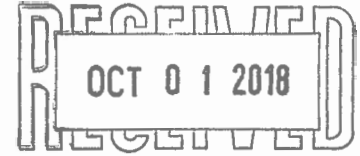


From: Sacha Vandermarel <svandermarel@hearst.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 1, 2018 3:55 PM
Cc: Roger Sigouin; Yves Morrissette
Subject: Request to sign and endorse the Accord.
Attachments: TON Summit - response to the request to sign.pdf



Good Afternoon,

On behalf of Mayor Roger Sigouin, please find attached a letter regarding the request to sign and endorse an accord drafted at the Transforming Ontario's North Summit.

Regards,

Sacha Vandermarel
 Adjointe administrative Assistant
 Ville de/Town of HEARST
 705-372-2825

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La Corporation de la
Ville de Hearst



The Corporation of the
Town of Hearst

September 27, 2018

Natasha Penn
Karen Jones Consulting Inc.
101 Worthington Street East, Suite 238
North Bay, Ontario P1B 1G5

RE: Request to sign and endorse the Accord drafted at the Transforming Ontario's North Summit

Dear Transforming Ontario's North Summit Organizers and fellow Summit participants,

This letter serves as a follow-up to the Town of Hearst and OFIA's joint letter dated September 18, 2018 and to Mrs. Natasha Penn's email dated September 19, 2018 requesting participating organizations and municipalities to sign and endorse the Accord that resulted from the Transforming Ontario's North (TON) Summit. The Town of Hearst would like to reiterate its concerns with this initiative and the proposed use of an Accord in the near term with the Federal and Provincial government.

The Town of Hearst remains concerned by the purpose and suggested outcomes of the Summit. As outlined in our September 18th letter, participants did not have an opportunity to view or discuss the language of the proposed Accord until the last day with many of the participants leaving during the time allocated for this discussion. We believe that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and Northwestern Ontario Municipalities Association (NOMA) have mandates to be the unified voice for all northerners on economic and social questions and we suggest the organizers of this summit should work through these Associations.

The Town of Hearst is also concerned that the Accord and Statement of Common Purpose generated from the discussions held at the TON Summit are not ready to be shared with the Federal and Provincial governments. Although the Accord is set to be a high-level document that allows for a dynamic movement to build, we feel that notable voices were absent from the discussions including First Nations elected officials, industry representatives from forestry and mining sectors and northwestern Ontario municipalities. We are confident NOMA and FONOM would welcome these notable voices in all future strategic discussions.

The communications and asks presented to Federal and Provincial government must be carefully and strategically developed to avoid confusion and unintended consequences. After reviewing the draft

Accord and the pillars outlined by the facilitators, the Town of Hearst believes there is still significant work that needs to be completed. With Ontario's municipal election less than a month away, we need to allow new leaders in the North to take office and become familiar with the NOMA and FONOM's priorities. For the organizers to suggest that the Accord is ready to be used with Federal and Provincial government in the near term is premature. Therefore, we recommend that all participants work in collaboration with NOMA and FONOM to set and present a plan for the future of Northern Ontario to the Federal and Provincial government.

For these reasons, the Town of Hearst will not support nor sign the Accord and ask fellow northern municipalities' officials and organizations to consider the same before doing so.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Sigouin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Roger Sigouin
Mayor

c.c. Transforming Ontario's North Summit participants

Members of FONOM

Members of NOMA