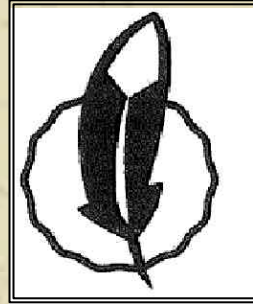


Algonquin Negotiation Representative Elections



September, 2004

Alan Pratt, Barrister & Solicitor
Dunrobin, Ontario

Introduction



-
- ◆ Algonquins have used and occupied the Ottawa Valley since before Europeans
 - ◆ Algonquins began petitioning the Crown in the 1770's for a treaty to protect Algonquin land
 - ◆ The Crown promised to protect Algonquin land
 - ◆ The Crown promised reserves
 - ◆ Only the Golden Lake reserve was created (purchased with band funds in 1873)
 - ◆ Reserves in Bedford Township and Sabine, Lawrence and Nightingale Townships were never proceeded with

The Algonquin Negotiations



- ✦ Starting in the mid-1970's the Golden Lake (Pikwàkanagàn) First Nation researched its land rights
- ✦ In 1983 the First Nation petitioned the Governor General for protection of its aboriginal rights and title
- ✦ Joan Holmes did exhaustive research into Algonquin rights
- ✦ In 1991 Ontario accepted the Claim
- ✦ In 1992 Canada accepted the Claim

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Representation in the Negotiations



- ✦ The Chief and Council sought to expand representation to include off-reserve and non-status Algonquins:
 - ◆ Algonquin Management Circle
 - ◆ Algonquin Nation Negotiations Interim Directorate
 - ◆ Algonquin Nation Negotiations Directorate
- ✦ Breakdown of the ANND Board in November 2001

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Principal Negotiator



- ✦ In 2002, Chief and Council of Pikwàkanagàn and ANND asked Dr. Billy Diamond to act as Principal Negotiator
- ✦ Principal Negotiator would take instructions from the leadership of both (and perhaps other groups)
- ✦ In 2003, Bob Potts was retained in that capacity
- ✦ Alan Pratt is legal counsel to Principal Negotiator (previously served as negotiations legal counsel to Algonquins from 1995 to 2001)

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Protocol Agreement and Addendum



- ◆ March 25, 2004 Protocol Agreement Chief and Council and ANND agreed to identify beneficiary eligibility criteria for Algonquin Treaty or Agreement
- ◆ After more discussion it was decided that this issue should be deferred
- ◆ On July 30, 2004 Addendum to the Protocol Agreement signed
 - process to elect Algonquin Negotiation Representatives (ANR)
 - Independent of Chief and Council and ANND or ANTC

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The Legal and Professional Team



- 1) **BOB POTTS:**
 - ♦ PRINCIPAL NEGOTIATOR;
 - ♦ SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL
- 2) **ALAN PRATT:**
 - ♦ LEGAL COUNSEL
- 3) **JOAN HOLMES:**
 - ♦ ENROLMENT OFFICER
- 4) **BOB JOHNSON:**
 - ♦ ELECTORAL OFFICER
- 5) **GARY GEORGE:**
 - ♦ INFORMATION OFFICER

(Biographical sketches are available)

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The Electors— Who Can Vote?



- ✚ The following people can vote in the ANR elections:
 - ♦ Enrolled prior to November 17, 2001 under *Algonquin Enrolment Law* or added after that date subject to a review by the Enrolment Officer; *or*
 - ♦ Can demonstrate direct descent from a list of known Algonquins
 - Those listed on Schedule “A” or
 - Those added by the Enrolment Board under the *Algonquin Enrolment Law*; *and*
 - ♦ 18 years old as of October 1, 2004

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What Communities will be Represented? (1)



- ✦ **All** Communities have to have at least 125 persons of Algonquin descent to elect an ANR
- ✦ The following Communities are eligible to elect an ANR (if they demonstrate they have 125 persons of Algonquin descent):
 - ◆ (a) Sharbot Lake
 - ◆ (b) Mattawa/North Bay
 - ◆ (c) Greater Golden Lake
 - ◆ (d) Ardoch
 - ◆ (e) Antoine
 - ◆ (f) Bonnechere
 - ◆ (g) Bancroft
 - ◆ (h) Whitney

What Communities will be Represented? (2)



PLUS

- ◆ Any other groups of persons in Ontario who want to be recognized as a Community of Algonquins in Ontario, and who can demonstrate that:
 - they have a geographical connection with the Algonquin Territories as reflected in the Map that is annexed as Appendix "A" (other than those listed above).
 - they have a history of common interests and needs arising from their common Algonquin heritage.

Timing of Elections



- ✦ A number of important steps must occur before the elections themselves
 - ◆ Enrollment process
 - ◆ Election call
 - ◆ Notice
 - ◆ Mail-in balloting
- ✦ We expect that the elections can take place in early 2005
- ✦ For funding reasons it is vital to complete the elections by the end of March, 2005

Role of ANR



- ✦ The ANR will join with Chief and Council to negotiate an Algonquin Treaty
- ✦ All Algonquins will be represented at the negotiation table
- ✦ ANR does **not** replace any other community organization
- ✦ More information on the ANR election process is available on the internet at:
- ✦ www.blaney.com/algonquin.htm