

Minister Responsible for  
Aboriginal Affairs

ministère délégué aux  
Affaires autochtones



Office of the Minister

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April 17, 2006

Six Nations "Iroquois" Confederacy  
P.O. Box 1478  
Oshweken ON N0A 1A0

Six Nations Elected Council  
P.O. Box 5000  
Oshweken ON N0A 1M0

Dear Haudenosaunee Six Nations Confederacy Council and Six Nations Elected Council:

I am, on very short notice, writing to you directly to support the achievement of immediate progress on a very difficult matter.

Ontario has, in concert with Canada, developed and tabled on April 13, 2006, a draft document that addresses a "New Understanding" for the consideration of the Six Nations. The propositions set out in that draft document attempted to address the issues of concern brought to our attention by Six Nations on April 10, 2006.

The various initiatives both Crown governments set out in that document provided direct and concrete support for the long-term future of the entire Six Nations community. Further, the draft document offers both Councils a principled and respectful way for members of the Six Nations community to begin a peaceful and immediate disengagement of their occupation of the Douglas Creek Estates property.

To help move these matters forward more quickly, I am attaching a renewed offer that clarifies Canada's and Ontario's original April 13 offer and which lays out clearly the nature of the commitments both Crown governments are prepared to make and deliver.

The success of all parties advancing this highly innovative agenda depends on our seeing evidence of immediate movement to withdraw the persons occupying the Douglas Creek Estates property, and an undertaking to help prevent its reoccurrence elsewhere. I understand that, as of last night, the lead responsibility for causing this to happen now lies with the Confederacy.

Ontario's officials on site have my full confidence and support and are clearly authorized to represent the interests of Ontario. I encourage you all to engage with them seriously.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Ramsay'.

Hon. David Ramsay  
Minister