

NEGOTIATIONS OFFICE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2004

IT'S A DEAL!!

On Thursday, May 20 2004, the Investigation Agreement and the Statement of Work were officially signed by the First Nation and Canada. There was an official signing ceremony held at the Hillside School gym with the members of the First Nation's Negotiating team, Chief Tom Bressette, Rose-Marie Ur, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex), Robert Howsam, Regional Director General, INAC, Lt.-Col. Don Kennedy, DND present to witness the occasion. Chief Tom Bressette and RoseMarie Ur signed the agreements which were also signed by Minister Andrew Mitchell (INAC) and Minister David Pratt (DND) in Ottawa on behalf of the Government of Canada.

The signing of the two documents led the way for the initial SCAPA payment to the Seniors.

Following the signing ceremony and distribution of the cheques, there was a delicious meal enjoyed by community members present.

CHI-MIIGWETCH!

On behalf of Chief Tom and the Negotiating Team, a sincere thank you to Judy Boone and her extremely capable crew for the fantastic meal and the overall great job that they did.

Thanks to Emery Shawnoo for giving the blessing for the meal. Also, to Clifford George for his eloquent opening prayer.

Appreciation is expressed for the work of our Finance staff : Sharman Bressette, Elaine Jackson, and Veronica George for being present to distribute the cheques to the Seniors, and Murray Shawnoo for preparation of the cheques.

Another hearty thank you must go to Toni George, our Band Office receptionist who is always ready and willing to provide whatever assistance she can.

Dave Henry: miigwetch for your assistance. Your volunteer work was much appreciated.

Connie Milliken: You took some great photos! Thank you.

Hillside School staff and students: Miigwetch.

Corrinda: Thanks for providing answers to the many questions that were asked of you regarding SCAPA.

Finally, a sincere thank you to our Experts, Steve Janes, Environmental; Peter Timmins, Cultural; and Robert Menke, UXO; our legal counsel, Bill Henderson; and our Lead Negotiator, Wayne Greer for doing all that you have in order for our First Nation to be able to sign off on those agreements.

The First Nation's Negotiating Team (Bonnie Bressette, Robert Bressette, Peter Cloud, Greg George, and Chief Tom Bressette held firm to their beliefs and we can now move forward on settling the "main claim".

As you may imagine, both documents are somewhat lengthy and complex. Because the First Nation will not compromise on any future clean up of the land, it is extremely important that we ensure that our interests are covered now in the investigation phases. The IA and

SOW contain environmental, UXO, and cultural components. Our experts have been working diligently to ensure that the IA and SOW will protect the First Nation.

Now that the IA and SOW are signed, this will lead the way for determining the clean up options for the land.

Many issues need to be considered when the investigation actually begins. For instance, there are many globally and nationally rare species of plants that will have to be protected.

Another sensitive matter will be the cultural investigation. There will be a protocol and procedures in place as to how any culturally significant sites will be handled. It has been made quite clear to Canada that the First Nation wants all cultural and spiritual sites to be treated in a respectful and dignified manner.

Once the investigation actually begins, our experts will still have the ability to advise us on all aspects relevant to ensuring that methods and protocols are adhered to.

TAX REMISSION ORDER:

The Tax Remission Order is now being handled by KPMG. Files received from Cohen Highley were sent to them. The Authorization and Determination of Income forms that members have completed have been forwarded to KPMG and we have been informed that they are currently being worked on. The Tax Remission Order that was granted was only for the Federal portion of the taxes that were deducted. KPMG is working with CCRA to expedite the remittances and there is a strong indication that the Provincial tax portion may also be returned. Also, KPMG cannot guarantee that all claims filed are eligible for refunds. It will be up to CCRA to make that determination. The First Nation will not be notified of CCRA's decisions and CCRA will deal directly with each client that has filed.

If you have not already completed an Authorization form and a Determination of Income form and believe that you have a claim for the Tax Remission Order, please come into the Negotiations Office as soon as possible and we can assist you in completing them.

It is important to note that if you believe you have a claim but are not on our list and we do not have your files, then it is your responsibility to provide the necessary tax information before any action can take place on your behalf. Information required would be any tax returns, records of employment, etc. that detail your employment at Camp Ipperwash.



