

# Serpent River First Nation

P.O. Box 14  
48 Village Road  
Cutler Ontario Canada  
P0P 1B0



Telephone:  
705-844-2418  
Facsimile:  
705-844-2757

**Wednesday, October 5, 2011**

## **Dear Serpent River First Nation Members:**

It is with great optimism and encouragement that we are providing this update on the Land Designation Referendum process that we commissioned under the *Indian Act* on October 4, 2011.

In a very clear manner through a referendum vote under the "*Indian Act*", Serpent River First Nation members voted 76.5% in favour of setting 25 acres of land aside for the purpose of light industrial use. Unfortunately, the total required threshold of votes casted in the first round was not met. The amount of votes required was to be 365; we had a total of two hundred and twenty-two. As described in the press release attached, 89% of those votes were on reserve.

In our assessment, we have identified some logistic and timing issues that we are working on in short order to correct like accurate addresses for eligible voters; follow-up and clarification on the referendum information package; and assistance with the mail-in ballot process. '75' ballot packages were mailed back for improper addresses. These are basically the reasons for low off-reserve participation. We simply need these next few weeks to continue outreach and clarification of the process of the referendum and further dialogue on the reasons for the land set aside.

Council will be presented a draft Band Council Resolution in the next couple days for consideration of the next steps in securing a simple majority for the Land Designation to be approved. Please expect to receive notification of the next vote information within the next couple weeks. Further, should you have any questions, or know of any address updates needed, or if you haven't received information, please contact us so that we could accommodate your request to have appropriate and timely information.

**"Securing a Future for the Next Generation,"** is the reason why we are advancing this land designation. It is critical for our community to recognize that in uncertain economic times, we must come from a position of strength and opportunity. The creation of economic development starts with realizing and reconciling our ability to control our own lands and creation of economic development.

We would like to convey the utmost appreciation to those that participated in the first part of the referendum. We would also like to thank those that assisted in the process. Our next step is to secure a simple majority; we intend to continue to reach out to all members and look forward to your continued support. **Miigwetch,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chief Isadore Day'.

**Chief Isadore Day, Wiindawtegowinini  
Serpent River First Nation**

---

**Our Vision** Serpent River First Nation will have self-sufficient people within a community of caring and compassionate families.

**Our Mission** Serpent River First Nation will use all available financial, human, natural, technological and cultural resources to achieve self-sufficiency through the efforts of all Community Members. Our strong and unique cultural and spiritual identity will drive us to ensure a healthy community that is safe and secure for all generations.