



WENDY MOSS

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE | CONSENSUS BUILDER | SPEAKER | WRITER

Policy Development | International Human Rights | Indigenous Peoples' Rights

EXECUTIVE BIOGRAPHY

WENDY MOSS is a recognized advocate, writer, speaker and thought leader on human rights and Indigenous peoples–Canada relations (“Indigenous affairs”).

Wendy’s experience in public policy and human rights advocacy is broad and distinctive in scope. She has served in senior management roles with federal and provincial governments, Indigenous peoples’ governments and NGOs.

Her expertise and experience working with diverse organizations at senior levels has uniquely positioned her as a valued advisor, writer and speaker on social justice issues.

Most recently, Wendy served as a senior advisor to national chief Perry Bellegarde of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), providing advice in high-level political relationships and government relations. During her four years in the Office of the National Chief, she served as deputy chief of staff and interim chief of staff. Wendy established high standards for policy analysis, legal advice, risk analysis and strategic considerations to support the leadership of the AFN.

Earlier in her career, Wendy was the lead advisor to Rosemarie Kuptana, then President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), while heading ITK’s legal team, during constitutional reform discussions that produced the Charlottetown Accord. Wendy ensured Inuit leadership were the first delegation to table comprehensive constitutional amendments respecting section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Wendy contributed to a coordinated advocacy strategy by Indigenous leadership that successfully secured Indigenous peoples inclusion in all tables, from discussion of Senate reform to the Supreme Court of Canada. Stephen Kakfwi, the premier of the Northwest Territories at that time and former president of the Dene Nation, describes Wendy as “unique in her approach to people, professional experience and with an ability to skillfully read a room.”

Known widely for a collaborative leadership style, Wendy delivers clear analysis and quality work by effectively leveraging expertise across academic disciplines, knowledge traditions and policy sectors.

As a writer and analyst, Wendy employs a deep understanding of historical and legal context, as well as emerging developments, to anticipate challenges and develop effective responses. Having worked on Parliament Hill in various capacities, she is knowledgeable in the legislative process, both parliamentary and pre-parliamentary.

Sought after for her analytical acumen and her skill in navigating complex policy issues, Wendy is an effective negotiator with high-impact advocacy skills.

Originally from Halifax, Canada, Wendy holds a bachelor of laws degree from the University of British Columbia and a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from the University of Ottawa.

Wendy resides in Ottawa, Canada, with her husband, William Cornet, an accomplished mediator and lecturer in the theory and practice of negotiations, mediation and dispute resolution.

Deeply committed to improving the relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples, Wendy is an active member of the Coalition on the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a non-partisan group of human rights advocates and Indigenous peoples’ organizations.

Achievements

- Successful negotiation of key accords between the Government of Canada and the Assembly of First Nations to advance First Nations policy priorities.
- Delivered robust, actionable analysis and strategies to uphold First Nations rights, including advocacy to support Bill C-262, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
- Led staff work in parliamentary relations, federal-provincial-territorial government relations, international human rights advocacy, constitutional and human rights issues.

C-Level Expertise

- Public Policy Development
- Legislative Development
- Human Rights
- Indigenous Peoples’ Rights
- Lands & Resources
- Major Project Regulation
- Parliamentary Affairs
- Advocacy Strategies
- Governance
- Dispute Resolution
- Land Tenure Systems
- Engagement Strategies
- Change Management
- Employee Mentorship
- Multiparty Negotiations
- Risk Mitigation & Management
- Equality Rights
- Intersectional Analysis