

THE ALGONQUINS PROVIDE QUEBEC WITH OPTIONS TO SETTLE CRISIS & DELIVER TIMBER TO MILLS

Opportunity To Solve Crisis With Algonquin's & Keep Everyone Working, Is Now In The Hands Of Minister Corbeil

Val d'Or, Quebec, November 15, 2004; The Algonquin Coalition consisting of The Lac Simon First Nation and The Long Point First Nation have issued a series of options for Quebec to consider, which would settle the crisis at Twin Rapids over natural resources and land management. The Algonquin Coalition is seeking commitment from Minister Corbeil and the Charest Government to a process that would both involve the locals and create a long term solution to the chronic reoccurrence of conflict.

One option sees Quebec provide letters from Premier Charest and Minister Pelletier (Minister Delegate of Aboriginal Affairs) committing to, among other things, an agreed mandate and an agreed process to follow to solution. As well, the Algonquin's are requesting that Quebec accept observers at the table consisting of representation from both the workers and The Abitibi Temiscamingue Region. In exchange, The Algonquin Coalition will completely lift their check point thereby facilitating the immediate delivery of timber to the mills, and the commencement of operations.

Chief Pien of The Algonquin Coalition states, "we have worked hard to develop options for Quebec which we believe are easy to accept while ensuring that the chronic problems receive the long term commitment required to develop a long term solution once and for all". Chief Mathias of the Algonquin Coalition states, "Minister Corbeil now has three very simple yet effective solutions to this crisis that can end the matter. Deliveries to the mills could begin as soon as one if he chooses two of the three options. The ball is in his court, and all any of us can do right now is simply wait for his reaction."

For the moment, The Algonquin Coalition will be relaxing its rapid pace of public demonstrations, as witnessed last week, believing that it was successful in making its point with Quebec. The focus now will be in waiting for Quebec's response to the options submitted, and to the other major players (such as The Federal Government).

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Source:

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