

Six Nations "Iroquois" Confederacy GRAND RIVER COUNTRY

Ohsweken, Ontario

Sgeno Swagwe;goh,

Greetings on behalf of the Chiefs and Clanmothers of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. It has been brought to our attention that the Canadian government has placed polling stations on Haudenosaunee Territory.

The Confederacy Council has, and always will continue to discourage Onkwehonwe from participating in the election of leaders of other governments. This is a violation of Treaties and committments our Ancestors made amongst the Onkwehonweh and the immigrants that arrived over the past 400 yrs. We have agreed by the Two Row Wampum Treaty, to never interfere in one another's government, laws, and ways. We also are bound by the Silver Covenant Chain Treaty, which is a Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Mutual Respect. We committed to assist one another when needed. Canada has a Treaty obligation to respect our Nationhood, as we have never relinquished our sovereignty and we view the actions of all involved in Canada's elections as doing such, in violation of Treaty Rights and Responsibilities we each are under obligation to fulfill.

We urge those involved to immediately remove the polling stations and elections materials from the territory. This is a violation of not only treaty rights, but our human rights to exist as distinct people. "We want to remind our citizens of our teachings within the Circle Wampum and remember to remain in our circle where all our laws, rights, ceremonies, language and identity still lie."

In Peace and Friendship, Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

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