Access to Information Six Nations Land Research Office

Compiled by the Staff of the Six Nations Land Research Office, February, 1993

The following information was taken from the Researching and Writing Tribal Histories Workshop, August 12-15, 1991, presented by Duane K. Hale, Ph.D.

Some material is restricted from public viewing. However, access to information may be obtained under Privacy Regulations and by Treasury Board Policy under the Privacy Act. The following summary identifies the acts and regulations that govern the National Archives of Canada's authority to grant permission to view its records:

Privacy Regulations, Section 6

Access to information may be granted for archival or historical purposes to any person or body for research or statistical purposes under the following conditions:

- a) disclosure would not constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy of the individual to whom the information relates
- b) disclosure is in accordance with paragraph 8(2)(j) or (k) of the Act
- c) 110 years have elapsed following the birth of the individual to whom the information relates
- d) when census or survey information used, 92 years have elapsed following the census or survey

Treasury Board Policy and the Privacy Act

The President of the Treasury Board is the designated minister responsible for the administration of the Privacy Act and the government policy with respect to legislation.

In sections 7 and 8 of the Privacy Act a code of fair information practice governs the use and disclosure of personal information under the control of a government institution in certain circumstances with or without the consent of the individual to whom the information relates.

The following factors must be considered when interpreting provisions of the Privacy Act:

- a) applies only where no other such statutory provisions exists
- b) only permits use and disclosure as specified in subsections
 8(2) and 8(3), therefore no right granted to third parties
- c) applies only to personal information about a living individual or to those who have been deceased for 20 years or less

Privacy Act, Subsection 8(2)(j) states:

"Subject to any other Act of Parliament, personal information under the control of a government institution may be disclosed: to any person or body for research or statistical purposes if the head of the government institution

- (i) is satisfied that the purpose for which the information is disclosed cannot reasonably be accomplished unless the information is provided in a form that would identify the individual to whom it relates, and
- (ii) obtains from the person or body a written undertaking that no subsequent disclosure of the information will be made in a form that could reasonably be expected to identify the individual to whom it relates".

Privacy Act, Subsection 8(2)(k) states:

"Subject to any other Act of Parliament, personal information under the control of a government institution may be disclosed: to any association of aboriginal people, Indian band, government institution or part thereof, or to any person acting on behalf of such association, band, institution or part thereof, for the purpose of researching or validating the claims, disputes or grievances of any of the aboriginal peoples of Canada".

Privacy Act, Subsection 8(3) states:

"Subject to any other Act of Parliament, personal information under the control of the Public Archives that has been transferred to the Public Archives by a government institution for archival or historical purposes may be disclosed in accordance with the regulations to any person or body for research or statistical purposes".

The Privacy Act, Subsection 8(3) is subject to Privacy Regulations, Section 6, and to review by the Privacy Commissioner in accordance with the Privacy Act, Subsection 37(1).

The Privacy Act, Subsection 8(3) does not apply to records under the control of another institution held in storage at the Public Archives, or records transferred to the Public Archives for administrative purposes.

The National Archives of Canada will grant access to information under the Privacy Act, Subsection 8(2)(j) if ALL the following conditions are met:

- a) NAC determines that no other section of the Privacy Act applies
- b) NAC is satisfied that the purpose of the information cannot be accomplished unless the information is provided in a form that would identify the individuals to whom it relates
- c) NAC conducts an invasion of privacy test
- d) Researcher agrees in writing not to make any disclosure that will identify individual to whom it relates

The National Archives of Canada will grant access to information under the Privacy Act, Subsection 8(2)(k) if ALL the following conditions are met:

- a) the researcher obtains written accreditation from responsible officers of the association, band or institution stating that the researcher is acting on behalf of the organization with respect to a specific claim, dispute or grievance
- b) the researcher agrees in writing not to use the information for any purpose other than that for which access is granted

Obtaining <u>Access</u>

There are two ways to obtain access to information, one is informally and the other is under the Access to Information Act.

Request an informal access review with the Access to Information and Privacy Review Officer at the National Archives of Canada under Privacy Act, Subsections 8(2)(j) or 8(2)(k). Depending on the workload of the review board, the results of the review may be determined in a few days or weeks.

For access to information using the informal method contact Carol White, Access to Information and Privacy Review Officer, Government Archives Division, Historical Resources Branch, National Archives of Canada. (613) 995-5493. <u>OR</u> Sarah M. Gawman, same title and division (613) 995-9429.

