## About the Algonquins of Ontario Treaty Negotiations

## October 26, 2020

Since 1991, Canada, Ontario and the Algonquins of Ontario have been negotiating towards a land claim settlement in eastern Ontario that covers a territory of 36,000 square kilometres and is populated by more than 1.2 million people.

If successful, the negotiations will produce Ontario's first modern-day constitutionally protected treaty.

Ontario remains committed to a cooperative approach to the land claim settlement that will benefit the Algonquins of Ontario, while considering environmental, social, cultural and economic impacts of the proposed land transfer.

The Algonquins of Ontario assert that they have Aboriginal rights and title that have never been extinguished and have continuing ownership of the Ontario portions of the Ottawa and Mattawa River watersheds and their natural resources.

The boundaries of the claim are based largely on the watershed, which was historically used and occupied by the Algonquin people.



Ontario, Canada and the Algonquins of Ontario are currently engaged in the final stage of treaty negotiations, which the parties anticipate will be concluded in a few more years. If the negotiations are successful, the result will be a Final Agreement that will take the form of a modern-day treaty.

The three negotiating parties (Canada, Ontario and the Algonquins of Ontario) have agreed that:

- land will not be expropriated from private owners
- no one will lose existing access to their private property
- no one will lose access to navigable waterways
- no new First Nation reserves will be created as part of the Final Agreement
- after transfer, Algonquin lands will be subject to federal, provincial and municipal jurisdiction, including the same land use planning and development approvals and authorities as other private lands
- arrangements will be negotiated between the Algonquins of Ontario and those who have existing legal interests on the Crown lands that are proposed for transfer

For further information about the negotiations, please visit the Ontario Ministry of Indigenous Affairs website at Ontario.ca/algonquinlandclaim, or contact:

Ontario Information Centre for the Algonquin Land Claim at: 31 Riverside Dr. Pembroke ON K8A 8R6

E-mail: <u>alcinfo@ontario.ca</u> Tel: <u>613-732-8081</u> Toll-free: <u>1-855-690-7070</u>