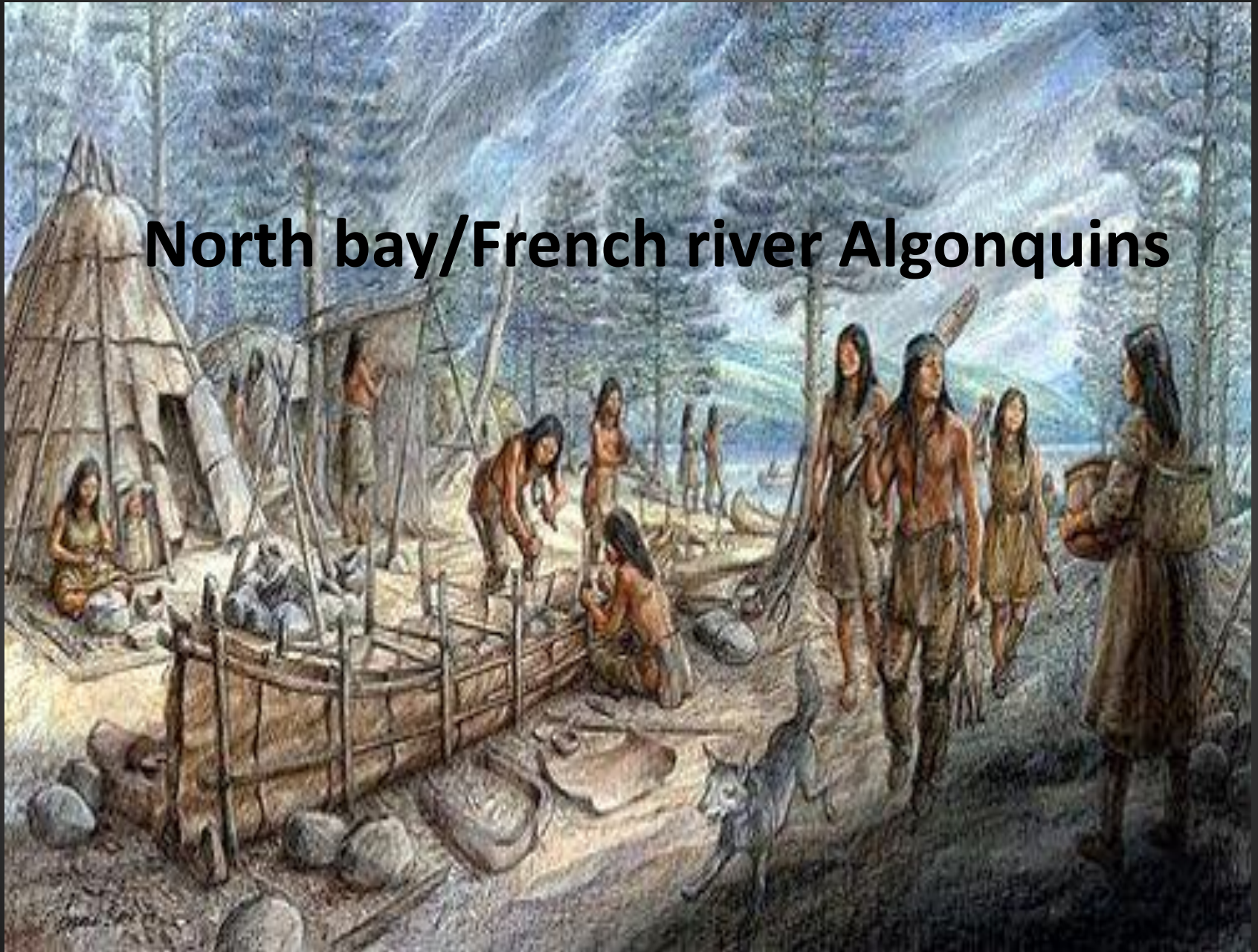


# North bay/French river Algonquins





# GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING December 7<sup>th</sup>

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- OPENING COMMENTS by  
the Chairman
- Rolland Boissonneault





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- It was our goal to have a distribution of directors representing different locations within the boundaries of the NBFRA and to establish policies and procedures that will best suit the needs of our members.
  - Good governance principles demand that an organization's board of directors ensure overall high ethical behavior which I know that we have within our Corporation of 9 board members, including myself, Rolland Boissonneault as Chairman and I will leave the floor to the directors to present themselves.