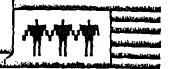
To gain permission to view records under the Access to Information Act, send a signed letter requesting information under this Act or a completed Access to Information Request Form to the Federal Department or Agency that has the information. Include a five dollar application fee for each request. Additional costs may be charged, but notification will be made in advance of any additional costs and a deposit may also be requested.

Government Departments must acknowledge a request within thirty days; however, in special cases, more time may be needed to process the request.

To make formal complaints arising from the Access to Information Act about denial of access, fees charged, response time, and refusal to give access in the language requested, contact the Information Commissioner.

If the Information Commissioner recommends that you be given access and the Department or Agency still refuses access, an appeal may be made to the Federal Court.





CANADA NOA 1M0

OHSWEKEN, ONTARIO

Office: (519) 445-2201 Public Works: 445-4242 Research:445-2053 Welfare: 445-2084 Fax: (519) 445-4208 Economic Development: 445-2201 Housing: 445-2235

September 11, 1991

Ms Carol White Access to Information and Privacy Review Officer Government Archives Division Historical Resources Branch National Archives of Canada 395 Wellington Street Ottawa, Ontario KIA ON3

Dear Hs White:

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The Six Nations Land Research Office, which is a Department of the Six Nations Band Council, investigates all issues pertaining to Six Nations be it land affairs, financial issues, administration of the Department of Indian Affairs, statistics, etc. on an ongoing basis. Therefore, to save your valuable time and ours, we are requesting an informal access review to all restricted material pertaining to Six Nations regardless of reference number.

In accordance with your existing policy, enclosed is a Research Application Form re: Disclosure of Personal Information for Aboriginal Research, Privacy Act, Paragraph 8(2)(k).

I am also enclosing a copy of a Band Council Resolution #62-1991/92 dated August 26, 1991, authorizing myself and Gail C. Montour to undertake research on behalf of the Six Nations Band Council.

The Six Nations Land Research Office generally receives material through the Microfilm Loan System of the National Archives of Canada, via Interlibrary Loan, therefore it would be greatly appreciated if you would advise the Microfilm Loan System Department of our unrestricted access.

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Ms C. White

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September 11, 1991

Also be advised that any information received will only be used to research and validate Six Nations' claims.

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If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

An early response would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

SIX NATIONS LAND RESEARCH OFFICE

Phil Monture Research Director

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BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION No. 7 RÉSOLUTION DE CONSEIL DE BANDE

NOTE: The words "From our Band Funds" "Capital" or "Revenue", which ever is the case, must appear in all resolutions requesting expenditures from Band Funds

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DO HEREBY RESOLVE: DECIDE, PAR LES PRESENTES:

> That Philip A. Monture, Research Director; Charlene Bomberry, Researcher Administrator; Gail C. Martin, Senior Title Searcher Researcher; Lisa A. Davis, Title Searcher Researcher; Constance Davey, Research Clerk; Patricia Skye, Research Clerk and Marcie Curley, Research Clerk of the Six Nations Land Research Office are hereby authorized to undertake land claims research on behalf of the Six Nations Elected Council until advised otherwise.

They are hereby authorized to research into our ancestral, territorial and 1784 Haldimand lands as deeded to the Six Nations Indians; lands which are no longer being used for our benefit, lands for which payments remain outstanding, the monies and trust funds associated with the same or any other Land Research as requested by this Council necessary to settle a claim, dispute or grievance.

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SIX NATIONS LANDS RESEARCH Request to Access Information

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| Employer: | | | <u> </u> | |
| Employer: Address: Telephone:_ | | | | |

Nature of Research:

PART B:

I request access to the following archival records located within the Six Nations Lands Research office.

Reference Number Document Date Document Description

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Six Nations Lands Research will endeavour to produce/reproduce requested information but reserves the right to accessibility

Research Application form

Page 2

Researcher's Undertaking

In obtaining access to information in the possesion of the Six Nations Lands Research office, I ______ of the ______ hereby undertake to ensure that the personal information obtained in this way will not be used for any purpose other than ______. I also understand that some information may be restricted and not accessible as the documents may be in too delicate a state and should not be handled.

Researcher's Signature

Date

PART O:

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If access is not granted in full, please specify the files and/or documents that cannot be disclosed and give reasons (use separate sheet if necessary).

| Researcher Notified: | | Date: | Reviewer: | |
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