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Re: Update on the Agricultural Benefits Claim (“Cows and Plows”)

This is an update on LLRIB’s Agricultural Benefits claim. The Agricultural Benefits Committee (ABC) continues to meet with legal counsel, Thompson, Laboucan & Epp LLP (TLE) in its efforts to reach a timely and successful resolution of LLRIB’s claim. In-person negotiation meetings were held with Canada this past December, and at that time Canada indicated that it was ready to begin substantive negotiations which would resolve LLRIB’s outstanding claim. While the ABC committee was hopeful that these substantive negotiations would have already started, we have been recently informed that Canada is not yet ready to start talks. This could delay negotiations for several weeks, if not months.

As the 2023 LLRIB Elections are fast approaching, all Council business will be tabled until after the LLRIB Elections. This will not have an impact on LLRIB’s agricultural benefits claim, as we are still waiting for Canada to make its own internal preparations for negotiations.

The ABC Committee is aware of certain misinformation with respect to the agricultural benefits claim circulating on social media. Please note that:

- No Treaty 6 Band/First Nation has settled its claim for agricultural benefits.
- Canada is still planning to negotiate a settlement with LLRIB.
- When Canada does make a settlement offer, LLRIB members will get a chance to vote on the settlement.

TLE will continue to update the ABC Committee and Chief and Council as new information becomes available.

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Yours truly,

Thompson, Laboucan, & Epp LLP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Laboucan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

GARRY T. LABOUCAN

Partner
GTL/gc

cc. Chief and Council LLRIB