



October 2, 2026

Re: Haldimand Tract Litigation

Open Letter to Mayors, Councillors, and Municipal Administrators
within the Haldimand Tract:

I write on behalf of the Six Nations of the Grand River 59th Elected Council in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, to provide an update on the Haldimand Tract litigation proceedings that will begin on Monday October 5, 2026, in Toronto, ON.

The Haldimand Tract, a Treaty, was granted to the Six Nations in 1784 in recognition of our alliance with the Crown and the sacrifices made by our people during the American Revolution. The Crown promised the lands extending six miles on either side of the Grand River from its source to Lake Erie for the use and benefit of the Six Nations and our descendants forever. Despite this commitment, much of that land was subsequently alienated without our consent, and Six Nations has never ceded its jurisdiction or rights within the Tract.

In 1995, the Six Nations of the Grand River Band of Indians (SNGRFN) commenced legal action against Canada and Ontario concerning lands and trust assets associated with the Haldimand Tract. The people of SNGRFN are seeking recognition of historical injustices; the outcome of this historic litigation could have significant implications. As the court considers longstanding issues related to land rights, jurisdiction, and the Crown's obligations, municipalities have an opportunity to demonstrate leadership by showing support for Six Nations. Our claim seeks compensation and other remedies against the Crown and does not seek the return of private lands.

I welcome the opportunity to continue to meet with municipal leaders throughout the Haldimand Tract through respectful dialogue and collaboration. Our goal is to work together, to build a strong foundation based on mutual respect and a shared commitment to reconciliation for the benefit of current and future generations.

Regards

Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill
Six Nations of the Grand River