

Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory

19 A Complex Drive, P.O. Box 112
Wikwemikong, Ontario P0P 2J0

May 24, 2019

Michael J. Fair
c/o Nathan Tidridge
Waterdown District High School
215 Parkside Drive
Waterdown, ON L8B 1B9

Dear Mr. Fair:

Thank you for your letter requesting information on Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory for your Indigenous Studies Program. It gives us great hope with regards to reconciliation when students, like yourself, take the time to begin a respectful dialogue in order to understand the issues of our people.

I can only offer a short response to the questions you have, as the topics require a more in-depth conversation and, I suspect, more than is required for your assignment.

Regarding the *Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples*; Reconciliation – Wiikwemkoong Unceded is currently in formal discussions with Canada regarding reconciliation; Self-Government – we are currently in formal discussions with Canada; and, Acknowledgement for past Treaties and agreements – Yes, Canada and Ontario must acknowledge our relationship based on the *1764 Treaty of Niagara* and all other agreements entered into with the Crown. It has been the practice to undertake extensive research by all parties regarding the facts. The research is reviewed and used in moving forward with our discussions or negotiations.

The present Liberal government has been pro-active with Wiikwemkoong Unceded in discussions regarding our “unceded” status and inherent rights by formally setting up an engagement process on our inherent rights, land claim and self-government.

All the very best in your studies.

Miigwech.

Respectfully,



Ogimaa Duke Peltier