

Eabametoong First Nation

Fort Hope Indian Reserve #64
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June 8, 2016

Dear Mayor Scarpitti,

On behalf of the people of Eabametoong First Nation, I would like to thank you for your hospitality and for extending a warm welcome to me, former Grand Chief Harvey Yesno, and Councilor Louie Sugarhead on May 10, 2016.

The morning tour and afternoon meeting and discussion were very informative, and our visit was extremely interesting. In sharing details of the day with the rest of Council, we commented on your thoughtful attention to detail – from the pins and flag-raising ceremony to the delicious luncheon and gifts – and we talked about the opportunity before us in further exploring and developing a partnership with the City of Markham.

We are very interested in pursuing a mutually beneficial relationship with you in any of the areas we discussed in person, including (but certainly not limited to):

- Eabametoong First Nation's participation in Markham's 150th birthday celebrations for Canada
- Eabametoong First Nation's contribution to an art exhibit in a Markham gallery
- Exploring opportunities and continuing discussions on:
 - Additional cross-cultural exchanges –
 - where Eabametoong students travel to Markham and Markham students travel to Eabametoong to learn about each other's cultures and the places where we both live
 - participation in school and summer programs in both places
 - participation of Eabametoong adults in skills training programs offered in the City of Markham
 - How and in what areas the City of Markham might provide support and assistance to Eabametoong in Band Office operations as well as Community-Wide initiatives, such as (in no particular order):
 - Preparation of urban plans to envision future development in Eabametoong (e.g., youth centre, senior's residence, recreation centre, community hall, palliative care centre, a business park, etc.)
 - A visit by a medical field clinic
 - Supply of medical equipment and sports equipment
 - A Community Energy Plan – exploring how Eabametoong get off diesel and move to more sustainable and renewable energy sources
 - and more . . .

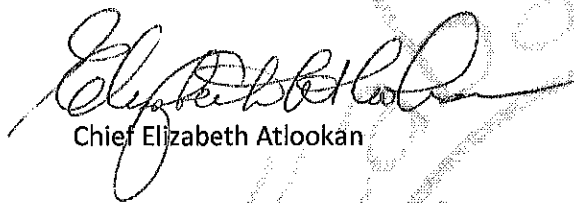
While much was discussed on May 10th, other areas for collaboration are possible that perhaps were not mentioned, including our plans to develop a greenhouse operation and a sewing circle project, among other initiatives.

Council will be passing a Band Council Resolution in the next week or so as a way to formalize Eabametoong First Nation's interest to continue the discussion in framing and pursuing a partnership between our two communities.

We look forward to working with you on this endeavor and hope to one day return your hospitality by welcoming you to our territory.

Once again, thank you for hosting us in May and for everyone's efforts in making the day so special for us. We really appreciate the hard work that went into making the day a success.

In gratitude,



Chief Elizabeth Atlookan

