



DOKIS FIRST NATION

940-A Main Street, Dokis First Nation, Ontario P0M 2N1

Telephone: (705) 763-2200 • Fax: (705) 763-2087

Web site: www.dokisfirstnation.com

December 4th, 2020

To All Members of Dokis First Nation

Dear Members:

RE: Dokis First Nation Indian Land Management Fund Claim

As many of you already know, Dokis First Nation (“Dokis”) has been involved in negotiations with the Government of Canada since early January 2019 to settle a Specific Claim. The claim relates to the misappropriation of a portion of the proceeds from a 1908 surrender of Dokis timber, and other monies belonging to Dokis, for purposes of the Indian Land Management Fund (“Claim”).

I am writing to report that we have now completed the negotiation of a proposed settlement of the Claim. In June 2019, we prepared a settlement proposal with the assistance of our professional advisors, and shared that proposal with the Government of Canada (“Canada”). On December 31, 2019, Canada tabled an offer of settlement, consistent with the positions and valuations contained in our June 2019 settlement proposal that we tabled with Canada.

Chief and Council are recommending the December 31, 2019 offer of settlement tabled by Canada for this long-standing Claim. The settlement represents the product of a great deal of hard work by many people over the course of the past few years.

The settlement will provide compensation to Dokis totaling \$26,923,951, which includes amounts for costs incurred by Dokis in negotiating the Claim and creating a new trust, amounts for ratification, and all final costs and fees associated with settling the Claim. Dokis expects a net settlement of approximately \$26 million once these costs and amounts have been subtracted.

In addition, we were successful in convincing Canada to include in the Settlement Agreement an acknowledgement of the wrong that Canada committed against Dokis. This will be the first time that Canada has agreed to include such a statement in a Settlement Agreement. This is a good precedent not only for Dokis, but for all First Nations.

In order to agree to the terms of settlement and settle the Claim, Dokis will hold a ratification vote on a settlement package. As part of the settlement package, and in exchange for the \$26,923,951, Dokis will be asked to agree to release and indemnify Canada with respect to the Claim. These are standard provisions in all claim settlement agreements.

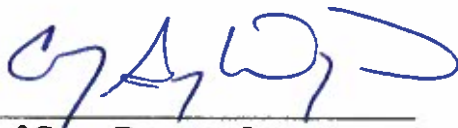
Chief and Council have examined this settlement carefully and have decided that this settlement provides a package that we can recommend to our community. We have considered alternatives to the settlement and we do not believe that a court action, or pursuing the Claim at the Specific Claims Tribunal, would provide greater recovery than we have been able to negotiate. However, we do know that a court action, or pursuing the Claim at the Specific Claims Tribunal, would be lengthy, costly, and there would be no guarantee that a better result, or even the same result, could be achieved.

After careful consideration, Chief and Council believe that it is in the best interests of our community to put the Claim behind us and to use the compensation package to help us continue to build a better future.

The proposed settlement will not become final unless those members eligible and registered to vote, vote to accept the settlement package in a Ratification Vote in accordance with Dokis Voting Guidelines. The vote itself will take place on February 13, 2021. You will be able to cast your votes at a polling station, electronically or by mail-in ballot. All the information you need is in this information package.

We will be holding information meetings online so that you can hear from Chief and Council and our professional advisers on all aspects of the proposed settlement package. You will also be able to get advice from our lawyers, negotiator, and financial advisor by telephone. In addition, Members of Council and I will also be available to discuss the proposed settlement package and why we are recommending it.

This settlement, if our members choose to ratify it, will bring finality to the historic wrong that was committed against our ancestors. On behalf of Council, I am pleased to recommend the settlement package.



Chief Gerry Duquette Jr.
Dokis First Nation