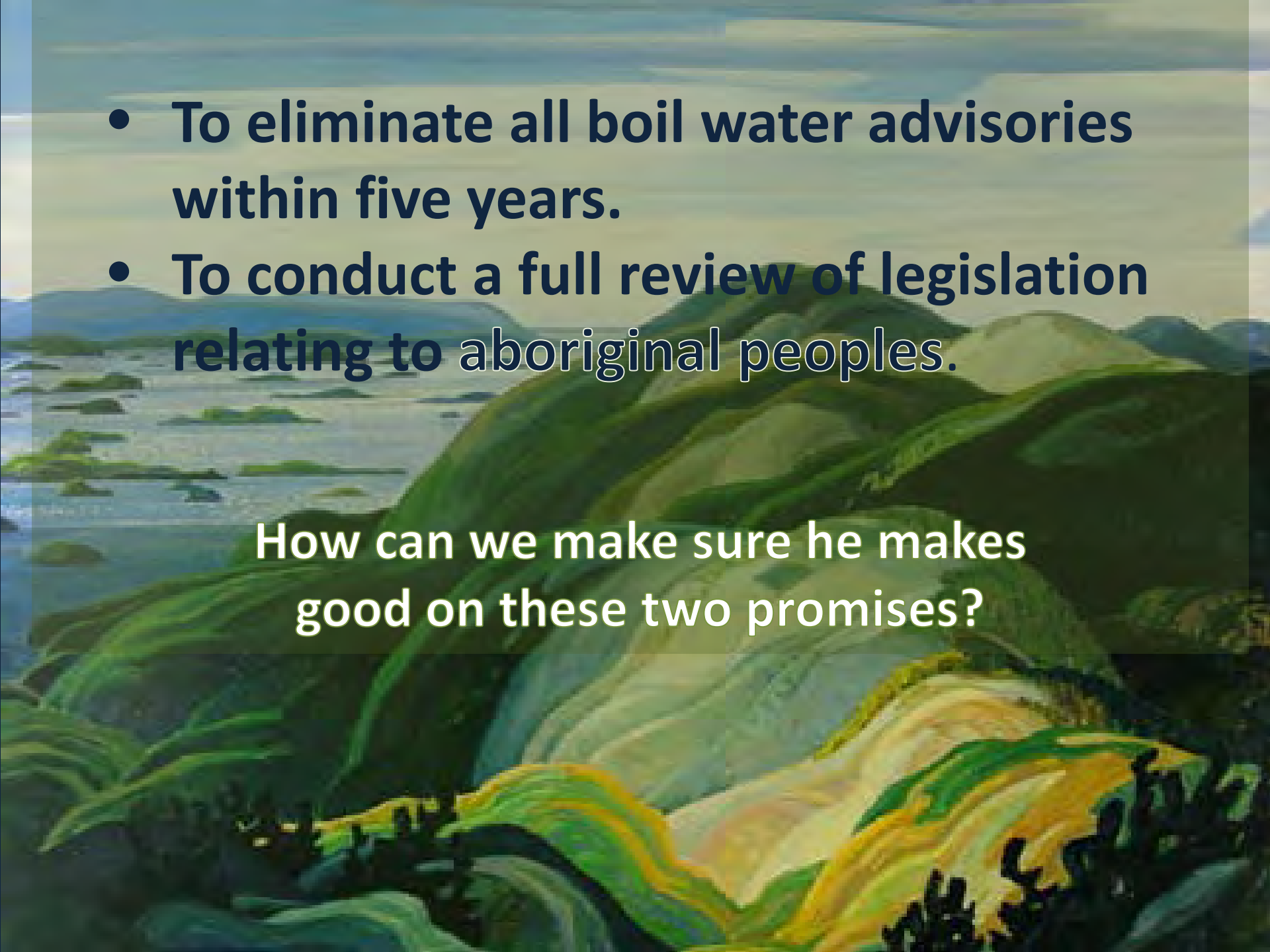
# **Blue Lakes and Rocky Shores: Canada's Obligations to Ensure Access to Water and Sanitation in First Nations**

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- To eliminate all boil water advisories within five years.
  - To conduct a full review of legislation relating to aboriginal peoples.

How can we make sure he makes good on these two promises?



# Is water a human right?

- 96% of Canadians think that water should be guaranteed as a human right.
- UN General Assembly unanimously affirmed that water and sanitation is a human right.
- National constitutions.

**147/193 countries protect the  
environment in their constitutions**

**Why do so many First Nations  
reserves have problems with  
access to clean water and  
adequate sanitation?**

# Scope of the problem

- 10,000 people do not have running water or functioning toilets
- 73% of water systems and 65% of wastewater systems present high or medium risks
- 25/80 annual inspections of systems performed
- 109/630 FN communities under DWA



**What western-based legal frameworks could be relied on to claim water rights?**

# Constitution Act 1982 s. 36

....the government of Canada and the provincial governments are committed to

(c) providing essential public services of reasonable quality to all Canadians.