# Our board of directors

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- Rolland Boissonneault.....Chairman
- Rene Giroux.....Vice- Chairman
- Jerry “Jay” Michaud.....Director
- Stephane Bellemare.....Director
- Maxime Gareau.....Director
- Cecil Demers.....Director
- Camille Gaudreault.....Director
- Guylaine Sullivan.....Director
- Gerry Serre.....Director

# North bay/Mattawa Algonquin Appeal update

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- It was decided that only 20 family names with guaranteed Algonquin ancestries were included in the appeal to minimize any delays in the process.
- Once these families have been returned their AOO title it will open the process for other certified Algonquin families that were removed from the voters list to be re-instated.
- Our case is in the hands of a legal team that will represent us in this appeal process.
- Further information will be passed on to our members once we are notified.

# CULTURE AND HERITAGE REPORT

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- Lake Nipissing, named also **Nipissin** and Lake of Nipissiriniens which means "little water" and was the fishing and hunting grounds of the Nipissing tribe.
- Their language was Algonkian; "These are true Algonquin's, and they alone have retained the Algonquin language without alterations".
- The Algonquin's were their friends and the Huron's their allies. The Iroquois defeated them and destroyed them almost to the point of extinction.



- Those who managed to escape the Iroquois' fury found refuge on Lake Nipigon.
- By 1647 the Nipissing regrouped in the Lake Nipigon and continued to use their historical routes but at a greater risk.
- They never surrendered their ancestral fishing and hunting grounds and never signed a treaty.
- In 1671 the Nipissing tribe relocated in the missions of Trois Rivières and others in Oka. They were nomad people, meaning they had no fixed residence but within their fishing and hunting habitat.
- Hunting and fishing provided the bulk of sustenance for the Algonquin & Nipissing people.



