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September 18, 2014

LARP Review Panel  
C/O Land-Use Secretariat  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Centre West Building  
10035 – 108 Street NW  
Edmonton, AB T5J 3E1

Via E-Mail: [LUF@gov.ab.ca](mailto:LUF@gov.ab.ca)

Dear Sir / Madam:

**RE: Review of the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan (“LARP”)  
Panel Information Request No. 1**

We write in response to Panel Information Request No. 3. Onion Lake does not have a water tight definition of Traditional Use any more than any nation could adequately describe all of the activities, features or sentiments which make their culture unique. However, for the purposes of this Information Request,

“Traditional Land Use” or “TLU” means the current and historical use by OLCN members of areas within the Traditional Territory and on their Reserves for purposes such as gathering berries, food plants and medicinal plants, gathering plants for construction of implements, tools or crafts, hunting, trapping and fishing and other resource harvesting activities, and including the identification and use by OLFN members of sites within the Traditional Territory as being of historical, cultural, sacred, or spiritual importance to OLFN;

Members of Onion Lake Cree Nation have been guaranteed the right to hunt, trap, fish, and gather for food, social and ceremonial purposes. We also have the right to conduct our spiritual practices unencumbered, which practices are tied closely to our land. Our inherent rights have been set out in Treaty No. 6, the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and recognized internationally by the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. They have also been affirmed by various decisions of the Supreme Court of Canada. Inherent in these rights is the incidental rights essential to the meaningful exercise of our Treaty Rights<sup>1</sup> such as the right to access to land with sufficient quality and quantity of resources to support the exercise of our Treaty Rights<sup>2</sup>, access to lands within which to instruct younger generations.

<sup>1</sup> See *r. v. Sundown* [1999] 1 S.C.R. ; *Simon v. The Queen* [1985] 2 S.C.R. 387; *r. v. Cote* [1996] 3 S.C.R. 139; *R. v. Marshall* [1999] 3 S.C.R. 456

<sup>2</sup> By analogy, see *Tsilhqot'in Nation v. British Columbia* [2007] BCSC 1700, paras. 1286-1301

Enclosed is a map of Onion Lake Cree Nation's Traditional Use Area.

Yours truly,

**Chief Wallace G. Fox**

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