Enrolment Officer's Reply Submission in response to Responding Submissions by Interested Parties:

Reply Report to Responding Submissions Regarding Ancestor Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean (RIN #11565) Dated April 11, 2023

JHA
HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

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Prepared for the Algonquin Tribunal
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1. Introduction

The Tribunal received responding submissions from two parties in support of removing the ancestor Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean (RIN #11565) from the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors. The submissions are posted on the Tribunal's website as:
https://www.tanakiwin.com/tribunal/thomas-lagarde-dit-st-jean/

They appear on the website as:

- Document 6 – Submission by Chief Wendy Jocko on behalf of her community. It was dated March 7, 2023.
- Document 7 – Responding Submission by Chief G. Sarazin on behalf of his community. It was dated March 24, 2023.

The submissions are responding to the Enrolment Officer's Report which appears on the Tribunal website as:

- Document 1 – Enrolment Officer Report Regarding Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean. It was dated December 2022; and
- Responding submissions that appear on the website as Documents 2, 3, and 5.

This reply report addresses the content in the Respondents' submissions that are relevant to the Tribunal's inquiry, which is to determine whether Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean (RIN #11565) is identified in a historic record or document dated on or before December 31, 1921, in such a way that it would be reasonable to conclude that he was considered to be an Algonquin or Nipissing, or a sibling of such a person. A "sibling of such a person" means a person with a common Algonquin parent.

The Respondents' submissions refer to some documents and facts that are contained in the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted as Document 1). As noted in the Enrolment Officer's Report, archival documents recording a family's life events have been assigned ALG document numbers; RIN numbers have been assigned to individuals discussed in the report to aid in identification. RIN numbers, ALG document numbers, and/or page numbers of existing reports will be referenced in this report for ease of discussion.

2. Document #6 – Responding Submission by Chief Wendy Jocko on behalf of her community

The Respondent Chief Wendy Jocko submitted a responding submission on behalf of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan in support of removing ancestor Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean (RIN #11565) from the Schedule of Ancestors.

The Respondent indicated that she agreed with the Enrolment Officer's research findings about Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean; which are described as follows:

- Thomas was baptized on March 21, 1801 in St. Eustache, now a suburb west of Montréal.
- His parents were recorded as Paul Lagarde and Marguerite Poirier of St. Eustache parish.

- They are easily traceable through reliable genealogical databases. They and their forebears were French-Canadian.
- Thomas and his wife Sophie Carrière moved to Litchfield Township, Pontiac County, by 1844.
- None of the documents associated with Lagarde's life make any reference to Algonquins or Indigenous peoples.

The Respondent submits that the Enrolment Officer's report indicates that Lagarde was French-Canadian. The Respondent submits that Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean is not an Algonquin Ancestor according to Article 1 of the Special Resolution of January 22, 2020.

The Enrolment Officer notes that her initial report (posted as Document 1) did not draw any conclusions regarding the ethnic identity of Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean. The known details regarding Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean and his documented ancestors were laid out for the consideration of the Tribunal.

What conclusions, if any, that may be drawn from the Enrolment Officer's Report or other evidence that is available to the Tribunal, are for the Tribunal to determine.

The Enrolment Officer has no further reply comments.

3. Document #7 – Responding Submission by Chief G. Sarazin on behalf of his community

The Respondent Chief Greg Sarazin submitted a responding submission on behalf of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan in support of removing ancestor Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean (RIN #11565) from the Schedule of Ancestors.

The submission was in response to responding submissions (posted as Documents 2, 3 & 5) which argued in favour of retaining Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors.

3.1 Photographic Evidence

The Respondent analyses the submissions made in favour of keeping Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean on the list of Algonquin Ancestors and indicated that in his opinion photographs do not prove indigeneity or indigenous identity.

The Enrolment Officer has no comments on this subject.

3.2 Lateral Relations and Genealogical Connections

The Respondent states that no further historical documentation was presented to support the claim that Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean was Algonquin, rather that lateral ties to the Lagarde family were cited to show links between parallel lines of Lagarde ancestors and Algonquin families but did not demonstrate direct lineal descent from Algonquins for the subject line.

The Enrolment Officer's responding report (posted as Document #9) addresses and discusses the direct lineal line of descent of Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean. The Enrolment Officer has no further reply comments on this subject.

3.3 Family Lore Versus Oral History

The Respondent analyses the submissions made in favour of keeping Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean on the list of Algonquin Ancestors and concludes that the submissions (posted as Documents 2, 3 & 5) confuse family lore with Indigenous oral history. The Respondent further submits that friendships between ancestors and Algonquin individuals do not mean that the ancestors themselves were Algonquin.

The Enrolment Officers responding report (posted as Document #9) addresses these issues and has no further reply comments on this subject.

3.4 Misreading of Evidence or Documentation

The Respondent analyses the submissions made in favour of keeping Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean on the list of Algonquin Ancestors. The Respondent addresses inconsistencies in the interpretation of the evidence/documentation by the responding submissions (posted as Documents 2, 3 & 5).

The Enrolment Officer's responding report (posted as Document #9) addresses these issues and has no further reply comments on this subject.

The Respondent states that their continued position is that Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean is not an Algonquin Ancestor according to Article 1 of the Special Resolution of January 22, 2020.

The Enrolment Officer has no further reply comments.

What conclusions, if any, that may be drawn from the Enrolment Officer's Report or other evidence that is available to the Tribunal, are for the Tribunal to determine.