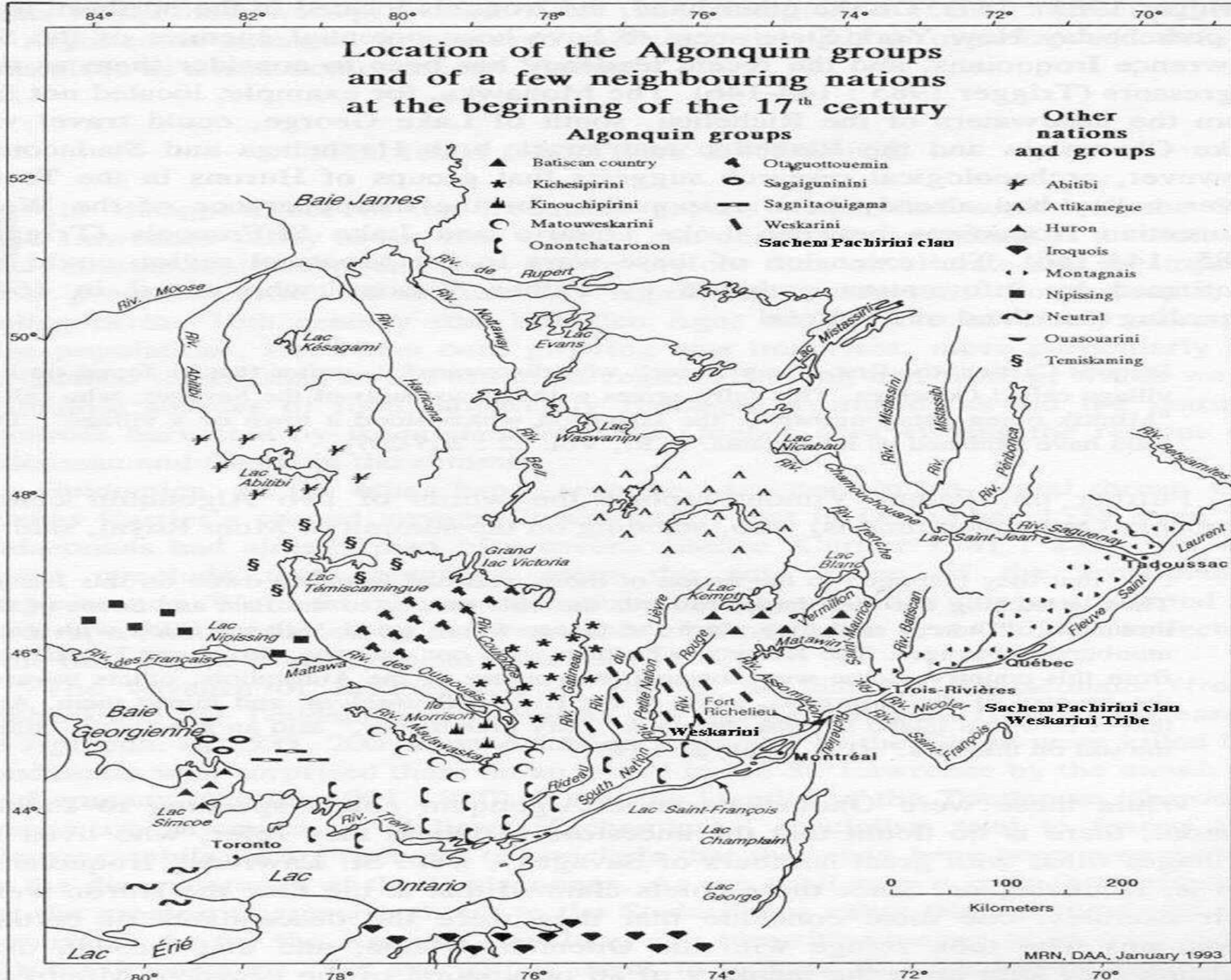


- The Nipissiriniens had their main summer village on the North side of Lake Nipissing (which Champlain visited in 1615) and whose territories extended over a considerable area in all directions from that lake including parts of Northeastern Georgian Bay, the Mattawa River and the adjacent portions of the Ottawa River Watershed.
- The Nipissing Tribe took a great quantity of sturgeons, pike and carp , some of them of enormous size, from both their lake (Nipissing) and the Sturgeon River.
- They never surrendered their ancestral fishing and hunting grounds and never signed a treaty.



# Nations of the Great Lakes Region (EARLY 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY)





# The journey begins



- 
- Since its inception on August 16<sup>th</sup> 2021
  - The North Bay/French River Algonquins is now a not-for-profit Corporation registered under the Federal NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION ACT.
  - In our Certificate of Incorporation, it indicates that our Corporation is for “The establishment and operation of a non-profit organization for the purpose of uniting the residents of the North Bay/French River area who are of Algonquin origin”.

