

Statement from Canada's Representatives in Six Nations Talks

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Ottawa (December 12, 2007) - The following statement was released today by the Honourable Barbara McDougall, Federal Representative, and Ronald L. Doering, Federal Negotiator, with the Haudenosaunee/Six Nations and the Province of Ontario, following this week's negotiation session with Six Nations and the Province of Ontario.

"Canada's negotiating team continues to seek innovative and concrete solutions to the complex issues facing all parties.

Today, in an effort to find common ground at the table, Canada made an offer to the Haudenosaunee/Six Nations relating to the Welland Canal Flooding Claim - a pre-confederation claim dating back to 1829.

The Government of Canada firmly believes that negotiation, rather than litigation, is the best route to follow for the benefit of all Canadians. As demonstrated by today's offer, Canada remains committed to the process of resolving the complex issues along the Grand River in Southern Ontario.

This offer of \$26 million, relates to Six Nations assertion that they were not adequately compensated for the loss of use of roughly 2400 acres of land flooded for the Welland Canal project.

Making progress is key -- not only to the people of Six Nations, but also to the residents of neighbouring communities."

The Honourable Barbara McDougall, PC, OC
Federal Representative

Ronald L. Doering, BA, LLB, MA, LLD
Federal Negotiator