

ABEGWEIT FIRST NATION MEMBERSHIP DECLARATION

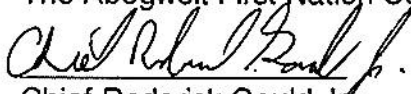
- A. **WHEREAS** the purpose of this declaration is to clarify the intent of recent amendments to *A Code Respecting Membership for the Abegweit Band of Indians* to aid in the interpretation and implementation of the amendments;
- B. **WHEREAS** upon completing a consultation process with the community of Abegweit First Nation, it was the desire and intent of the Abegweit First Nation to grant membership to all status Indians registered to Abegweit Band;
- C. **WHEREAS** determination of eligibility for band membership was no longer to be made by distinctions caused in how an individual was registered under the status provisions of the *Indian Act*;
- D. **WHEREAS** the amendments were intended to create a membership birthright for the children of band members that are status Indians registered to Abegweit First Nation; and
- E. **WHEREAS** the amendments are not to be interpreted to deny children of newly added band members their birthright to Band membership.

ABEGWEIT FIRST NATION HEREBY DECLARES:


- 1. All band members who were added to the Band membership list as a result of amendments to *A Code Respecting Membership for the Abegweit Band of Indians* passed on September 20, 2017, are deemed to have been added to the Abegweit Band membership list as of September 20, 2017.
- 2. *A Code Respecting Membership for the Abegweit Band of Indians* shall not be interpreted to deny band membership to individuals who belong to a class that would otherwise be entitled to a birthright of band membership.

WHEREAS on this date of OCT 29, 2019, at the Scotchfort Reserve on Abegweit First Nation having agreed to the principles and spirit of this document, we sign on behalf of Abegweit First Nation.

The Abegweit First Nation Council:


Chief Roderick Gould Jr.


Councillor Sheri Bernard


Councillor Jacob Jadis


Councillor Chris Jadis