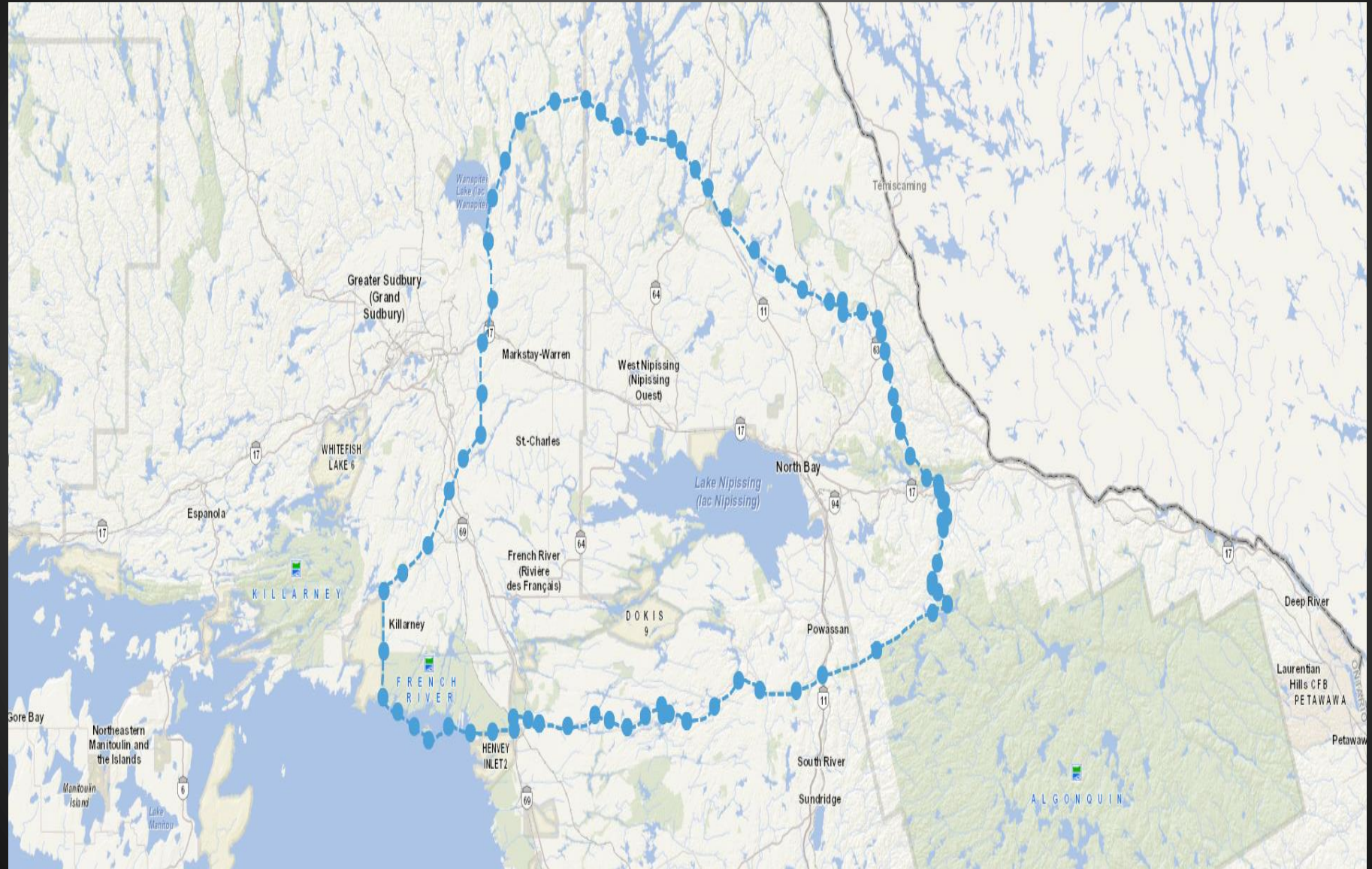
# BOUNDARIES FOR NORTH BAY/FRENCH RIVER ALGONQUINS

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- The area of the Mattawa River to lake Nipissing, namely the townships of CALVIN, BONFIELD, BOULTER, CHISHOLM, EAST FERRIS, POWASSAN, NORTH HIMSWORTH (Callander) and NORTH BAY as well as the North side of Lake Nipissing to the Georgian Bay within the municipalities of WEST NIPISSING, WARREN, HAGAR, ST-CHARLES, MONETVILLE, NOELVILLE and LAVIGNE and others along the French River and it's distributaries.
- Historically these areas were the Algonquin, Nipissing & Amikwabe tribes' habitats prior to the European presence which was also their fishing, hunting and ceremonial grounds. Excluded from our jurisdiction territory will be Nipissing First Nation, Dokis and Henley Inlet Reserves.



