



**Six Nations "Iroquois" Confederacy**  
GRAND RIVER COUNTRY

2634 6<sup>th</sup> Line, R.R. #2, Ohsweken, Ontario N0A1M0

September 12, 2025

**Ms. Andrea Horwath**  
Mayor, City of Hamilton  
71 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Horwath:

We trust this correspondence finds you in good health and good spirits. The Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council invites you to meet with us at 392 Oneida Road, Six Nations of the Grand River, to talk directly about the Joint Stewardship Board and our shared responsibilities for the Red Hill Valley.

You may recall that we had met on May 15, 2023 and were to schedule a follow up meeting within six (6) months.

When the Joint Stewardship Board Agreement was signed, the Fire of the Valley Wampum was created to represent the commitments between the Confederacy and the City of Hamilton. This wampum is sacred to us, as it records our relationship, responsibilities, and obligations. To honour it means upholding the spirit and intent of our agreements.

We are very concerned about recent events that have strained this relationship. The Haudenosaunee Confederacy is the original, sovereign government of our people, and our authority does not come from any outside government.

We also need to address communication challenges on the Board such as the attempt to place the Joint Stewardship Board under City Council's governance structure. These actions, along with the lack of open dialogue, go against the intent of the Joint Stewardship Board as an equal and independent body.

In keeping with the Fire of the Valley Wampum, we are asking for a meeting to review the agreements, reaffirm our shared responsibilities, and rebuild the respect, trust, and friendship the wampum represents. We would like to set a date within the next 2 months and would ask you let us know your availability at your earliest convenience.

In peace and friendship

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Hohahes, Leroy Hill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'H'.

Hohahes, Leroy Hill  
Secretary  
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council