



Six Nations "Iroquois" Confederacy
GRAND RIVER COUNTRY

Ori:wase :

Press Release :

Communiqué:

For Immediate Release

July 8, 2014

Press Release-Ontario meeting

OSWE:GE GRAND RIVER-The Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council received an invitation from Ontario Aboriginal Affairs Minister David Zimmer's office to attend a summit meeting Wednesday, July 9, 2014 that is expected to include representatives from Ontario, Haldimand County and the Six Nations Elected Band Council.

It is unfortunate that a few of Ontario's citizens with the seeming assistance of Haldimand County are taking steps to threaten the peace that we have worked hard to maintain. On a number of occasions we attempted to avoid this situation through our recommendations at the Communication Protocol discussions. It is within the authority of the Province to determine that Haldimand County has no interest over the land in question.

This very issue was addressed by the confederacy at the Main Table negotiations of 2006 where it was agreed that the Province of Ontario would remove ALL third party interests with the purchase of the land in question without prejudice to our position that the land in question is Haudenosaunee land.

Further to the decision of the duly convened Council of July 5, 2014, we must respectfully decline the invitation to meet with the Minister Zimmer, Minister Duguid, Mayor Hewitt and the representative of the Indian Act system.

We have called upon the Province of Ontario to begin the process of reconciliation between our peoples. We remain hopeful that our recent Communications Protocol, and the attendance of the now Premier Wynne and Minister Zimmer at our council was a positive step forward.

We are mindful, of your recent Supreme Court of Canada decision which determined that Band Councils do not have the ability in Canadian law to represent the collective rights and interests of the original peoples of this land.

We find ourselves in agreement with the Supreme Court of Canada's endorsement of the Honourable Justice Vickers following statement:

"While band level organization may have meaning to a Canadian federal bureaucracy, it is without any meaning in the resolution of Aboriginal title and rights for Tsilhqot'in people."

The Rotiyanehson wish to maintain a path of peace and friendship and look forward to a return to the agreed upon resolution process i.e. the Communications Protocol discussions and continue to acknowledge the sole jurisdiction of the Rotiyanehson on matters of lands and treaties.

Our Rotiyanehson are deeply concerned that there will be grave consequences for all people involved should the Crown's inaction continue. We will make ourselves available to meet with your Ministers through the Communications Protocol negotiation process at which time we will meaningfully consider how best to continue with our reconciliation efforts.

Hohahe (Leroy Hill)
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council

Tekarihogen (Allen MacNaughton)
Mohawk Royanni
Principle Representative-Haudenosaunee Land Rights Negotiations

Hazel Hill
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