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## March 31, 2023

## IMPORTANT UPDATE TO MEMBERS ON OUR LAND CLAIM

Chief Wilfred King and the Council of Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek - Gull Bay First Nation (KZA – GBFN) are pleased to announce that we have received an offer from the Government of Canada to settle KZA-GBFN's specific claim and action filed in court regarding the shortfall of land owed to KZA-GBFN under the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850.

This is an important step because we have been waiting since August 2021 for Canada to deliver its offer to settle our specific claim and actions filed in court. As we recall back in June 2020, Ontario previously offered to resolve KZA-GBFN's boundary claim and action filed in court pursuant to the terms. This will finally allow all three parties (KZA-GBFN, Canada and Ontario) to move forward and negotiate the terms of a settlement agreement(s) to resolve our claims.

In support of these offers, today, at a Special Meeting of Chief and Council, a Band Council Resolution was passed to proceed with negotiations.

## **NEXT STEPS:**

- All three parties (KZA-GBFN, Canada and Ontario) are to sign the Negotiation Protocol Agreement to allow for confidential negotiations in drafting the settlement agreement(s) and related documents.
- KZA-GBFN Land Selection Committee will begin to arrange for ongoing community consultations
  with the membership for soliciting input on the land selection process and the lands to be selected.
- KZA-GBFN Legal Counsel arranges for ongoing negotiation meetings with Canada and Ontario to negotiate language in the Settlement Agreement(s).
- KZA-GBFN arranges for ongoing community consultation meetings to keep the membership
  updated on the negotiation process. Once consultations are complete, and the details of the
  Agreement(s) are captured, the membership will be engaged in a ratification vote to accept or reject.

Members are encouraged to attend upcoming meetings at which time greater details as to the offers can be confidentially shared. For members residing in KZA, the meeting will be held on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 10am at the Rec Hall. For members residing in Thunder Bay, the meeting will be held Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 6pm at Valhalla Inn Ballroom. Unfortunately, there is presently no means by which highly confidential information can be securely transmitted electronically.

Members should immediately update their contact information either on the KZA-GBFN website OR by contacting the FN Government Office at (807) 982-0006 to complete the form. It is only by receiving members' current contact information will we be able to provide more confidential, detailed information (including voting packages) directly to your addresses. It is critically important that members receive correct, legitimate information and can do so by referring to the KZA website www.gbfn.ca