

Update on GTP and Mining Claims

April 04, 2013

General Information

The membership has been asking for an update relative to the GTP Specific Claim and I am pleased to provide this update to clarify any questions which may have risen on this file.

Canada had previously provided us with information that the GTP and Mining claim was expected to be completed by this time and that they would have an offer on the table for FWFN to move forward with. However, they have since then presented new inquiries on our research that subsequently created delays in bringing the file to Treasury Board for a mandate (offer to be presented to the FN).

Our focus right now is to ensuring that Canada's inquiries are satisfied in a timely manner to reduce delays in obtaining the offer.

GTP Claim – Compensation Negotiations

In a previous report, we indicated that since the claim involves both financial compensation and land component, both parties agreed that the two components must balance when finalizing an offer to FWFN.

Canada recently presented the negotiating team with new inquiries relative to the various aspects of our research that was originally conducted to support our claim. Canada's position on this practice is that they want to ensure that they have full justification when they approach the Treasury Board when seeking the mandate (offer on the claim). The problem with this practice is that it results in delays to moving forward with the file.

FWFN has met all requirements of the negotiations and have provided all necessary research and supporting materials to our claim. It has been our experience that the answers to their questions often lie within the research that has already been provided. We are currently in the process of resolving the most recent inquiry and trust that it will be the last.

FWFN has written to Canada to express sincere concern with the delays that have taken place as a result of this process and we have indicated that we are prepared to take our concerns further if the file does not advance to the next stage. Canada has since responded agreeing to meet with us to resolve this matter.

No financial compensation amounts have been discussed to date. However the negotiation team is working diligently to ensure that all calculation input rates are as close to the top of the range as possible.

Mining Claims

The negotiations for the Mining Claim have been exhausted by both teams, which have resulted in a halt to the negotiation to this file. Canada will be proceeding in securing a mandate with the loss of use

commencement date of 1931. The overall value of the claim is much smaller than the GTP claim. All reports and research have been completed and approved by both teams.

With both claim files close to being completed, we anticipate that Canada will provide an offer on both files to Fort William.

FWFN negotiating team will be attending a meeting in Toronto this month to discuss these files with the hope that Canada will be ready to prepare a mandate to submit to the Treasury Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Morriseau
Lands Administrator