

# SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

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**November 01, 2023**

**Mino Gizhep!**

**I would like to provide a brief update to our community regarding progress on the Robinson-Huron Treaty Settlement. Yesterday evening I received confirmation that all documents have been submitted to the courts on behalf of the twenty-one First Nations (The Nations).**

**Serpent River completed our documentation on September 01, 2023 in Baawaating (Sault Ste. Marie) At that time most of the other Nations also completed their documentation and submitted it to the Litigation Management Committee and our legal representatives (Corbiere and Nahwegabow). Documentation consisted of two (2) Band Council Resolutions (BCR's) which were.**

- a) Instructions on how Serpent River instructed the Trustee to vote. (to accept the settlement agreement)**
- b) Instructions to the Canada and Ontario that Serpent River accepts the \$10Billion settlement and that the settlement be paid to the Trust Indenture, which will pay Serpent River and the remaining Nations.**

**The next hurdle involves the appeal filed by Ontario. This hearing is scheduled to appear before the Supreme Court on November 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> in Ottawa. Giimaa Angus Toulouse (Sagamok Anishnawbek) and Duke Peltier (Wikwemikoong) of the Litigation Management Committee (LMC) will be representing the Nations in the upcoming court hearing.**

**As soon as the livestream link is made available Serpent River will post so that interested people may attend the court hearing virtually. (November 7 & 8, 2023)**

**Off-Reserve engagement sessions will continue for November (Toronto) and December (Sudbury & Sault Ste. Marie). Please participate to become informed and to provide input.**

**In the New Year focus will narrow to the financial arrangements the Community needs to make as well as a dollar amount for disbursement to individuals. In the meantime, I would suggest that families make arrangements for documentation YOU may need to have, this may include status cards, birth certificates, power of attorney documentation and wills and estates documentation. I would also encourage those without banking institutions to secure an account.**

**The LMC continues their work in updating population numbers so that each Nation will receive their fair share. As you are aware, disbursement is population based. This is why SRFN Council had decided**

**in favour of following Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) membership data (1500+) rather than our own membership list (700+).**

**Our understanding at this time, is that the LMC is focused on providing an accurate number to each Nation as soon as possible in the new year. (Pending a successful outcome of the Appeal)**

**Please remain positive that the court will deny the appeal made by Ontario and that the Nations will successfully jump this final hurdle November 7 and 8, 2023.**

**All Our Relations,**



**Wilma-Lee Johnston  
Deputy Chief**

**CC: Council**