



Matachewan First Nation
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September 2, 2022

Matachewan First Nation
Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE)
Claim

Information

Dear Matachewan Member,

We are happy to announce that Ontario has made us an offer to settle our land claim for the shortfall of land that we were owed from the signing of Treaty 9.

Background

We first started the claim back in May 2009 alleging that we did not receive all the land entitled to us under Treaty No. 9. Ontario accepted the claim in 2013. Canada entered negotiations around the same time.

From 2013-2022, all 3 parties have sat down and have been working on getting an agreement. We identified the shortfall of 4572 acres. This was an increase from the original claim acceptance and is thanks to the additional research completed by the MFN negotiation team during this time. In addition, Ontario is offering to reimburse MFN for out-of-pocket expenses for the cost of acquiring the 3rd party interests around Separation Lake. This amounts to \$365,000.00.

MFN settled the TLE claim with Canada in 2019. Canada's obligation was financial compensation and an obligation to confirm reserve status for all the lands that MFN wishes to add to reserve.

Current Development

Once the TLE land selections were finalized by MFN and Ontario the consultation process began with 3rd parties (e.g., other FNs, municipalities, and other government ministeries). Of course, the pandemic slowed things down. But the negotiation teams completed the consultation process in early 2022.

During this time, both MFN and Ontario worked on drafting a settlement agreement and the voting guidelines in the expectation that an offer would be forthcoming sometime in late spring or early summer of 2022. Ontario's negotiator also kept MFN up to date on the progress of the approval process.

On Thursday August 25, 2022, the Ontario negotiator, Brandon Morris and MFN Chief Batisse initialed the final settlement agreement.

The Matachewan Chief and Council are recommending that this settlement offer from Ontario be accepted and each member over the age of eighteen is asked to vote online or at the band office to vote in-person on October 1, 2022. Voting instructions are included in this package.

Please contact the Chief or a member of the band council to answer any questions you have about the claim itself or the voting process.

Meegwetch

MFN Chief and Council



Chief