

**MATACHEWAN FIRST NATION  
TREATY LAND ENTITLEMENT NEWSLETTER  
ISSUE 6**

**Update and Actions to Date**

The last TLE Newsletter went out in June 2015. Since that time there have been five negotiation sessions and one community session. Negotiation sessions are open to all members of Council and also include legal and technical expertise.

We have now posted all past and current newsletters online as well as the updated version of the map. We are entering the fifth year of MFN's claim negotiations which were agreed to by Canada in August of 2011 and Ontario in July of 2012. Canada has a policy of that claims should be concluded within a three year timeframe. However, if they are progressing Canada generally agrees to continue negotiations and we do not expect any issues moving forward. We realize there are concerns that the process is taking far too long to complete, however, based on experience with previous claims negotiations with similar complexity, our progress is comparable and timelines similar. Six years or more is not out of the ordinary. Ontario does not have such a policy, but does record progress as a measure of success.

The claim is for 5.74 square miles of land to be added to the reserve and compensation for the loss of use of those lands since the signing of the treaty in 1906.

To date there have been four community engagement sessions and updates on the negotiations and five newsletters.

**Land Selection**

The map in this newsletter has been updated based on discussions and feedback. As stated above, MFN will be compensated with 5.74 square miles. Through discussions and feedback with the membership, candidate lands have been narrowed down to approximately 9.5 square miles from which the 5.74 square miles may be selected. The

current map has eliminated some lands and added others as lands became available in identified areas.

Steps are being taken to protect some of the lands that were released. Referring to the attached map, the hashed green areas are going through a protection process with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and the area to the north of the reserve has been flagged to be added to the Conservation Reserve.

The remaining Lands for Consideration are in the lighter pink. These are the lands that make up the 9.5 square miles or 6,000 acres for public consultation, which is represented by the black square above the reserve. The First Nation must then make a final selection of 5.74 square miles.

MFN is not obligated to select the lands that have been withdrawn. The reason for withdrawing these lands is so that a process of disentanglement can occur. While the TLE process is ongoing no mining claims can be staked and no forestry activity can occur, for example. Should MFN select other lands where there is tenure, the process will be far more complicated and may ultimately not be possible.

### **Urban Reserve**

An economic impact study that recommended Timmins as the best location for an urban reserve was completed. Subsequent to this a terms of reference for a selection committee comprised of negotiation team members was developed and has been agreed to by Chief and Council.

A second study was conducted to find suitable locations in Timmins for the urban reserve. As stated in previous newsletters, the cost of developing an urban reserve is significant and the committee will have to take into consideration location, supply - demand, service type, cost to capitalize, externalities - competition, fixed costs, opportunity costs, competitive advantages, etc. The urban reserve **will not** include residential lands, but will be used solely for economic development purposes. These

were all considered in the follow up study. The study will be available at the upcoming community consultation sessions.

There are now at least four other First Nations going through the TLE process that have stated they intend on pursuing land in Timmins. There are also others that are interested in pursuing land in Timmins through the Addition To Reserve (ATR) process. This needs to be taken into consideration in any selection of lands in the City of Timmins.

### **Loss of Use Compensation**

Matachewan First Nation and Canada (Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development, Specific Claims Branch) now have most of the information needed to have serious discussions about the amount of money that should be paid to MFN to compensate for the loss of economic opportunity because of the failure to set aside 3,676 acres of land as reserve to which MFN was entitled from 1906.

Appraisal reports for 1906 and 2014 land values have been completed. Using this information, and each party's assumptions about what return could be earned from making use of the land in each and every year, MFN and Canada will discuss their expectations about the range within which the settlement compensation might fall.

Discussions have been ongoing. We hope to be able to indicate the likely range of compensation at the upcoming community information sessions.

### **Feedback and Next Steps**

The TLE negotiation team is comprised of the entire Chief and Council who may be contacted at the Band Office or via email. Shawn Batise, Executive Director of the Wabun Tribal Council is also a member of the negotiation team and may be contacted at 705-268-9066 or via email at [sbatise@wabun.on.ca](mailto:sbatise@wabun.on.ca).

Your feedback and comments are welcome any time. As well, we have scheduled community information sessions on the following dates and locations:



**Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 9:30 pm (dinner will be served)**  
**Matachewan First Nation Log Building**














**Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 9:30 (dinner will be served)**  
**Timmins, Ontario**  
**McIntyre Community Centre**  
**Downstairs from the Coffee Shop**  
**85 McIntyre Road, Timmins ON**

**Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 9:30 (dinner will be served)**  
**Temiskaming Shores (New Liskeard), Ontario**  
**121 Scott Street**

**Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 to 9:30 (dinner will be served)**  
**Kirkland Lake, Ontario**  
**109 Burnside Drive**

Please note that it is not possible to conduct sessions in all urban locations where our membership lives. The committee selected these locations based on the number of members living in or near the area.

# Treaty Land Entitlement Lands for Consideration

-  Mining Claims
  -  Potential Private Land
  -  Matachewan IR No. 72
  -  Approximate Size of Entitlement (3873 acres)
  -  Candidate Lands
  -  Land Withdrawn for Other Purposes
  -  Land Use Permits
  -  Aggregate Permits
  -  Municipal Boundaries
  -  Secondary Roads
  -  Height of Land
  -  Provincial Park
  -  Conservation Reserve
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