



Mississauga First Nation,

Chief and Council would like to share a few words concerning the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, the federal holiday declared by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, and moving forward.

The connection between Indigenous Peoples and the Crown has not been without ups and downs, but remains a long-standing relationship between two nations. With the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, we've seen a myriad of emotions within our communities and the world as a whole, and want to extend our understanding to each and every individual who has been impacted in some way by this event. The Queen was a constant for the last 70 years in the lives of many people globally; some saw her as a figurehead of colonialism and others saw a woman who dedicated her life to serving the Commonwealth.

Each year in late fall we take time to learn, teach, and honor the treaties that have been developed nation-to-nation. With the declaration of a federal holiday by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in the wake of the Queen's death, we wanted to let our community members know that this, too, will be a day to reflect on our treaties. Each step we take is to reinforce our inherent rights and responsibilities to each other, ourselves, our communities, and our world, and we will be reflecting on what we must do to continue paving a better way for the next seven generations.

Moving forward into the reign of King Charles III, we want to firmly state the importance of continued Indigenous-Crown relations where Indigenous beliefs, voices, opinions, and needs are held in the highest regard. We have a strong dedication to continue working towards improvements for Indigenous peoples, and expect the Crown to do the same.

Lastly we would like to remind our community of the teachings of love, respect, bravery, truth, honesty, humility, and wisdom. Everyone is on a different journey, and all people process emotions differently. We ask for kindness and compassion to be shown to one another, especially when there are conflicting beliefs.

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Chief & Council

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## MISSISSAUGA FIRST NATION