



April 2, 2024

Open Letter to the Members of Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Robinson Huron Annuities Case

This is an exciting time for members of the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation (AOKFN) with the settlement of the Robinson Huron Treaty (RHT) Annuities case. Working with the Litigation Management Team (LMC) and Legal Council as been a valuable experience by taking this case to the largest First Nation settlement in the history of this country.

\$10 Billion Settlement

Earlier than anticipated, the \$10 billion settlement has been received from Ontario and Canada as of March 25, 2024. In a duly convened meeting, the 21 First Nation Chief's and Trustees agreed to deposit the funds into a BMO account for a ninety-day period. Currently, the settlement is earning \$1.3 million dollars per day and that's the clear power of investing.

Community Consultation

As you may aware, AOKFN is dealing with two claims, the RHT Litigation Annuities Case and the Manitoulin Project. We have attempting to rotate meetings/zoom calls for both claims in the past six months. Now that the vote is complete for the Manitoulin Project, we will be concentrating on moving forward with the RHT consultation process. The next meeting is potentially scheduled for the end of April or beginning of May 2024.

Confidential Litigation

As any legal case, participants are sworn to confidentiality due to the nature of the case and the fact that we were dealing with two governments, Canada, and Ontario. The Litigation Management Team is concerned with information that is being posted on social media sites that includes financial information and population figures.

It is important that accurate information that is sanctioned by the legal and communication team of the RHT is used, either by viewing the official Robinson Huron Treaty Annuities website (<https://www.rht1850.ca/>), RHT Facebook page or the AOKFN community portal.

Verification Membership Process

The AOKFN Membership Officer has been working diligently over the past 8 months to ensure our membership numbers are accurate as it is a base for the compensation that will be disbursed for AOKFN. The public is not privy to those numbers as they are confidential records of band membership. These numbers are fluctuating as new births, individuals registering their children, and unfortunately deaths of our members. There is a backlog of registrations with Indigenous Services Canada, and we anticipate the population numbers to increase.

Compensation

January 10, 2024, Ryan McLeod – Finance Advisor RHTLF provided an overview of the “Financial Sharing of Information and Trust Mechanisms” at a community/zoom meeting. This document was distributed to the community and will be distributed through the portal. It was also discussed that each band member would receive \$50,000 through the RHT settlement and \$50,000 through the Manitoulin Project settlement. At this point, the RHT monies will more than likely be used for the full \$100,000.00 distribution.

But the work is not done!

- ⇒ Recently, First Nations have been setting up confidential portals for band membership. Please register to receive updates.
- ⇒ Nahwegahbow/Corbiere has been selected by Leadership to set-up trust accounts as part of the process to receive AOKFN’s share of the settlement.
- ⇒ Freelandt, Caldwell, and Reilly (AOKFN auditors) will be scheduling financial literacy training (in-person or zoom).
- ⇒ BMO has been selected as the banking institutions to invest the remainder of settlement.
- ⇒ Distribution of dividends from future investments.

⇒ The Chiefs are meeting on April 22, 2024, and hopefully we can come to a consensus on the Compensation Distribution Agreement and distributions for each First Nation.

Referendum Process

- ⇒ Determining age trust for minors – limited to 18 or 21 years of age.
- ⇒ Distribution amount - \$100,000.00 per AOKFN registered band member and invest remainder of priority one with BMO.

As we move forward from this significant milestone, it is crucial for us to remain united and continue our efforts towards reconciliation and empowerment. The victory is a testament to the strength and resilience of our community, and it a reminder that positive change is possible when we work together. Remember, we can create a future that honors our past and paves the way for generations to come.

COMPENSATION DISTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

In 2010, the CDA was formulated with the Chiefs as follows:

- Priority 1 - Repay costs of litigation
- Priority 2 - 39% equal share of settlement funds.
- Priority 3 – 25% -Reconciling who is an annuitant and secondly, the actual population of each First Nation that we are working on. This could take up to four years.
- 10% - War chest for future claims.
- Note: the 1% is to be set aside for distribution to living individual annuitants who are not members, of the RHT First Nations. Individuals have a 1-year deadline to apply to the First Nation, and if refused, then to the RHTLF directly with proof of their eligibility.



Chief Patsy Corbiere