

The Supreme Court hands down a decision in favour of our members First Nations Public Security Pension Plan

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NEWS RELEASE: The Supreme Court hands down a decision in favour of our members

November 26 last, the Supreme Court of Canada dismissed the appeal filed by the Attorney General of Quebec in a file involving the federal character of police activities exercised by Band Councils in Quebec, putting an end to a legal saga begun in 2016. This important decision protects the First Nations Public Security Pension Plan (FNPSPP) and its members from significant management changes.

In 2016, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions informed the RBA Financial Group that in their opinion, the FNPSPP was subject to provincial legislation based on a decision handed down by the Federal Court of Appeal a few months earlier. Backed by the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL), the RBA Financial Group immediately appealed to the courts. The RBA sought to prevent the regulation of the members' Plan by two levels of government, in addition to complicating Plan administration and creating a dangerous precedent for Band Council management in Quebec.

According to Sylvain Picard, General Manager of the RBA Financial Group, "It was of capital importance that as Aboriginal managers, we show leadership and obtain the legal guarantee that the Plan does indeed fall under federal legislation. We are proud of the work accomplished and the results that we and our partners were able to obtain for our members!"

Note that the FNPSPP has 234 members among 14 employers in as many Aboriginal communities across Quebec.

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