# Preliminary map



# OUR VISION

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- It is not the NBFRA'S vision to develop crown land in our territory.
- As a nonprofit corporation it is our goal to create recreational areas for the public in order to keep the natural beauty of our lakes and forests and to maintain control over our fishing and hunting grounds in order to prevent depletion of our valuable natural resources.

# Our biggest goal

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- Is to protect our resources from the abuse and destruction within the **NBFRA** boundaries
- to maintain the beauty that was sustained for centuries prior and after the European settlement.
- It is our responsibility and duty that our future generations enjoy the same natural privileges that we have.

# NBFRA QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

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- **NBFRA** will have a revised list of the approved ancestors which are from the Algonquin, Nipissing and Amikwabe Tribes, as they are all classified as Algonquins.



# AOO,AIP Update

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- There is at least 54 Algonquin ancestors which have no Algonquin origin, that are on the draft list as approved ancestors for the **Algonquin Nation of Ontario** and the list is being used to qualify applicants for memberships
- In the next few slides, you will see how the numbers don't add up.

# AOO voters list breakdown

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- The 2015 AOO Voter's List that was prepared for voting on the Agreement In Principle dated February 2016.
- Total members on the list provided with the name of their ancestor is 3,058

# Greater Golden Lake

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- Algonquins .....136.....19 %
  - Non Algonquins..... 580... 81 %
  - Total Votes.....716
- 
- Votes on the AIP
  - Yes 496
  - No 34
  - Rejected 01
  - Total Votes 531
  - List compiled by the Algonquin Secretariat  
analysis A.O.O. voters' list of February 2015 to  
vote on AIP between February 29, 2016 to  
March 7 2016.

# Bonnechere

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- Algonquins .....173.....45.9 %
- Non Algonquins..... 204.....54.1 %
- Total Votes.....377

- Votes on the AIP
- Yes 397
- No 14
- Rejected 00
- Total Votes 411



# Ottawa

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Algonquins .....5..... 0.08 %

- Non Algonquins.....57.... 91.9 %

- Total Votes.....62

- Votes on the AIP

- Yes 51

- No 16

- Rejected 00

- Total Votes 67

# Mattawa/North bay

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- Algonquins .....1,530.....86.9 %
- Non Algonquins.....230.....13.1 %
- Total Votes.....1,760
- Votes on AIP
- Yes 1,612
- No 51
- Rejected 4
- Total votes 1,667
- This Community removed approx. 600 members which had an approved ancestor after the vote which represents 37.2 % that they claim shouldn't have voted.

# Sharbot Lake

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- Algonquins .....69.... 88.5 %
- Non Algonquins.....09 ....11.5 %
- Total Votes.....78

# Antoine

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- Algonquins .....22...100 %
- Non Algonquins.....00
- Total Votes.....22

# Whitney

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- Algonquins .....00.....00 %
- Non Algonquins.....01....100 %
- Total Votes.....01

- No affiliation members
- Algonquins .....00.....00 %
- Non Algonquins.....05.....100 %
- Total Votes.....05
- Votes on the AIP
- Yes 9
- No 2
- Rejected 0
- Total Votes 11



# END RESULTS FOR THE AIP VOTES

as per ratification officer Vaughn Johnston &  
witnessed by Laura Sarazin

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- Yes.....3,341
  - No..... 225
  - Rejected..... 9
  - Total.....3,675
- 
- 89% were unqualified to vote on the AIP
  - Not included in the 89% are all the members that lost their cards based on Jean Prevost and Francoise Leblanc.
  - There is at least 54 Algonquin ancestors which have no Algonquin origin, that are on the draft list as approved ancestors for the **Algonquin Nation of Ontario** and the list is being used to qualify applicants for memberships

# What we're not about!

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- Greater Golden Lake had a Harvest Draw meeting for moose tags at Chief Pauline Connie Mielke's residence on August 15, 2021.
- As per CBC's investigation Chief Mielke is not an Algonquin as it was noted that her ancestors Thomas Lagarde dit St Jean & his wife Emilie Sophie Carriere dit Jamme were not Algonquins.

