

## Join a national protest

Individuals gave up several days to travel by train from Vancouver to Ottawa to protest on Parliament Hill.



**Aboriginal and Treaty Rights  
in Canada's Constitution**

## Donate money

Individuals donated money to cover the \$90,000 cost of renting two trains to bring protesters from Vancouver to Ottawa.



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## Bring food

At stops along the way, people brought food and gifts for the train passengers to help them on their journey.



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## Provide support

The Mayor of Ottawa personally welcomed protestors who arrived by train.



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## Step up as a leader

George Manuel, president of the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, came up with the idea of the "Constitution Express" train.



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## Bring leaders together

Hundreds of chiefs and elders from all provinces and territories (except Alberta) held the first All Canada Chiefs Assembly so they could work together on constitutional issues.



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## Create a way for people to take part

The Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs rented two trains to bring groups of protesters from Vancouver to Ottawa.

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## Set up an action committee

The Inuit Committee on National Issues was created to present Inuit views on Canada's Constitution.

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## Coordinate activities

First Nations groups arranged marches on Parliament Hill and at provincial legislatures.

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## Create a new national organization

The National Indian Brotherhood changed the way it was organized and became the Assembly of First Nations.

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## Educate others

First Nations activists organized a campaign to educate the public about Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

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## Take it to the world

First Nations leaders travelled to Britain, Europe and the United Nations to tell an international audience about their cause.

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## Make it visible

About 1,000 First Nations protesters attracted attention by travelling from Vancouver to Ottawa aboard a train they called the “Constitution Express.”

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## Talk to the media

When the “Constitution Express” train arrived in Ottawa, First Nations activists spoke with journalists who spread the word about Aboriginal rights.

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## Build community awareness

The Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs organized workshops across the province to educate First Nations communities about rights and treaty issues.

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## Lobby British lawmakers

Over 200 First Nations Chiefs travelled to England to meet British parliamentarians and convince them that Aboriginal rights needed to be protected.

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## Make presentations

First Nations, Métis and Inuit groups made many formal written and verbal presentations to the Canadian parliamentary committee that was working on the Constitution.

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## Meet with the Governor General

On behalf of the National Indian Brotherhood, National Chief Noel Starblanket met with the Governor General of Canada.

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## Petition the Queen

First Nations Chiefs took a petition to Queen Elizabeth (as head of state) to ask her and the British government to delay patriating the Constitution.

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## Discuss with Canadian decision makers

First Nations, Métis and Inuit leaders met with politicians and government officials at all levels to express their concerns about the wording of the Constitution.

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## Work with elected representatives

Aboriginal activists asked Peter Ittinuar, the only Inuk member of Parliament, to arrange meetings with key decision makers on Parliament Hill.

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