



**ALGONQUIN NEGOTIATION REPRESENTATIVES AIP/TREATY NEGOTIATIONS WITH  
THE GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND ONTARIO**

February 27, 2015

Dear Algonquin Voter,

**Subject: Upcoming Algonquin Regional Meetings to Discuss the Impact of the  
*Tsilhqot'in Nation* Decision on our Treaty Negotiations**

In my role as the Principal Negotiator and Senior Legal Counsel for the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO), I am pleased to invite you to a series of upcoming Algonquin regional meetings regarding our next steps in the ongoing negotiations with the Governments of Canada and Ontario towards an Agreement-in-Principle and, ultimately, a Treaty.

On June 26, 2014, the Supreme Court of Canada released its landmark decision in *Tsilhqot'in Nation v. British Columbia*, 2014 SCC 44. This decision is the first in Canada to declare that an Aboriginal group possesses Aboriginal title to particular lands.

Since the release of this ground-breaking decision, the AOO Negotiation Team has been carefully considering its impact on our negotiating position in the ongoing Treaty negotiations. In addition to the AOO's internal review, our legal advice has also been evaluated by Professors Brian Slattery and Kent McNeil, both of Osgoode Hall Law School at York University and Canada's leading legal experts on Aboriginal title.

It is now critical that we provide the Algonquins of Ontario with an update on these recent efforts. To do so, the AOO Negotiation Team has arranged a series of regional meetings in March 2015 during which myself, along with the AOO's Legal Counsel Alan Pratt, will provide our views on the implications of the Supreme Court of Canada's landmark decision in *Tsilhqot'in Nation*.

Given the highly confidential nature of this legal advice, particularly with respect to how it affects our negotiating position with the Governments of Canada and Ontario, I am unfortunately unable to disclose this type of information in correspondence such as this. Should you be unable to attend one of the regional sessions, I strongly encourage you to speak directly to your local Algonquin Negotiation Representative.

For additional details about these upcoming Algonquin regional meetings, please see the enclosed outreach.

Should you have any questions or require further information, you may also contact the Algonquins of Ontario Consultation Office toll free at 1-855-735-3759 or 613-735-3759 or by email at [algonquins@nrtco.net](mailto:algonquins@nrtco.net).

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Potts'.

Robert J. Potts  
Principal Negotiator and Senior Legal Counsel  
Algonquin Treaty Negotiations

Enclosure: Impact of *Tsilhqot'in Nation* on our Treaty Negotiations – Upcoming Regional Meetings!