# RESULTS FROM AOO HARVEST DRAW :

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- Documents released by Algonquin of Greater Golden Lake dated September 2, 2021 by ANR chief Connie Mielke
- Re : 2021-2022 HARVEST
- The draw results that took place on Sunday August 15th, 2021 at chief Mielke's residence is as follows.
  - 40 tags in total were allocated for bulls and cows:
  - 27 were given to Non Algonquins
  - 8 were questionable as no record of ancestry was available
  - 5 were Algonquins

# Bow hunting

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- 13 tags in total were allocated for bow hunting
- 9 were given to Non Algonquins
- 1 was questionable as no record of ancestry was available
- 3 were Algonquins

# Elk Hunt

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- 6 tags in total were allocated for Elk hunting
- 2 were given to Non Algonquins
- 4 were questionable as no record of ancestry was available



# Deer allocation

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- On the same document it also stated that 2 deer were allocated per family.
- It was also indicated by Chief Mielke that hunters also killed deer in feeding areas and she commented this is a concern and should be discouraged.



# In conclusion

- Reckless harvesting is reducing the forest and its habitat.
- Due to the attractive timber revenues, some Algonquin communities have forgotten about their past.
- We must work together to preserve nature and at the same time allow for responsible harvesting.
- Clear cutting forests and strip-mining the land should be controlled.
- NBFRA will work closely with all timber management projects to limit the damage to our land by implementing strict harvesting guidelines.

# A message from our Elder

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- An Algonquin elder “Harold .../Skip/ Ross

Kaamidjiyuk Sibi Innini Running River Man”

I quote: “If Modern man would or could learn to respect Mother Earth as we (Algonquins) did many years ago, they would learn to preserve many things that we are losing, things that can never be replaced”.

The popular names of ANCESTORS listed below will be removed from the list of North Bay/French River Algonquins for not meeting the criteria of having any Algonquin ancestry.

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- Thomas Lagarde dit St Jean
- Emilie Sophie Carriere dit Jamme
- Jean Prevost & Francoise Leblanc;
- Paule Ouripehenemick;
- Jacques Paquette;
- Hannah Mannell ;
- Cecile Mawiskak (Mc Donell);
- Peter Clermo (Clermont);
- Pierre Mikkima;
- including 45 other ancestors.

# “Questionable decisions ?”

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- On July 14, 2010 an appeal was presented in Mattawa regarding the Laplante ancestor.
- The chief of Mattawa/North Bay Algonquins and Joan Holmes, the enrollment officer were present when the appeal board endorsed with a majority to reinstate the appellants from the Laplante line as Algonquins.
- Following the ruling of July 14, 2010 the appellants received a letter from the enrollment officer stating and I quote **“We are happy to inform you that the appeal board ruled that the appellants can be enrolled as Algonquins for the purpose of negotiation of the Algonquin land claim”** and furthermore **“has been placed on the electors list and are illegible to vote in Algonquin negotiations representative (ANR) elections”**.



# “Questionable decisions ?”cont.

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- In a letter dated July 15, 2020 the appellants received another letter stating and I quote **“furthermore you will not be eligible for any benefits including harvesting under the authority of the Algonquins of Ontario”** and **“you will not be eligible to vote on the ratification of the final treaty and you will not become a beneficiary of that treaty”** and **“In addition, you will be afforded the opportunity to appeal the decision of the enrollment officer”**. Hard to believe that these letters were sent by the same enrollment officer.

# A statement from our Chairman

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- During my past political experience on different boards, I know for a fact that only the Minister of any government branch has the power to overrule an appeal decision. NO ONE ELSE has the authority to overrule therefore the Appeal Board decision is final.

# RE-INSTATED ANCESTORS

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- Marie Elize Marguerite Ranger dit Lavallee, daughter of Marie Angelique Masanakaniekokwe •
- Marie Josette Kijikokwe aka Kiwikijikokwe (Bechamp/Pigeau) who were wrongfully rejected from the list of the Algonquin Nation of Ontario's approved Ancestors draft list. (draft means not final). Cont.....

