



Timiskaming, Wolf Lake and Eagle Village First Nations
6A Kateri Street, Timiskaming Reserve
Notre-Dame du Nord, QC
J0Z 3B0
Telephone: 819-723-2019

The Honourable David Zimmer,
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs (Ontario)
160 Bloor Street East, Suite 400
Toronto, Ontario, M7A-2E6
Fax: 416-314-2701

18 December 2015

**Re: Adverse Impacts of the Algonquins of Ontario Agreement-in-Principle (AOO-AIP) on
Aboriginal Rights and Title of Timiskaming, Wolf Lake, and Kebaowek Anicinabe (Eagle
Village) First Nations**

Dear Minister Zimmer,

This will acknowledge your letter to us, dated September 17, 2015, with respect to the ongoing negotiations between your province, the government of Canada, and the “Algonquins of Ontario” (AOO).

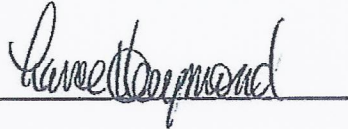
We must respectfully disagree with your suggestion that the province has made a meaningful effort to engage our communities with respect to the impact of the AOO-AIP on our asserted rights and interests. The record, in fact, indicates that most of our concerns have been ignored and dismissed. Although you indicate that the proposed AIP was made public on June 12, 2015, we were not provided with a copy, and it was apparently only posted online last Monday, December 7, 2015.

Our many concerns with the AIP remain unaddressed, and this is made more urgent based on the fact that the AOO are to vote on the AIP between February 29 to March 7, 2016 . We appreciate, as stated in the AOO-AIP, that even if ratified, the document will still not be legally binding. On the other hand, we also know that the AIP will set out the parameters for the Final Agreement and, once in place, it will be difficult to deviate from the AIP. That is why our concerns need to be dealt with now, before a ratification vote on the AIP takes place. If the AOO-AIP vote goes ahead without our legitimate concerns being addressed, we want to make it clear that we will not be bound by the results. The parties to the negotiations are therefore taking a substantial risk if it is later realized that major changes are required to meet our concerns. Will the parties have the

latitude to make these changes? Will you have to put the changes to another ratification vote?

We look forward to your earliest response and hope we can resolve the issue of our overlaps in respectful manner consistent with the nation-to-nation relationship.

Yours truly,



Chief Lance Haymond, Kebaowek Anicinabe
(Eagle Village)



Chief Harry St. Denis, Wolf Lake



for / Chief Terence McBride, Timiskaming

cc The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous Affairs
The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice