



The Corporation of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
52 Frank Street, Strathroy ON N7G 2R4
Phone: 519-245-1070 / Fax: 519-245-6353
www.strathroy-caradoc.ca

November 20, 2023

Dear Hon. Minister Patty Hajdu,
Minister of Indigenous Services
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

patty.hajdu@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister Hajdu,

Subject: Support for Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

On behalf of Strathroy-Caradoc, I am writing to express our strong commitment to supporting the efforts of our neighbouring First Nation, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, and their important initiative to establish a discussion table for developing First Nation-led solutions to the federal Additions to Reserve policy.

As a municipality, we recognize the importance of reconciliation, partnership, and collaboration in achieving a more just and inclusive society for all Canadians. We commend the vision and determination of Chippewas of the Thames First Nation in pursuing opportunities for land acquisition, which is crucial to addressing their housing, economic, and cultural needs.

We firmly believe that supporting the addition to their reserve will not only empower Chippewas of the Thames First Nation but will also contribute to the betterment of the entire community and the broader region. This endeavour aligns with the spirit of reconciliation, as outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Furthermore, we are committed to playing a positive role in the process and fostering a collaborative environment where the federal government, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, and our municipality can work together constructively. To this end, we strongly encourage the establishment of an action table to develop First Nation-led solutions to the Additions to Reserve Policy. By doing so, we can ensure that the policy framework is more responsive to the unique and evolving needs of regional realities.

We are eager to offer our support, resources, and expertise to help facilitate this dialogue and ensure its success. We believe that Chippewas of the Thames First Nation and other



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First Nations in our region should be able to drive policy discussions that directly impact their future.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration with your office, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, and all relevant stakeholders to advance this endeavor. Together, we can contribute to a more equitable and prosperous future for all residents in our region.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. We remain dedicated to working closely with your office to achieve the goals of reconciliation and a brighter future for all.

Sincerely,

Mayor Grantham & Strathroy-Caradoc Council

Cc: Honorable, Gary Anandasangaree
Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations
Gary.anand@parl.gc.ca

Honorable, Greg Rickford
Minister of Indigenous Affairs
Greg.rickford@pc.ola.org