# RE-INSTATED ANCESTORS

## Quotes

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- Au poste des Allumettes le 27 Aout , 1838  
Baptême d'Augustin Bechand (jr.)
- *Bechand Margin note:*  
« Ils ont nombre d'enfants. Elle est libre de pouvoir  
se marier, fidèle avec infidèle s'entendrait-il au cas  
présent un parti n'étant point Savage ».  
*Charles de Bellefeuille ptre.*
- Augustin Jr. is the son of Augustin Bechand Sr. and  
Josette Kwekkikjikokwe.

# RE-INSTATED ANCESTORS

## Quotes (cont.)

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- ENROLMENT OFFICER'S translation of this note, and I quote "Josette Kwekkikjikokwe sauvage infidèle du poste volant de Matawakamang dans le District de Northwest (dans le district de l'Abitibi mission de Maniwaki).
- Quote" It also noted that the couple had been married in the Indian fashion when the children were born".  
(all fabricated)
- A block of Algonquins was removed based on fabrication taking away their heritage and rights (as per the Constitution Act of 1982 s35) done disrespectfully.



# CBC investigation

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- August 9, 2021 CBC with an update posted September 13, 2021 they indicated that Jean Lagarde dit St-Jean was not an Algonquin and that over 1,000 people including both Algonquin chiefs of Ottawa & Greater Golden Lake communities who also had him as an ancestor.
- Neither Robert Potts nor the consultant/enrollment officer to this day took any action or recommend the removal of these non Algonquins.
- Robert Potts told CBC “It is difficult to respond, it consists of vague statements and allegations presented in summary way” adding “I haven’t seen much of the information that you have referred to”.
- Chief Davie Joannis from the Antoine Community stated “The revelations about the letter could mean hundreds of people will be struck from the AOO membership list”

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- Bill Mann, author of the conspiracy theory says the letter was dropped in his mailbox in 2011.

“It’s brought in a whole number of people who are not First Nation and not Algonquin based on a tenuous (flimsy) tie to a root ancestor”

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- CBC investigation says “Mysterious letter linking 1,000 people to \$1 billion Algonquin treaty likely fake”.
- In a study pursued by Darryl Laroux on behalf of Golden Lake community his finding came to the same conclusion. Given the importance of this pivotal letter, CBC undertook an investigation involving handwriting analysis, archival research, historical review and extensive interviews.

“Experts suggested that the letter is highly suspicious and likely not authentic”.

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- Veldon Coburn said after looking at all this evidence he has concluded “it’s unlikely that this letter is authentic” adding “it’s almost in my mind a certainty that this is a forgery”
- After all this evidence of fraud the AOO’S lawyer Mr. Robert Potts, told CBC it is difficult to respond “as it consists of vague statements and allegations presented in a summary way” adding “I haven’t seen much of the information that you have referred to”.

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- Furthermore Mr. Robert Potts said some critics will “never be satisfied until the Lagarde group is bumped from the beneficiary list” so that there are fewer people to share the settlement. Instead, he was more comfortable to remove about 600 genuine Algonquins from North Bay and area as previously mentioned “so that there are fewer people to share the settlement”. Why was he reluctant to remove members that are not Algonquins and comfortable to remove people that have genuine Algonquin Ancestors.

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- Because of all the irregularities, the fraudulent documents discovered by the CBC investigation, the North Bay/French River Algonquin will be making an official request to modify the Agreement in Principle to implement the financial portion of Mattawa/North Bay Algonquins of Ontario.
- Furthermore, that the AIP be modified to implement the boundaries as shown on the map of the NBFRA considering that 87% of voters were considered illegitimate and not qualified to vote on the AIP.