# International Human Rights Law

- Sources
- Scope
- Norms
- Enforcement

# Sources

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- International Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights



# ....Sources

- **Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women**
- **Convention on the Rights of the Child**
- **Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities**





# ....Sources

Why would the conventions on rights of women, rights of children and rights of people with disabilities have explicit provisions on water?



# Scope

Water that is sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic use.

Sanitation that is accessible, affordable, safe, hygienic, secure, socially and culturally acceptable and that provides privacy and ensures dignity.



# Scope

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# Human Rights Framework in International Law

## Substantive Obligations

- Respect
- Protect
- Provide

## Core Principles

- Participation
- Accountability & transparency
- Non-discrimination
- Progressive realization
- Effective remedies

# Substantive Obligations

- Respect



# Substantive Obligations

- Protect



# Substantive Obligations

- Provide





- Accountability & transparency



# Core Principles

- Participation





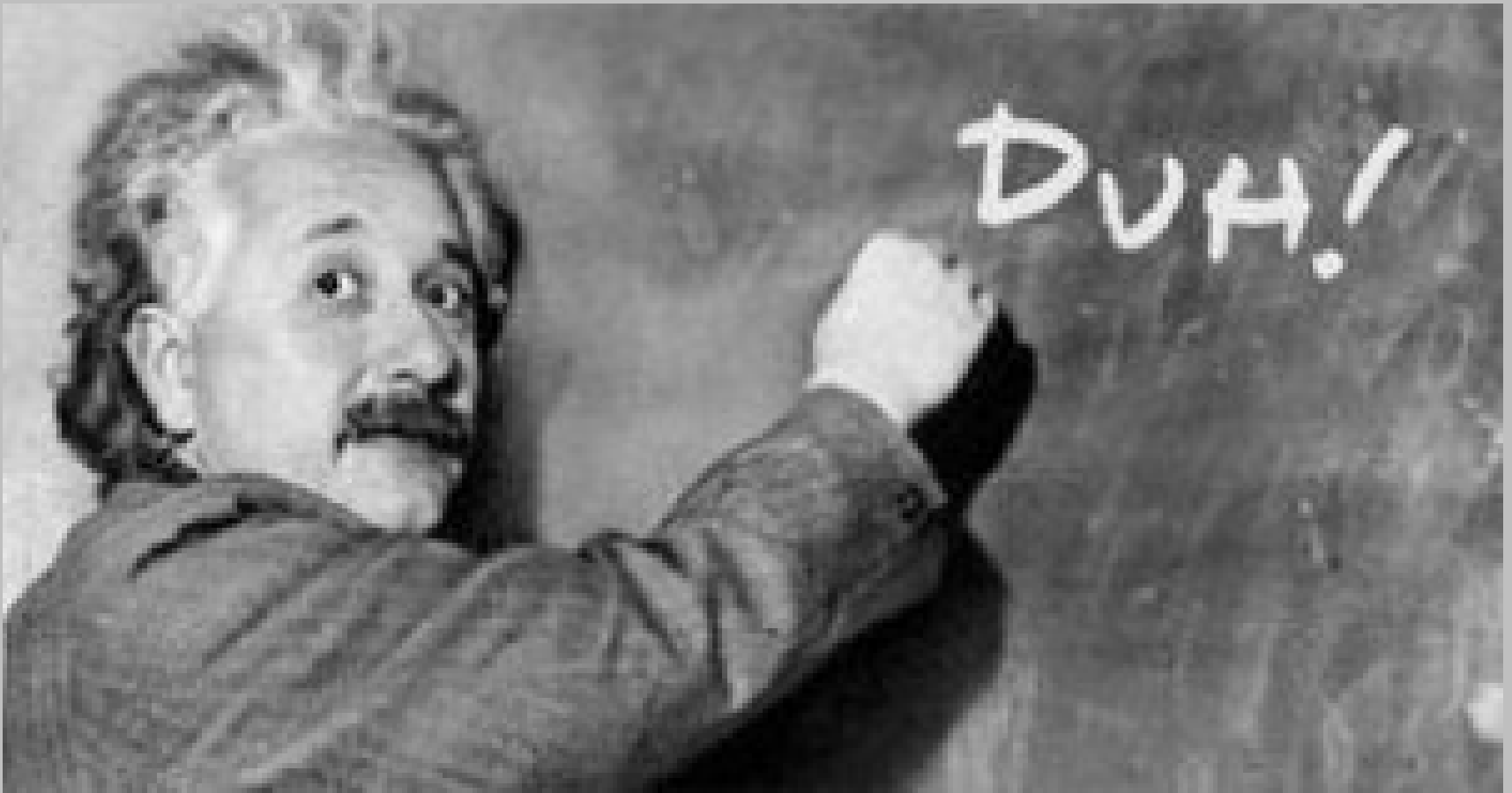
# Core Principles

- Progressive realization



# Core Principles

- Non-discrimination



# Core Principles

- Effective remedies



# Comments QUESTIONS?

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