



CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES

FIRST NATION

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To the of Chippewa of the Thames; Band Membership

The Chief and Council have been working closely with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on making investments to the Chippewa Commercial Development Park for infrastructure costs at Range 2, lot 1-8-1.

Recently, INAC officials contacted the Chief and Council and alerted us that there are concerns over the former use of the property as a bombing range by the government of Canada during World War II. This has brought forward a number of environmental issues associated with the site.

The Chief and Council responded to INAC officials that our primary concern is the health and safety of the residents Chippewa of the Thames and that further development of the site could not continue until the a full investigation was completed as to the extent of the environmental issue.

The Chief and Council will be meeting with representatives from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Department of National Defense (DND) within the next week to determine the extent of the environmental issues and we will alert the community as soon as more information becomes available.

The Chippewa of the Thames has made significant investments in the development of Range 2, Lot 1-8-1 for economic development purposes. It was determined that this issue will cause a delay on the project. The Chief and Council will not have definite timelines of the delay until mid next week.

Every effort is being made to ensure that the public is properly notified of the status of the environmental issue and the discussion with INAC and DND.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at (519) 289-5555.

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Chief Vaughn Albert