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Administration  
519-445-2201  
(F) 519-445-4208

March 4, 2014

**RECEIVED**  
COUNTY OF BRANT  
Corporate Services Department  
Burford Office

Economic Development

(519) 753-1950  
(F) 758-0768

Mr. Bernard Valcourt,  
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and  
Northern Development  
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

MAR 7 2014

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 Legal/Enforce  
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Mayor Council = Mar 25  
 CDC Committee  
 C.A.O.  
 P.W. Gen. Man.  
 Devpt. Ser. Gen. Man.  
 Comm. Serv. Gen. Man.  
 Ec. Dept & St. Inv. GM

Health Services

445-2418  
(F) 445-0368

Dear Minister Valcourt:

Housing

445-2235  
(F) 445-2778

It is with great concern and disappointment that I acknowledge your letter dated January 27, 2014, concerning the unresolved Land Rights issues of the Six Nations of the Grand River Peoples.

Human Resources

445-2223  
(F) 445-2266

We do appreciate your summation of the great efforts Six Nations has made throughout the past four decades in our sincere efforts to diplomatically, lawfully and peacefully obtain true and equitable justice for these issues. Although our community is frustrated and angry over the lack of resolve with the lands, while development continues upon these disputed lands, the Six Nations Elected Council is committed to working with all governments, at all levels, towards a solution.

Lands/Membership

445-4613  
(F) 445-2778

You may, or may not know, that Six Nations views Canada's Specific Claims Policy, which is vexed with unfair take it or leave it ultimatums which exploit First Nations poverty and is based on the extinguishment of our children's rights, as a failure and non starter. For that reason, Canada's Chief Federal Negotiator, Mr. Ron Doering acknowledged, accepted and confirmed in December 2007, that negotiations with Six Nations would not happen based on the Right Honourable Stephen Harper's June 12, 2007, new Specific Claims Action Plan. Anything contrary now, would not be acceptable within our community.

Lands & Resources

519-753-0665  
(F) 519-753-3449

Parks & Recreation

445-4311  
(F) 445-4401

It has always been our objective to be truly self sustaining and self governing with a sufficient land base, and an adequate, stable and reliable economy derived from within the Haldimand Tract and our other Treaty Lands. Six Nations is determined to truly address the wants and needs of the Six Nations Peoples based on our unique values and culture. We remain adamant and consistent to this undertaking for our future, our children's future and the future of our neighbours through partnerships, joint ventures and revenue sharing. These very "self government" values and principles are enshrined in Canada's own Constitution.

Public Works

445-4242  
(F) 445-4763

Social Services

445-0232  
(F) 445-1783

In 1983 Six Nations Council presented before the Parliamentary Task Force on Indian Self Government explaining in detail how the Six Nations' Haldimand Treaty Lands "...which Them and Their Posterity are to enjoy forever" translates into fiscal arrangements, delivery of services, future of Indian Affairs, accountability, relationships

Welfare

445-2084  
(F) 445-0133



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445-2084

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with the Province etc. Resolution of our Land Rights is a major factor for this Economic Base to occur; but it is not achievable within Canada's Specific Claims Policy for the reasons stated above.

With respect to referring matters to the Tribunal process for final determinations, as referenced in your letter, Canada has already proven they will challenge the Tribunal's role, mandate and decisions in the courts; where we have been since 1995. With such probable interference, we are not certain what that gain will be. Be that as it may, Six Nations also see negotiations as a preferred option to resolve our Land Rights issues and welcome the opportunity for strengthening our relationship and building our rightful partnership with Canada while honouring the Principles and Intention of the Treaties between our Nations.

Furthermore, we must reiterate the Supreme Court of Canada (*Isaac v. Davey*) has already determined the Six Nations Elected Council to be the legal governing body for the Six Nations of the Grand River Peoples. Any efforts to undermine our leadership with attempts to negotiate our Land Rights with someone other than the Six Nations Elected Council are contrary to that Supreme Court of Canada decision, as well as the recent *Behn v. Moulton Contracting Ltd.* decision.

Therefore, I suggest that we; Six Nations Elected Council, the Province of Ontario and Canada, establish a working group to explore options and to determine if such a process respectful of the above can be achieved. We welcome the opportunity and look forward to your response.

Yours truly,

Chief G. Ava Hill

**Six Nations of the Grand River**

c.c.: Premier Kathleen Wynne  
The Honourable David Zimmer, MPP  
Dave Levac, MPP Brant  
Phil McColeman, MP Brant  
His Worship Chris Friel  
His Worship Ron Eddy