

RELATIONSHIP ACCORD

Between

SAGAMOK ANISHNAWBEK

And

SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

And

MISSISSAUGA FIRST NATION

Preamble

Whereas the Anishinabe peoples constitute a Nation by virtue of our creation, our common history, common language, common culture, common values, common traditions, common beliefs and common aspirations; and

Whereas the First Nations named herein are part of the Anishinabe Nation and are among the signatories of the Robinson-Huron Treaty;

Whereas each band or community in the Anishinabe Nation and the Robinson-Huron Treaty had its own Chiefs, and managed its own affairs within the limits of its territory independently of the other bands; and

Whereas treaty violations, dispossession, discrimination, and the cumulative acts and policies of colonial and Canadian governments since the commencement of colonization have left an enduring legacy of economic, political, social and cultural disadvantage that our peoples struggle with today; and

Whereas we have the right to self-determination and continuing aboriginal and treaty rights including traditional ownership and connection to our traditional lands, resources and waters and

these rights must be respected and accommodated within the legal, political and economic system that has developed and evolved around our communities; and

Whereas the signatories herein recognize our respective governments, territories and rights; and

Whereas the signatories recognize our respective mandates to represent the interests of their membership;

Therefore in the spirit of trust and cooperation, we agree as follows:

Purpose

The purpose of this Accord is to modernize, elaborate and strengthen our relations based on respect, responsibility and renewal through;

- a) Ceremonial affirmation of our mutual intentions;
- b) Setting out and confirming our kinships;
- c) Identifying our territories and addressing shared territory boundaries and governance;
- d) codifying our traditional laws and practices;
- e) Informing external governments and development proponents of our common interests and intentions; and
- f) Acting in a unified manner.

Guiding Principles

- a) The parties recognize and respect our governments, territories and rights;
- b) The parties recognize our respective mandates;
- c) The parties agree we are stronger when we speak with a unified voice.
- d) The parties agree that we can benefit from learning about each other's perspectives and sharing knowledge and information.
- e) The parties commit to advancing our interests in political level discussions among ourselves and with other governments.
- f) This Accord does not limit or affect the mandate or ability of any signatory to pursue their respective political mandates provided by their membership from time to time.

Ongoing Process of Dialogue and Relationship Building

The signatories agree to an ongoing process of dialogue and relationship building through regular meetings at the leadership and staff level.

The signatories agree to work in a collaborative and inclusive way on a range of agreed upon issues and initiatives of common interest or concern among the parties beginning with:

- i) the development of an approach and response to potential resource development or other development projects which may have a cumulative and common effect on the parties because of shared territory or shared waters;

- ii) facilitating Elder relations and collaboration;
- iii) the pursuit of common positions on Treaty matters;
- iv) addressing land and resources matters;
- v) facilitating annual Kinship gatherings; and
- vi) generally to work together on issues of common concern to advance the interests of the parties in local, regional and national fora and processes.

Decision-Making

The parties agree that the most effective means of translating the above principles into meaningful action and outcomes is by way of collective and coordinated action.

The parties agree that the leadership must act by way of consensus, cohesion and discipline with respect to priorities and approaches.


The parties agree that capacity at our disposal must forge a coordinated and shared responsibility approach to achieve progress on decisions and direction provided by the leadership.

Coordinated Action

The basic structure for implementing the intentions and commitments of this agreement will be based on:

- Greater administrative coordination of relevant personnel among the parties; and
- Information sharing; and
- Seasonal meetings or as required for the Leadership; and
- Bimonthly meetings or as required for staff level representatives.

SIGNED BY:



 Chief Paul Eshkakogan, Sagamok Anishnawbek

Nov. 17/16

 Date



 Chief Elaine Johnston, Serpent River First Nation

Nov. 17, 2016

 Date



 Chief Reg Niganobe, Mississauga First Nation

Nov 17/16

 Date