HERITAGE VALUES MAP: We are hoping that community members will assist in the creation of the mapping, since we are depending on your knowledge and information to provide a history of the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation. This map will be used as an educational tool for our community and will be classed as a "living document". This means that additions can be made to the map in the future as information becomes available. The map will show the younger generations how and where their ancestors lived. Too often, history is lost with the passing of older generations and our youth do not know the ties to the past. For example, we have created a map showing the historical landmarks of Stony Point before the army took over. This was based on work done by the Heritage Sub-Committee in 1997. We have also attempted to show the locations of historical importance on the Kettle Point tract of land and the areas surrounding us. A map of Southwestern Ontario has locations where First Nation members traditionally hunted and fished. Some of these areas are still in use today. We have also used information from the Oral Histories that were completed a number of years ago. It is hoped that everyone enjoyed looking at the photo display that was available for the signing ceremony. If you have any old photos, please bring them in so that they can be scanned into our files. We will not need to keep your original photos.

Once again, this is an open invitation for anyone who is interested to please come into the office and take a look at what is being done.

YOUR INPUT IS WELCOME AND NEEDED!

We may also rely on our own members who can provide us with any information regarding medicinal plants or significant areas of importance.

Work on the Investigation is expected to begin once the Independent Contractor is selected. Hopefully, the work will begin late this year or early in 2005.

The community will be kept informed regarding the progress of the investigation.



Chief Tom's opening remarks



Lt.-Col. Don Kennedy, DND
Land Forces Central Area



Robert Howsam, Regional Director General, INAC



Wayne Greer, Lead Negotiator for
CKSP First Nation



Steve Janes, Environmental Special
Advisor



Signing the agreements.



The documents have been signed. RoseMarie
Ur, MP Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, and Chief
Tom Bressette



The smile says it all!

VALUES MAP:

Some of the key features on our Values Map will include sites of significance such as:

1. **The Kettles:** These are unique to this geological region. The Kettle Point site has been added to the Historical Recognition files of Ontario. There is a bylaw passed by the First Nation to prohibit the removal of kettles. Historically, these Kettles would have served as an easy landmark or guide. There are many legends that have surrounded their occurrence.
2. **Flint and Chert Outcrops:** The flint and chert outcrops that occur at Kettle and Stony Point and surrounding lands are an historic icon that ideally made this area a strategic location for tool making and its associated trade. The use of this resource was an excellent trading commodity which gave the early inhabitants of this area certain advantages over other neighbouring or distant First Nations. Evidence of the pre-European trading networks indicates that this chert has been found throughout Ontario and Michigan.
3. **Mud Creek:** The use of Mud Creek as a land-based resource has been well documented throughout Stony Point history. Early settlers of Stony Point (including their next generations) used this creek for fishing, swimming and as a winter water source. Mud Creek also provided habitat for waterfowl, bullfrogs, and small fur bearing animals, which created a home base of hunting and trapping activity.
4. **Stony Point Farmland:** The farmland at the mid-southern range was used for grain crops, cattle grazing, vegetable gardens, and fruit orchards. The fertile soils in this area may have been attributed to the glacial outwashes and the retreating glacial lakes, Algonquin and Nipissing.
5. **Inland Lakes:** The inland lakes were used for a number of recreational activities as well as providing a food source with reported normal populations of fish and wildlife.
6. **Ausable River:** The river flowed to the east of Stony Point lands, and was historically used as a canoe route reaching inland to the east and north. This route was ideal for trading. It was also important for providing fishing, hunting and trapping opportunities.
7. **Woodlots:** The woodlots of Stony Point were a stable resource that was highly depended on for the building of homes and fences. Hickory and other woods were used for axe handles which were for local use or for trading. Ash was used for basket making. The woodlots also provided an abundance of fire wood, maple syrup production, elm bark canoe manufacturing, cedar and oak lumber and other forms of wood related products.
8. **Flora:** Elders describe that the plant flora was naturally arranged to flourish amongst the forest floor dwellings that offered shade growth plants, as well as open field savannah type flora. The historical usage of vascular flora for medicinal, natural dyes and as food sources are well documented. Wildlife was also dependent on these resources.
9. **Lake Huron Fishing Areas:** Fishing offered the people a recreational opportunity as well as a stable food supply.
10. **Ipperwash Beach:** The beachfront was a connecting path and later a road used by the people of Kettle and Stony Point. This travel route was an easier access to other lands around and adjacent to Kettle and Stony Point.



INLAND LAKES AT STONY POINT