



A PLACE OF VISIONS AND DREAMS

June 17, 2023

## COMMUNITY NOTICE

This notice is to provide an update on the Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation Fund (RHTLF) which represents the 21 First Nations of the Robinson-Huron Treaty area. The RHTLF has been in litigation with the government of Ontario and Canada since 2012 for failing to fulfill the Treaty Augmentation promise in the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850.

I am pleased to announce that a settlement, in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 (ten billion dollars), was reached between the 21 First Nations, Ontario and Canada. Because this is part of a negotiation, there is always risk. Even under the best-case scenario, the process to start receiving compensation funds could take us into next year before we are able to see those funds start flowing.

Please be advised that the \$4.00 annuity will remain unchanged with this potential settlement. The amount announced today is for past compensation only. This settlement is for past payment for the Crown increasing the annuity provision on a collective basis and not for the \$4.00 individuals currently receive. Individuals will continue to receive their treaty payment.

During the process, the court interpreted the augmentation clause as a:

- 1) A collective lump sum amount out of which would be paid a distributive amount as an annuity;
- 2) And ruled that the \$4.00 limit applies only to the amount distributed to individuals but does not apply to the collective annuity.

There will be further negotiations on the augmentation clause. The Crown argued that there never was a collective amount, there was only the \$4.00 individual amount.

That issue is being heard at the Supreme Court of Canada this fall. A decision is expected to be reached sometime next year. We are hopeful this can be negotiated out of court, as was the current settlement for the past compensation.

Moving forward, we need to make plans to take care of each other and future generations. The RHTLF has appointed Mizhinawe to be a bridge between the First Nations and RHTLF. Mizhinawe will visit our community to get your ideas and make recommendations to leadership.

# WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION

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Mizhinawe are tentatively scheduled to make their first visit to our community on June 28, 2023. Please watch for a poster with additional details next week.

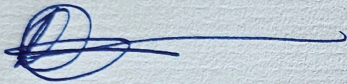
Each First Nation will decide what amount will be distributed to individuals as per capita distributions. Please note that a 100% per capita distribution goes against everything we have learned from our ancestors. That is not what was intended by the Chiefs who signed the Treaty. We must consider our children, grandchildren and future generations.

All band members will receive information to make an informed decision when the time comes. The RHTLF will be releasing important information in the coming months.

Remember, we got where we are because of our ancestors, their wisdom, their strength, their love for us, and their vision for the future, which is us. Let us embrace the treaty responsibility that has been passed onto us based upon the principle of sharing and protecting our future.

Let us move forward cautiously, because this is not a done deal until a final agreement is fully signed and it can still fail. Let's talk. Let's plan.

Miigwech,



Chief Rodney Nahwegahbow



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