

We Have Taken This Into Its Full Consideration and We Stand Here As One, of One
Mind on this day 24th April 2025.

The Mohawks of Akwesasne

(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne)



Grand Chief

The Mohawks of Kahnawa:ke

(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawa:ke)



Grand Chief

The Mohawks of Kanehsata:ke

(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Kanehsata:ke)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized, flowing letters, is positioned above a horizontal line. The signature appears to be a personal name, possibly 'V. R. ...', written in a cursive style.

Grand Chief

The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Tyendehna:ke)

Rodent Died male

Chief

Ahoraseri:io
wcl Fclan

The Oneida Nation of the Thames

(As represented by the Oneida Council)

Pauline Aubrey Fox

Chief

The Six Nations of the Grand River

(As represented by the Six Nations Council)

Shelly

Chief

IROQUOIS CAUCUS

NATION TO NATION TRADE AND COMMERCE PROTOCOL AGREEMENT

April 2025

Iroquois Caucus
Nation to Nation Trade and Commerce Protocol Agreement
Between

The Six Nations of the Grand River
(As represented by the Six Nations Council)

The Mohawks of Akwesasne
(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne)

The Mohawks of Kahnawa:ke
(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawa:ke)

The Mohawks of Kanehsata:ke
(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Kanehsata:ke)

The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
(As represented by the Mohawk Council of Tyendinaga)

The Oneida Nation of the Thames
(As represented by the Oneida Council)

WHEREAS the Haudenosaunee have historically established communities on both sides of the international border and developed relationships of trade and commerce integral to their culture and their continued existence as Peoples and Nations.

WHEREAS the elected Councils of six Haudenosaunee communities have organized into an Iroquois Caucus to identify common political concerns, and to address these concerns with “one-mind” as a means to preserve and protect the rights of their constituents.

WHEREAS the Haudenosaunee peoples have the existing and inherent right of self-determination, which includes the inherent jurisdiction over their lands, peoples and territory.

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recognizes that Indigenous peoples have the right of self-determination, and by virtue of that right, are free to determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development, are free to be secure in their own means of subsistence, and are free to engage in traditional and economic activities, and to practice and revitalize their cultural traditions;

WHEREAS Aboriginal and Treaty rights include the right to self-government and the right to commerce and trade, including the right to engage in the sale, barter and trade of products and services between various nations, communities, and other groups of Indigenous people.

WHEREAS the duly elected governments of the six Haudenosaunee communities desire to enter into a Nation-to-Nation Protocol and to undertake cooperative initiatives to revitalize traditional relationships.

WHEREAS the signatories to this Protocol Agreement, have been authorized by way of council resolution from each duly elected community government.

NOW THEREFORE, in the exercise of our Aboriginal rights particularly as they relate to the customary trade and tradition between our peoples, we agree to the following:

Article 1 - Principles

All actions under this Protocol will be guided by the spirit and principles of peace, power, and good mind with particular focus on the following:

- a) We will respect the sovereignty, integrity and jurisdiction of our respective governments including the laws, protocols, values, customs, of our respective peoples and communities.
- b) Our work together will be made in the spirit of friendship and genuine concern for the peace, security, and future well-being of our peoples, our communities, and our Nations.
- c) The relations between our peoples will be based on the peace, unity and responsibility of our communities and our Nations.
- d) We will conduct trade in a manner consistent with the Two Row Wampum and this vision depicts all signatories in one canoe conducting trade and commerce in a manner that is strategic and advantageous to all in the canoe. In this respect, we all row together in a coordinated manner, in the same direction.
- e) Every effort will be made towards considering the inherent values, principles, and views of our elders in the conduct of trade and commerce.

Article 2 - Iroquois Caucus Trade Alliance

- 2.1 This agreement will support and guide the direction of the Iroquois Caucus Trade Alliance (hereinafter referred to as the Trade Alliance).
- 2.2 The Trade Alliance will be composed of a representative and alternate from each Council-signatory to this Agreement.
- 2.3 As such, their terms of office will be determined by their respective government Councils.
- 2.4 Trade Alliance members will be members of their duly elected government Councils.
- 2.5 There will be no less than two meetings per year with each meeting location decided upon by all representatives.

- 2.6 A quorum shall be five representatives.
- 2.7 The members of the Iroquois Caucus Trade Alliance will select their Chairperson from among their membership in a democratic process.
- 2.8 The tenure of the Chairperson will be determined by the Iroquois Caucus Trade Council.
- 2.9 The Trade Alliance may establish governance processes, plans or other similar guidelines of code, consistent with this Agreement to provide further guidance and assistance.
- 2.10 Any governance processes, plans or similar guidelines of code, will be approved by the Iroquois Caucus General Assembly prior to commitment.

Article 3 – Mandate

- 3.1 The mandate of the Iroquois Caucus Trade Alliance is to identify trade opportunities, assets, and resources, to create the atmosphere to facilitate an open trade process between each signatory to this Agreement, to work on strategies and approaches that ensures an equitable distribution of opportunities, to support and advocate business partnerships among the membership.
- 3.2 The potential activities could involve:
 - a) Research and development of suitable goods and services to trade and commerce.
 - b) Investigating transportation networks needed to facilitate these trade and commerce relationships.
 - c) Identifying labour needs, capital costs and financing requirements.
 - d) Development of specific commerce and trade agreements.
 - e) Other general activities to be identified which will support commerce and trading initiatives.

Article 4 - Community Development and Resource Sharing

The signatories to this Agreement agree to work together to strengthen their relationship and to promote and enhance the living conditions and rights of their people for the well-being of present and future generations. This will involve efforts in the following areas:

- a) The exchange and sharing of information, knowledge and technical resources with respect to their community development initiatives in the areas of culture and language, economic development including financial institutions, education, training, recreation, health, land management, governance, environmental protection, conservation, justice, community infrastructure, and others as they deem appropriate;
- b) The promotion of education and training including development of programs, and education and work exchanges; and
- c) The development of other processes to promote cooperation in common issues, pursuits and initiatives.

Article 5 - Amendments

Amendments to this Agreement can be made by way of a full consensus of the signatories.

Article 6 - Additional Trade Nations

The addition of a Nation to this Trade Agreement can be made by way of consensus of the signatories.

Article 7 – Withdrawal from Agreement

Any signatory in good standing, may withdraw from this Agreement by providing all signatories with a 60-day notice and an explanation of cause.

Article 8 - The Iroquois Caucus

The Iroquois Caucus and any future signatories will work together to explore mechanisms and potential for:

- a) The exercise of their Aboriginal and Treaty rights to commerce and trade with other First Nations.
- b) Domestic, national and international trade both with indigenous and non-indigenous peoples.
- c) Cooperative and joint ventures.
- d) Establishing economic development zones to create incentives for commerce and trade relations and business development.