

FIRST NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Ginoogaming First Nation

Chronological No. 2024 - 2025 - 090

Longlac, Ontario

P0T 2A0

The Council of the	Ginoogaming First Nation
Province	Ontario
Date	November 1, 2024

WHEREAS in 1947, the Longlac Pulp & Paper Company approached the Department of Indian Affairs to build an all-season road across Ginoogaming First Nation reserve lands for their forestry operations; and

WHEREAS Ginoogaming First Nation agreed to the road, believing it would benefit the community by providing easier access between the community and the town of Longlac in the municipality of Greenstone to access services (including fire and medical) not provided on-reserve; and

WHEREAS the 1947 agreement required the Longlac Pulp & Paper to construct and maintain the road entirely at its own expense; and

WHEREAS in 1949, Ontario sold a water-lot in the Making Ground River to Longlac Pulp & Paper to enable construction of the bridge; and

WHEREAS Longlac Pulp & Paper and its successors received permits to maintain and use the access road on reserve, but the last permit expired in 1999; and

WHEREAS Eagle Logging assumed ownership of the bridge in 2006 and to-date has not made any renewals of permits; and

WHEREAS both the bridge and the access road are in urgent need of repair and have not been maintained by the owner creating serious safety risks children and people of Ginoogaming First Nation have to experience due to a reliance on this route to leave the community to obtain services including education; and

WHEREAS various inspections over the past number of years (from 2002 to present) commissioned by both the federal government and Ginoogaming First Nation, including a recent preliminary one being completed by the engineering firm WSP have determined that deterioration of the north abutment piles and numerous pier piles of the Making Ground River Bridge poses a serious risk to both the safety of the public and to property recommending its closure as it fails to meet bridge code; and

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, pursuant to our inherent authority, Ginoogaming First Nation Chief and Council is closing Blueberry Street, a gravel road leading to the Making Ground Bridge to all vehicular traffic and call on the owner, Eagle Logging to close the Making Ground River Bridge to ensure public safety; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that hereby Ginoogaming First Nation declare a State of Local Emergency to the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) due to the closure Blueberry Street to all vehicular traffic leading to the Making Ground River Bridge sealing off the community; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT Ginoogaming First Nation calls on all levels of government – our Treaty Partners - to alleviate the effects of this emergency by:

- Provide funds and resources for a rental bridge of 120 feet over the top of existing bridge. This is to provide immediate relief for the community.
- Developing detailed plans with immediate agreed-upon timelines for interim measures while Blueberry Street is closed to vehicular traffic
- Continuing the feasibility study for a new bridge that is within Ginoogaming First Nation ownership and includes funding for ongoing maintenance

ORDERED by Ginoogaming First Nation, on this 1ST day of November 2024, and remaining in force until such time that the citizens of Ginoogaming First Nation have been assured their safety in crossing a bridge to leave our community or unless cancelled by order of Ginoogaming First Nation Chief and Council.

QUORUM: 4

[Handwritten Signature]
CHIEF

Rosa Echum
COUNCILLOR

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Expenditure Authority Source of Funds
(Indian Act Section) Capital Revenue

Expenditure Authority Source of Funds
(Indian Act Section) Capital Revenue

Recommending Office

Recommending Office

Signature Date

Signature Date

Approving Office

Approving Office