

**MEDIA RELEASE****Saturday, March 8, 2025****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DAVID PAUL ACHNEEPINESKUM RECEIVES  
KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL**

**THUNDER BAY, ON** - Today, on behalf of all citizens in the Matawa region, the Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) Board of Director President Rosemary Moonias, on behalf of the MFNM Board of Directors, extends heartfelt congratulations to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) David Paul Achneepineskum on receiving the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

The Coronation Medal program was created to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. It is the first Canadian commemorative medal to mark it and will be awarded to 30,000 individuals. At the ceremony, CEO David Paul was recognized for his 50 years of service to Indigenous Peoples. Since 1975, David Paul has worked in various management and executive capacities for organizations such as Constance Lake First Nation, Chiefs of Ontario, Rainy River First Nation and Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

President Moonias stated, "Over that past five decades, CEO David Paul has been an example of how a culturally-based approach to developing organizational leadership and business acumen can thrive and be of benefit. He is very deserving of this Coronation Medal."

"The conferring of medals, badges and flags is a practice the British Crown have used to signify the important and historic relationship with Indigenous Peoples of Canada starting with the Peace Medals in the 1700's. Over 300 years later, I receive this Coronation Medal as an acknowledgement of the continuing relationship of the Peoples of Matawa and the British Crown now represented by King Charles III," said CEO David Paul. "Personally, this Coronation Medal is about the First Nations in Matawa, and the hopes of the Matawa Peoples to move forward to a better future. I thank Hon. MP Patty Hajdu for the nomination and presentation today on behalf of Canada's Governor General Mary Simon," he concluded.

**- 30 -**

For more information, please contact: Carol Audet, Communications Manager – Matawa First Nations at (807) 632-9663 or by email at [caudet@matawa.on.ca](mailto:caudet@matawa.on.ca).

