



May 15, 2024

Tim Gray, Executive Director

tgray@enviromentaldefence.ca

Environmental Defence

33 Cecil St
1st Floor
Toronto, ON
M5T 1N1

Dear **Tim Gray:**

The Mississaugas of the Credit have long revered water for the life-giving benefits it provides to the treaty lands and territory of the First Nation. A living being, each water body exudes its own personality as it seeks to fulfill its responsibilities to the rest of Creation. Just as water has nurtured the well-being of Creation, so must humans seek to reciprocate their relationship to the water and promote its use with an ethos of respect and thanksgiving. Unhappily, the Cobechenonk (Humber River) has been used with callous indifference to its welfare and has been neither nurtured nor respected for the benefits it brings to the people of Toronto.

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, in collaboration with Humber River Calling is seeking to restore the health of the Cobechenonk by gaining its recognition as a person under the law. Such recognition is not without precedent as in 2021, the Magpie River in Quebec, was granted such status with its right to exist and flow; its right to perform its essential functions within its ecosystems, and most importantly, its right to be protected and restored was recognized. It is hoped that similar recognition of the Cobechenonk as a legal person will ultimately result in the restoration of the river and its continual protection in such a way that it is used wisely and respectfully by the people with whom we share our treaty lands and territory.

As Ogiima Kwe of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, I invite your support as we embark on this journey. Please contact Councillor Erma Ferrell (ErmaF@mncfn.ca) of the



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
2789 Mississauga Road, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-1133
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Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation to confirm your support, or to request additional information.

Miigwech



Ogiima Kwe Claire Sault

cc: Central File

Humber River Calling
Councillor Fawn Sault
Councillor Erma Ferrell
Mayor Olivia Chow
Hon. Andrea Kanjin
Hon. MP. Steven Guilbeault
Hon. Arif Virani
MPP. Sol Mamakwa
CEO John MacKenzie
President Yenny Vega Cárdenas
Helen Mills
Tim Gray
The Globe and Mail
APTN National News
The Toronto Star
Canadian Geographic
National Geographic
Conservation through Reconciliation
The Narwhal
The Bioneers
CBC The Current
CBC Interactive
106.5 ELMNT FM The Spirit of Toronto



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