# Proposed Criteria

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- Many members lost their cards under a PROPOSED CRITERIA. (proposed means suggested guide line) Neither the draft list or the proposed criteria were finalized and approved by the membership, which contravenes with section 10 of the Indian Act.
- Algonquins of Ontario negotiating administrators were the only ones that voted which also contravenes with the Indian Act Section 10 s.(2) and I quote “A band may, pursuant to the consent of a majority of the electors of the band”, meaning the band may control the memberships with a majority of the electors. Furthermore Section 10 s.(4) indicates clearly and I quote “A band’s membership rules can not deprive a person of previously acquired rights to membership”.



# VAN der PEET TEST

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- The NBFRA'S criteria will be based on the VAN der PEET TEST which has been adopted by the Supreme Court of Canada as Justice Lamer C.J. explains "An unbroken chain of continuity is not required".
- Also Justice McLacklin noted in the Van der Peet Test and I quote "It is not unusual for the exercise of a right to lapse for a period time" meaning that the 20 years that was required under the Proposed Criteria of the Algonquin Nation of Ontario contravenes with the Supreme Court of Canada rulings.

# VAN der PEET TEST cont.

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- This test protects only those present-day practices that have a reasonable degree of Continuity with practice that existed prior to contact.
- While the test does not require an unbroken chain of continuity, and while continuity must be interpreted flexibly, such flexibility has its limits.
- While temporal gaps do not necessarily preclude the establishment of an aboriginal right, failing to tender sufficient evidence that at least a connection to the historical practice was maintained during such gaps.

# VAN der PEET TEST cont.

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- Section 35 (1) accords constitutional protection only to the rights of the “aboriginal people of Canada”.
- The courts held that s.35 (1) is to be interpreted to determine the meaning of “ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF CANADA” as they relied on the VAN der PEET TEST to conceptualize the rights referred to in s.35 (1).
- As stated by the Court of Appeal “Simply put, if the Van der Peet Test requirements are met, the modern indigenous community will be an “aboriginal people of Canada”.
- Mr. Desautel concluded that the Aboriginal people of Canada under s.35 (1) are the modern day successors of Aboriginal societies that occupied what is now Canada at the time the European contact (subject to modification that may be necessary in the case of the Metis).
- Where this is shown, the court ascertains the claimants rights using the Van der Peet Test.

Continue..

- Par. 31.... The aboriginal people of Canada under s.35(1) are the modern successors of those aboriginal societies that occupied Canadian territory at the time of European contact.
- This may include Aboriginal groups that are now outside Canada.
- Par. 33.....I would add that an interpretation of “aboriginal people of Canada in s.35(1) that includes Aboriginal people who were here when the Europeans arrived and later moved or were forced to moved elsewhere, or on whom international boundaries where imposed reflects the purpose of reconciliation.

# Your personal information

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- The NORTH BAY/FRENCH RIVER ALGONQUINS strongly suggests that in order to expedite your interest in North Bay/French River Algonquin memberships, that you insist from the Community from which you were refused, ignored or had your card revoked, to provide you with your file which was given to them when you applied.
- If your community says that it is the consultant & enrollment officer, Joan Holmes & Associates that has your application then it is your community's responsibility to obtain it for you.
- IT IS THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO RETURN YOUR FILE

# In conclusion

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- The information we provided you tonight is not based on allegations or fabrication. It is supported by documents initiated and publicized by the Algonquin nations of Ontario.
- No wonder that Mann strongly discouraged CBC from reporting on this story, arguing “**that it will rip the Algonquin land claim apart**”, obviously he wanted to cover up this fraudulent document.

# Cont...

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- These are all indications that the agreement in principle is “**possibly**” fraudulent and both levels of government could be seen as partners in complicity as well as some type of cover up.
- Both parties have the information on the amount of non-Algonquins that will be sharing in the land claim by also taking the rights away from real Algonquins.



# Cont..

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- The proposed criteria from the AOO is designed to take away the rights of many Algonquins with proven ancestry, and to also lower the number of voters in the AIP.
- It does not take in consideration our rights that is protected by the constitution act of 1982 s.35.
- NBFRA will pursue full recovery of those rights!

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We will now hear your questions and concerns.

Thank you for being a part of the North Bay/ French  
River Algonquin community.