



## SIX NATIONS OF THE GRAND RIVER ELECTED COUNCIL NEWS

For Immediate Release:

Wednesday February 19 2020

### We Stand In Unity for Protecting the Lands & the Environment for Future Generations

February 19, 2020— Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council (SNGR EC) Chief Mark B. Hill reiterates the community values, “...as Haudenosaunee people we know we have a responsibility to be stewards of the land and keepers of Mother Earth. When we think of the coming faces, seven generations into the future, we must consider the impact of our actions today on the land. By centering Haudenosaunee best practices in a modern context, we will rebuild our relationship with Mother Earth. The more self-sufficient we are with our food, water and energy production, the more we will build our strength and self-determination.” 2019 Six Nations Community Plan.

We offer our support to the people in Wet’suwet’en Territory regarding the excessive use of force used by the RCMP against land protectors. The SNGR Elected Council will always stand for protecting the land and the environment for our future generations and understand the need to act in unity to raise awareness across Turtle Island.

Excessive force and abuse of power has no place on our collective journey to reconciliation and the recent RCMP acts has hindered the great strides we have made to heal past harms inflicted on Indigenous by similar acts of an abuse of power. SNGR EC is sure we can all agree that we never want to repeat the negative history we’ve experience in Canada. We will come together where we are needed and remind Canada that the “rule of law” applies to all and includes their obligations to uphold Treaties and Inherent Rights.

It’s important to remind Canada that the former Prime Minister Stephen Harper spoke on behalf of this country in 2007 and made a commitment in his apology to Survivors of Indian Residential Schools to state, “...It will be a **positive step in forging a new relationship between Aboriginal peoples and other Canadians**, a relationship based on the knowledge of our shared history, a respect for each other and a **desire to move forward together with a renewed understanding...**” Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has, for the past two terms made clear unequivocal statements in all Cabinet mandate letters that “...there remains no more important relationship to me and to Canada than the one with Indigenous Peoples.”

It’s critical to ensure that the words spoken by Canada have meaning and are followed with respect.

-30-

For more information about the Wet’suwet’en Territory contact: [tsewedielh@gmail.com](mailto:tsewedielh@gmail.com)

Six Nations of the Grand River  
Communications Officer Candace Lee Lickers  
519-445-2205 ext. 3238 | [clickers@sixnations.ca](mailto:clickers@sixnations.ca)

[www.sixnations.ca](http://www.sixnations.ca)

