

TRANSCRIPT OF ALGONQUIN PETITION TO VISCOUNT MONK, THE GOVERNOR GENERAL  
IN MARCH 1862:

...  
We the Chiefs and band of Indians known as the Tribe of the Algonquins of the Lake of Two Mountains beg leave most respectfully to represent;

That the Ancestors of your Petitioners, in conjunction with the Nipissings, possessed the valley of the Ottawa, and occupied it as their hunting grounds from time immemorial. At the time of which we speak, our ancestors were very numerous, and our white brethren in the Ottawa Valley were very few. The tables are now changed. Our white brethren have become a great people, whilst our numbers are greatly diminished.

The Lumbermen and the settlers are constantly encroaching on our borders, whilst white Trappers in considerable numbers infest our Hunting grounds in the interior, killing off the Deer, Beaver and the Muskrat, which are the principal source of our subsistence, and we look forward with fear and apprehension to the few years only which must elapse until the animals of which we speak and which furnish our principal food will be exterminated.

We have no desire to interfere with the Lumberman, whose legitimate object is the manufacture of Timber, nor with the settler whose object is the cultivation of the soil, but what we consider a real grievance is the custom pursued by white Trappers who infest our hunting grounds for the sole purpose of trapping. The Indian, whose hunting ground is secured to him according to ancient usages amongst his own people under the regulation of his chief, pays every attention to the increase of (particularly the Muskrat and the Beaver) which are purely local, whilst the white Trappers invariably exterminate them.

By the Provincial Statute 23rd Victoria Chapter 55 Your Petitioners are liable to heavy fines and penalties for killing certain animals at certain seasons of the year (no matter what our necessities may be).

Your Petitioners therefore pray that our case may be taken into consideration and that an Act may be passed during the present Session of the Legislature so amending the Game Act of Upper Canada refer'd to above, as to permit Indians to kill at any season of the year such wild animals as they may require for their own immediate use, without being liable to punishment for so doing, and to prohibit others than Indians from trapping Beaver or Muskrats at any season of the year, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will every pray.

Bouchies March 1862.

Michen Pesindawatch [Michel Pesindawatch]  
Nias Makwa [Mackwa]  
Amab Akwaiach  
[names of 21 others]

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Charles, Viscount  
Monk &c. Governor-General &c. &c. &c. —  
In Council —

We the Chiefs and band of Indians  
known as the Tribe of the Algonquins of the Lake of Two Mountains, beg  
leave most respectfully to represent;

That the Ancestors of your Petitioners, in conjunc-  
tion with the Nipisings, possessed the valley of the Ottawa, and con-  
sidered it as their hunting ground from time immemorial. — At the  
time of which we speak, our Ancestors were very numerous, and our  
white brethren in the Ottawa valley were very few. — The tables are now  
changed. Our white brethren have become a great people, while our  
numbers are greatly diminished. —

The lumbermen and the settlers are constantly encroaching  
on our borders, whilst white Trappers in considerable numbers infest  
our hunting grounds in the interior, killing off the Deer, Beaver and  
the Muskrat, which are the principal source of our subsistence,  
and we look forward with fear and apprehension to the few years only  
which must elapse until the animals of which we speak, and  
which furnish our principal food will be exterminated. —

We have no desire to interfere with the Lumberman, whose legiti-  
mate object is the manufacture of timber, nor with the settler whose  
object is the cultivation of the soil, but what we consider a real griev-  
ance is the custom pursued by white Trappers who infest our hunting  
grounds for the sole purpose of trapping. — The Indian, whose hunting  
ground is secured to him according to ancient usages amongst his own  
people under the regulation of his chief, pays every attention to the increase  
of (particularly the Muskrat and the Beaver) which are purely local,  
whilst the white Trappers invariably exterminate them.

By the Provincial Statute 23<sup>rd</sup> Victoria Chapter 55. Your Petitioners  
are liable to heavy fines and penalties for killing certain animals at  
certain seasons of the year (no matter what our necessities may be). —

Your Petitioners therefore pray that our case may be  
taken into consideration, and that an Act may be passed during  
the present Session of the Legislature so amending the Game Act

with reference to the  
Statute 23<sup>rd</sup> Victoria Chapter 55

of upper Canada, under & above, as a game enacts to see at  
any season of the <sup>year</sup> such wild animals as they may require for  
their own immediate use, without being liable to punishment for  
so doing; and to prohibit others than Indians from trapping Beavers  
or Muskrats at any season of the year, and your Petitioners as  
in duty bound will ever pray.      Bouchee March 1862.

Principal Chiefs.

Chief

Nichen pesindawatch <sup>Chief</sup> <sup>x</sup> <sup>mark</sup>

Kias makwa is mark <sup>Chief</sup>

amab akwaiach <sup>Chief</sup>

pid & wa pomu

Chan Batist Nanond

Joseph Janaty.

miellen me twe s: Noching

Joseph pesindawatch <sup>is mark</sup>

Chan Batist + pesindawatch

u omu to gu <sup>of 2</sup>

baia pinatik pon

Nowis pesowdawotch

Ben we Kononi

banadawe Kononi

Amable Maclamin <sup>mark</sup>

~~Joseph~~ ~~pesindawatch~~

Chanbatist chawanipikessi <sup>et</sup>

Matthias Stogssa

Joseph Nanond

Matthias Katakach

A Nanond

Beien mandes

Basin metwachgan

Nona Metwachgan

1952/1/2

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Michin Pisinawatch  
 Chick and twenty three  
 other Indians bringing  
 for an act to protect  
 them against white  
 trappers on these  
 different hunting grounds  
 also to repeal a clause  
 of the game act to permit  
 them to kill deer or  
 other game at all  
 seasons of the year  
 for their amivito use

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1862

Am. Wh. Soc.  
Appt. Sec. in

Take Two Minutes  
Against White Supremacy

We are not to protect them  
against White Supremacy

October 1862.

To No 6.

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SECRETARY'S OFFICE, C. W., 1862

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Chick of Mrs. Brewster  
In. and do }  
to Gray }

In an Act to protect  
them against White  
Knights. It is a form  
of the same Act

Act of 1917 to same  
transferred to Ind. and  
Branch, from 1 and  
Department.

By Committee  
J. H. M. M. M.  
1917

1917