



Who Gets What?

- The four First Nations have agreed on an apportionment among themselves:
 - Beausoleil First Nation: 30%
 - Georgina Island First Nation: 30%
 - Rama First Nation: 30%
 - Nawash First Nation: 10%
- These percentages apply both to the cash component and the ATR entitlement

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Position of Councils

- All four First Nation Councils have passed Resolutions agreeing to put the settlement offer to a ratification vote
- All four First Nation Councils believe that this offer is the best that can be negotiated
- Thus the Councils are recommending a favourable vote by the membership of each First Nation

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Trust Agreements

- Trusts will be created to receive and manage the settlement monies
- Each First Nation will have its own Trust
- The terms of the First Nations' trust agreements will be determined by each First Nation alone
- Canada will have no say in the selection of trustees or the investment and spending priorities of the First Nations

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Ratification Process

- The role of the negotiation team is make a recommendation on a settlement and provide appropriate advice
- The Settlement Agreement and Trust Agreement can only take effect if they are approved by all four First Nations
- The settlement will require an absolute surrender of the Coldwater Reserve by each First Nation
- The three CTC First Nations and Nawash will have to approve the agreement for it to have any effect

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Ratification Process (continued)

- The *Indian Act* requires that a majority of eligible electors will have to vote in each First Nation, and a majority of the electors voting will have to vote in favour
- All four First Nations will vote on the settlement package on the same day
- If one First Nation does not approve the settlement package, a second vote may be held
- In that situation, the other First Nations who did vote for the settlement package would not be required to vote again but the settlement would not be implemented until all four First Nations had ratified the settlement package

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Preparing for the Ratification Vote

- Once the materials for the ratification vote have been posted later this year, the formal ratification process will begin
- There will be written and detailed information material
- There will be information meetings in the communities and other places where members live
- DVDs or other media are being considered
- The Negotiation Team will make ourselves available to explain the settlement

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Legal and Negotiation Advice

- During the ratification process there will be comprehensive legal advice regarding:
 - The proposed settlement
 - The amount of compensation
 - The surrender of the Coldwater reserve
 - The alternatives in court
 - The use and investment of the compensation using the Trust Agreement of each First Nation
- There will also be comprehensive advice regarding the specific claims process including the Specific Claims Tribunal

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Other Advice

- As part of the formal information sessions it will be necessary for each First Nation to get expert advice from the chief negotiator, legal counsel and trust legal counsel
- But also investment, taxation and trust administration advice
- Canada also needs to be satisfied that the First Nations have all the information and advice necessary to make a fully informed decision on the settlement

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Status of the Settlement Agreement

- The Settlement Agreement is being drafted and the process is well along
- Outstanding issues include:
 - Scope of releases (i.e. what is settled and what is not)
 - As earlier mentioned, we have identified two additional claims during the negotiations and we want to ensure the CTC is free to pursue them
 - Also Additions to Reserve clauses to ensure that there are not unnecessary barriers created in future to the new reserves
 - Many other legal matters

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Trust Agreements

- The Trust Agreements are being drafted based on First Nation community input
- The Trust Agreements must reflect the needs and strategic outlook of each First Nation
- There is no “cookie cutter”
- This is a very important process for this generation and future generations
- We urge all members to participate in the development of the Trust Agreements
- The Trust Agreements will likely take longer to complete than the Settlement Agreement

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Timeline

- We are hoping that all documents can be ready to be initialed some time late this Fall
- Work to be completed:
 - Draft the Settlement Agreement including;
 - Additions To Reserve Provisions
 - Surrender Provisions
 - Releases and Indemnities
 - Meetings with Local Officials regarding Additions To Reserve Component
 - Completion of all four First Nation Trusts
 - Prepare Ratification Process and Information Packages
 - Community Meetings to Ensure Informed Decisions

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Timeline (continued)

- The timeline will depend on how soon all four First Nations can complete their Trust Agreements
- We are hoping that a ratification vote can take place by Christmas or at the very latest early in the New Year
- Following a successful ratification vote, the following steps will take place:
 - A federal Order in Council by Cabinet. While this could take up to six months to secure, we will do everything we can to expedite the process.
 - Only after the Order in Council is passed, the Minister of Indian Affairs will sign the Agreement
 - The payment of all the compensation within 45 days after the Minister signs the Agreement

Conclusion

- This process has taken 30 years from start to finish; and 15 years since Canada rejected this claim
- The offer is less than our studies and negotiations projected, but it is still the largest specific claim in history and any alternatives to accepting this offer would involve years of uncertainty, expense and risk
- In view of the current economic and political climate, we were fortunate to secure this offer from the federal Cabinet
- Each of the First Nation member must decide to accept or reject this unprecedented settlement offer consistent with the First Nations' agreement on apportionment

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