



# Press Release

June 12, 2018

## **City Council passes motion seeking new partnership with Serpent River First Nation for waterfront and other economic development opportunities**

ELLIOT LAKE – At last night’s Council meeting, the City unanimously passed a pivotal resolution indicating its support for an equal partnership with the Serpent River First Nation for future waterfront / rural development within its municipal borders. The wide ranging motion supports the concepts of reconciliation and engagement, input into land development within the First Nation traditional territory and the need to partner on an equal footing with the Serpent River First Nation for regional economic development.

Mayor Dan Marchisella noted: “with last night’s motion, we are signaling that the city recognizes the value of SRFN insight into their traditional and our municipal territory and that both communities have much to gain working together towards sustainable development. We believe that our communities have the potential to step into the future as leaders of how municipalities and First Nations can and should work together for mutual benefit”.

The motion provides municipal administration the direction to work with the SRFN and research a new path forward for waterfront and rural land development based on lessons learned in previous developments while recognizing First Nations rights and expertise.

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### **For more information:**

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### **Enclosure:**

Municipal Resolution passed Monday June 11, 2018

**Municipal Resolution Unanimously Passed Monday June 11, 2018**

Whereas the City of Elliot Lake wishes to pursue additional waterfront and rural land development within its municipal boundaries to stimulate economic development and job creation and

Whereas all of the City of Elliot Lake is within the Serpent River First Nation's traditional territory, lands equally covered under the Robinson Huron Treaty and

Whereas the City feels that reconciliation and engagement are roles that the municipality must lead wherever feasible rather than rely merely on senior levels of government and

Whereas the Serpent River First Nation has expertise and knowledge of land use, economic development and government relations that can assist Elliot Lake and the region's economic development

Therefore, be it resolved that

The City pursue a full and equal partnership with the Serpent River First Nation in order to develop future waterfront and rural land based on the governing principles of equal revenue sharing, equal representation on the governing development board and processes that respect First Nation rights,

and further that

Municipal administration be tasked with researching and pursuing the legal and regulatory framework to proceed based on the direction in this motion.