



PO Box 29100, 1186 Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6P9 • T (807) 982-0006 • F (807) 982-0009 • W www.gbfn.ca

NEWS RELEASE

A Giant-Step Achievement Towards Settlement of KZA's Treaty Reserve Claim

March 10, 2025 - (Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek - Gull Bay First Nation) - Although work still continues towards final closure of its land claim grievances in their entirety, the achievement of coming to an agreement with Canada on financial compensation is not lost on the government of Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek – Gull Bay First Nation (KZA) and its leader, Chief Wilfred King, who is happy to share that KZA has settled the first phase of its historic land claim.

Crown-Indigenous Relation and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) Minister Gary Anandasangaree announced signature to *KZA - GBFN Treaty Reserve Claim - Agreement 1* which outlines the terms of settlement of the financial compensation portion relating to the interpretation and implementation of the historic Robinson Superior Treaty of 1850 (RST) of which KZA is an original signatory. Dating back now 175 years, KZA's grievance relates to the errors, omissions and misallocation of lands at the time of the signing of the RST and the lost opportunities and use of those lands by its Citizens and Nation.

Both KZA and Canada acknowledge that the Agreement 1 settlement is an important step in the promotion of reconciliation and the renewal of a Nation-to-Nation relationship based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation, partnership, and KZA's continued progress towards self-determination and sovereignty.

The phased approach to settlement saw an important first-of-its-kind agreement that was reached through open and frequent communication, and collaboration between KZA and Canada. The next and final phase, in which Agreement 2 will be negotiated between KZA, Canada and Ontario, is the selections of lands for the additions to reserve (ATR) process. With the advance work that has been undertaken to date, Chief King hopes that efforts made to negotiate and undertake tasks of both Agreement 1 and 2 simultaneously has made settlement in entirety proceed in an expedited way. As such, he is confident that the land for addition could be identified for inclusion within KZA's expanded reserve boundary within the next few months.

Chief King relays that continued consultation with KZA Citizens and expert resources are critical to ensuring the maximum social, cultural, and economic benefits are realized by the Nation within the lens of advancing opportunities towards the next Seven Generations.

"We, as a People and as a Nation, are indivisibly connected to the Land. I am very humbled to have had a part in seeing settlement come to KZA's Citizens", says King.

For more information, media may contact:

For Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek
Chief Wilfred N. King
807-627-6937

Link to Canada's News Release

<https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2025/03/kiashke-zaaging-anishinaabek-and-canada-mark-historic-settlement-to-address-the-first-nations-treaty-reserve-claim.html>