

# Eabametoong First Nation

**Fort Hope Indian Reserve #64**

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March 6, 2025

Via email

Right Honourable Justin Trudeau

Prime Minister of Canada

[PM@pm.gc.ca](mailto:PM@pm.gc.ca)

Honourable Doug Ford

Premier of Ontario

[Premier@Ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@Ontario.ca)

Honourable Greg Rickford

Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation of Ontario

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Honourable George Pirie

Minister of Mines of Ontario

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Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson

Minister of Natural Resources of Canada

[Minister.Ministre@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca](mailto:Minister.Ministre@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca)

Honourable Patty Hajdu

Minister of Indigenous Services of Canada

[patty.hajdu@sac-isc.gc.ca](mailto:patty.hajdu@sac-isc.gc.ca)

RE: First Nations partnerships must be the heart of our Team Canada Approach to Economic Sustainability

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau, Premier Ford and respected Ministers:

I write to you all today to make something very clear in these turbulent days.

Eabametoong First Nation and our fellow First Nations across the country are your Treaty partners. This partnership is often misunderstood and has been abused by the Crown in many ways. However, this is a sacred relationship and one that EFN and all First Nations take seriously. Even prior to the Treaty, our ancestors stood shoulder to



shoulder with yours in battle at Michilimakinac and Detroit and have made considerable sacrifices in other conflicts. In Canada's present moment of frustration and confusion with the U.S.A., I ask that you remember your deepest relationship as representatives of the Crown.

Eabametoong and your other Treaty partners must be involved in any response to American tariffs that may impact our membership. We need to be informed about the implications of your policy responses as well as involved in developing creative options and solutions. This is not the time for meeting the White House's rash actions with ill-conceived plans of your own. Rather, this is a unique moment, and I would suggest it may yet be an opportunity for all our governments to work together in a new and respectful way.

As a resource rich First Nation, EFN and many of our neighboring communities in Ontario are willing to work with you to plan for the prosperity of our people and the country. In times of crisis, we must find ways to adapt and develop innovative solutions. I want to suggest to you all that deeper partnerships with First Nations become the backbone of a Canadian plan for the future – not just a response to the US. I am suggesting the establishment of a trilateral 'war council' to involve First Nations and Crown governments, and key corporate partners who can contribute to focused discussions and solutions that will maximize opportunities in a respectful manner to act together in the spirit and intent of our Treaty.

As a starting point, I would recommend a joint meeting together with the leaders of the remote First Nations in Matawa. Our shared homelands have been the subject of much attention, but rarely have we been treated as partners. We do not know what the coming months and years may hold in our relationship with the Americans, but this is exactly the time to solidify and act upon a shared vision for the north. If you are interested in working together on this and other collaborative initiatives, please contact me at [Solomon.Atlookan@eabametoongfn.ca](mailto:Solomon.Atlookan@eabametoongfn.ca).

Yours very sincerely,



Chief Solomon Atlookan

Cc:



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