



COMMUNITY RELEASE

Canada has signed Settlement Agreement—new members have until May 29, 2015 to confirm registration

May 1, 2015 (Listuguj, Gespe'gewa'gi) – On April 29, 2015, the Government of Canada signed the Settlement Agreement and April 29, 2015 is therefore the “Effective Date” of the Settlement Agreement. LMG is providing for a grace period of 30 days to confirm Listuguj membership registration and has established a cutoff date of May 29, 2015.

“Many people have worked very hard for a very long time to finally see this day and we have much to be proud about,” said Chief Scott Martin. “While we had hoped that Canada would have signed before today, we are now confirming that the agreement is signed. At this time, we want to ensure that all of our members will benefit from the \$60 million that will be distributed.”

All Listuguj members **must be on the band list on May 29, 2015**. A number of people are considered active applicants for Listuguj membership according to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). (*‘Active’ refers to applications not denied or rejected, and still being processed and subject to approval, by AANDC*). There are others who have applied to become Listuguj members but have not followed up adequately on their application. Also, any babies who were born up to and including April 29, 2015 must be registered for membership, if they are to be considered for the Per Capita Distribution (PCD).

It is crucial that anyone who wants to be considered to be on the band list for purposes of receiving Settlement Funds must be a confirmed member or an applicant whose application is considered active by AANDC or LMG, by the cut-off date of May 29, 2015.

“Unfortunately, at this time, AANDC, not the LMG, manages our membership under the *Indian Act*,” said Chief Martin, “and the *Indian Act* says that a member includes anyone who is ‘entitled to appear on the band list.’ It is these people that LMG needs to include as members in order to calculate the individual per capita distribution of Settlement Funds.”

Please contact Gino Clement at the LMG immediately if you are about to, or if you are in the process of applying for Listuguj membership so LMG can discuss your application with you. Now that Canada has signed the Settlement Agreement, Canada has said it will provide the funds approximately one month after the “Effective Date”. Once the LMG confirms it has received the Settlement Funds, a “Notice of Discontinuance” will be filed in the Federal Court and the case against Canada with respect to those five claims, will be over.

All members as of the “Effective Date” will need to apply for their PCD. Look for details in a forthcoming community release, on the radio, on the web site and at the band office. Details will be provided in the coming days.

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For more information on the per capita distribution, please contact:

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