



May 5th, 2025

Dear Prime Minister Mark Carney,

On May 1st, 2025 our *Wolastoq Grand Council*, traditional government of the Wolastoqey nation, who resides on our Homeland we call *Wolastokuk*, was notified that New Brunswick Premier Susan Holt sent you a letter advocating Nation Building Projects and Critical Minerals. In the letter, the Premier failed to mention any Indigenous Peoples involvement, consent or consultation. This is troubling for us as a Traditional Governance who has been in existence in our Homeland since Time-Immemorial.

A month after Premier Holt's election victory she met with our Traditional *Wolastoq Grand Council* and promised us transparency and honesty. Since then, Premier Holt travelled in April of this year to Toronto and presented at the Canadian Club Gathering and called New Brunswick an "ATM" and stated that "the province is open for business". In her speech Holt mentioned that she is in full support of mining in our Homeland *Wolastokuk*, even though *Wolastoq Grand Council* has already and will continue to oppose the Sisson Mining project since the introduction over a decade ago. This project promotes tungsten/molybdenum mining at Sisson Brook which is in our non-surrendered Homeland *Wolastokuk*. We alerted the Premier that *Wolastoq Grand Council's* primary mandate is to "Protect and Preserve Mother Earth, All Waterways and Air for our Children, Grandchildren and next Seven Generations". We are committed to exercise our jurisdiction to protect our traditional homeland, using our traditional laws and governance to protect our earth, air and waterways and preserve our inherent, treaty and constitutional rights to this territory.

Wolastoq Grand Council would like to remind you and other ministers of the dark past of Canada and Provinces of their involvement during the OKA Crisis of 1990, and most recently the *Elsipogtog* Fracking Crisis of 2013 in New Brunswick and so

many more disasters in between. Recurring conflicts about commercial fishing in the Atlantic region contributes to racism and hinders the Canadian government's efforts towards reconciliation despite the implementation of UNDRIPA. Canada and Provinces could have and should have resolved all the encounters in a more peaceful manner although choose to use force, violence and their colonial laws to injure, plus criminalize Indigenous People for attempting to protect their Land, Water and Air. Government to government approach, including First Nations traditional governance systems, is the only way to go.

In our legally binding 1725 Peace and Friendship Treaty, it clearly states that Wabanaki People did not surrender any land or resources to the crown or dependants. In article 5 of the treaty it states "if any Indians are Injured by any of his Majesty's Subjects or their Dependants, They shall have Satisfaction and Reparation made to them According to his Majesty's Laws". To this day our people continue to seek "Satisfaction and Reparation".

Wolastoqiyik (Wolastoq People) have collective rights as citizens that are not limited to their communal rights as band members. There is a major difference between our inherent rights to the land as *Wolastoqi* citizens and our "band related" communal rights created by the Indian Act. And no one person, including an Indian Act elected member of a reserve has the right to decide what is best for all *Wolastoqiyik*.

Under the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Rights and the federal law implementing it, we as a Nation need "**Free, Prior and Informed Consent**" on all matters. **Free** from manipulation or coercion, **Informed** by adequate and timely information, and occurring sufficiently **Prior** to a decision so that Indigenous rights and interests can be incorporated or addressed effectively as part of the decision-making process - all as part of meaningfully aiming to secure the **Consent** of affected Indigenous Peoples.

In Peace and Friendship,

Wolastoqewi Kci-Sakom spasaqsit possesom - Ron Tremblay

(Wolastoq Grand Chief morningstar burning)

Kahkakuhsuwakutom naka Malsomuwakutom (Crow & Wolf Clan)

Wolastoq Nil naka Nil Wolastoq - i am Wolastoq and Wolastoq is me