

January 14, 2022



Dear Relatives:

I am writing to invite you to be a part of our future and share how we protect and preserve for that future. Our history is long, and the 1919 Soldier Settlement Board Surrender is a significant part of that history that shaped who we are and who we can be. Over 100 years have passed since Canada unilaterally took nearly 9,000 acres of our reserve lands for minimal compensation in 1919. Our community must now make a decision collectively for our future relatives while honouring our past relatives.

Muskeg Lake Cree Nation (MLCN) has received an offer of tentative settlement from Canada after an extremely long negotiation period. As a final step of these negotiations, the proposed settlement must be approved by our membership. The enclosed package will provide you with the detailed information you need to make a decision on the proposed settlement. I am highlighting some of the key features below:

1. Canada will pay MLCN \$127,874,961 (less the Negotiation Loan Funding from the settlement amount, approximately \$658,781.00) in compensation;
2. MLCN can apply to buy land in Saskatchewan to replace what was taken – 8,960 acres, which Canada has agreed to set aside as a reserve;
3. The compensation amount will be put in a Trust for the benefit of MLCN as a whole. A trust is to hold and invest the money for the long-term use and benefit of MLCN and to generate a reliable and sustainable source of income for the benefit of MLCN members;
4. MLCN must appoint a corporate Trustee to manage the Trust Property. The Nation is in the process of selecting between First Nations Bank Trust, Peace Hills Trust, CIBC Trust and BMO Trust. All of these trustees have an excellent reputation and significant experience in managing Indigenous trusts;
5. An Advisory Committee consisting of members and qualified non-members will also be established to make decisions involving the Trust Property (in accordance with the Trust Agreement);
6. Under the Trust Agreement, the Trust Property can be used for the following Band Development Purposes:
 - a. Community Infrastructure, Development and Investment Purposes – up to \$15 million;
 - b. Community Initiatives Purposes – up to \$3 million;

- c. Emergency Purpose – up to \$3 million; and
- d. Land Acquisition Purpose – up \$20 million;

*The Trust Agreement also has flexibility to provide assistance to members for housing initiatives, educational initiatives and cultural initiatives.

- 7. Before the Trustee can make any payments for the above Band Development Purposes, there is a transparent process that requires joint approval from the Advisory Committee and Chief and Council;
- 8. The Trust Property will be used for a one-time per capita distribution per member (as of the date of the ratification vote). The total amount of this per capita distribution will be decided and engaged on with members; and
- 9. The financial statements of the Trust must be audited annually. Council and the Advisory Committee must post the audited financial statements and the Trustee's annual report. There must also be an annual community information meeting to discuss the Trust.

For the Settlement to be approved and accepted, 25%+1 of our members eligible to vote must vote in favour. This amounts to approximately 1,600 voting members which requires an approval of over 400 votes.

I urge you to vote in favour of the Settlement Agreement and Trust Agreement, as this represents a historic opportunity to better our Nation and give us the financial resources to create a better future for our people. This settlement is about securing the future for our relatives and will support the financial future of our Nation. I encourage you to review and understand the particulars of the Trust, ask questions of leadership, attend our engagement meetings, and, most importantly, cast your vote in the Ratification Vote. As leadership, we are prepared to answer your questions, respond to your concerns, and listen. We hope you will participate in the discussion in whatever way makes you comfortable – in person, via technology or written thoughts as well as having conversations with your family.

Enclosed you will find the following documents:

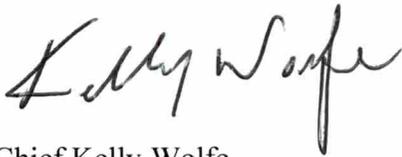
- 1. the Notice of Ratification Vote;
- 2. a Summary of the Trust Agreement and Settlement Agreement, prepared by MLT Aikins LLP (legal counsel);
- 3. a Report, prepared by MNP LLP (financial advisor);
- 4. a copy of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation 1919 Soldier Settlement Board Specific Claim Settlement Agreement; and,
- 5. a copy of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation 1919 Soldier Settlement Board Surrender IR 102 Specific Claim Trust Agreement.

If your mailing address has changed, please contact Anita Lafleur by phone at 306-466-4959 or by email at alafleur@muskeglake.com. Voting is scheduled to take place on February 26, 2022 at Muskeg Lake Cree Nation. There will also be opportunities to vote electronically, by mail-in ballot or in person in advance of the vote on February 26, 2022. Information meetings are scheduled to take place over the next few weeks.

If you have questions about the settlement or the process for settling this claim, please feel free to contact any member of Council or Muskeg Lake Cree Nation's legal counsel, Rangi Jeerakathil, directly at 306-975-7107.

Before I sign off, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the leadership before me who have worked tirelessly to see this through for our future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Wolfe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" and "W".

Chief Kelly Wolfe