



ALDERVILLE FIRST NATION

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Alderville First Nation Moratorium on Commercial Development Pending Regulation/Licensing

Alderville First Nation (AFN) Chief and Council is raising the alarm on the extent of current unfettered commercial development along the highway 45 corridor which has reached a level of critical concern for: **community safety, environmental protection, member's property, and protection of our aboriginal and treaty rights.**

Community Safety: A speed reduction was established along highway 45 through AFN on July 9, 2020 although it does not control the level of traffic coming through our community. The speed reduction to 50km/hr was accomplished in a coordinated effort between AFN Chief and Council and Northumberland County for the safety of our community.

Environmental Protection: We are seeing the destruction of wetlands and or the compromising of our environmentally sensitive areas along the corridor which flies in the face of the belief that "First Nations are stewards of the land." AFN Chief and Council are fully obligated to protect our land and water across all AFN lands and not just the highway 45 corridor. Our inherent rights give us the authority to do so. We can no longer allow this degradation to occur in the absence of environmental assessment/ecological impact studies, clear business planning, and community consultation, and can no longer accept that outside influences may also be contributing to that degradation.

Property: AFN Chief and Council are concerned that the peaceful enjoyment of members' property is being compromised by the increased commercial activity and that their security is also open to violation. Stadium-like lighting is one example of a deleterious impact on nearby homeowners. Any commercial development must be controlled for the benefit of AFN members and not to their detriment.

Aboriginal and Treaty Rights: AFN possesses aboriginal and treaty rights, which are collective and enshrined in the Constitution Act, 1982. We are obligated to protect them. We expect Canada to protect them. They are not shared and not for sale. They are unique to AFN just as they are unique to other First Nations on their respective land-bases. If they include a member's right to pursue business/commercial enterprise, they also include Chief and Council's right to protect the community against the impacts of those commercial enterprises by regulation, law and otherwise. Therefore at this time we declare a moratorium on all present, proposed and/or future commercial development in AFN pending the development of either: a First Nation Land Code under the First Nation Land Management Act including the necessary impact studies; a Business Licensing process under provisions set out in the Indian Act; and on the basis of our inherent rights.

Declared this day, July 31, 2020

Alderville First Nation Chief and Council

Proudly working together to build a prosperous and healthy environment that promotes independence, honours and respects our values, and enhances our way of life.