

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF ANGLERS & HUNTERS



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December 7, 2011

Mr. Meish Podlog
Senior Negotiator, Director's Office
Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs
4th Floor, 160 Bloor Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2E6

Dear Mr. Podlog:

On behalf of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), its 100,000 members, subscribers and supporters, and 670 member clubs, I am writing to follow up on comments made previously by your Minister, and again at the Committee of External Advisors last week in Pembroke, with respect to the need for public consultation prior to the signing of an Agreement in Principle (AIP) for the Algonquin Land Claim.

As you may be aware, during his remarks at the CEA last week, David MacDonald reiterated the need for public consultation, and we are writing in support of holding these meetings early in the new year, certainly no later than February. In order to facilitate comprehensive feedback from the broader public sector, and particularly from anglers, hunters, landowners, hunt camp owners, Land Use Permit (LUP) holders, residents and others who may be impacted on by the outcome of negotiations, we suggest that a minimum of five public meetings be held, and we strongly recommend the following communities as sites for these meetings: Perth; Pembroke; North Bay; Bancroft; and Peterborough.

We would expect that at the very least, key issues that would be addressed at these meetings include harvesting (including designated species), land allocation (including Crown land access, parks, and impact on LUP's), enforcement, and overlapping claims.

We look forward to hearing from you on this matter at your earliest convenience.

Yours in Conservation,

Michael A. Reader
Executive Director

MAR/jb

cc: Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs
Honourable Michael Gravelle, Minister of Natural Resources
David O'Toole, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources
Doug Carr, ADM Negotiations and Reconciliation, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs
Roselyn Lawrence, ADM Policy, Ministry of Natural Resources
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