



Onion Lake
Cree Nation
TREATY NO.6 TERRITORY

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NEWS RELEASE

Onion Lake Cree Nation Attends Throne Speech to Uphold Treaty Relationship as 150th Anniversary of Treaty No. 6 approaches

May 27, 2025 (Unceded Algonquin Territory | Ontario) — Onion Lake Cree Nation Okimaw (Chief) Henry Lewis is in Ottawa today attending the federal government's Speech from the Throne — a constitutional event opening the new session of Parliament. Onion Lake's presence as King Charles III delivers the Throne Speech in person asserts the Nation's ongoing commitment to upholding the Treaty relationship entered into between First Nations and the Crown — an agreement that remains both legally and spiritually binding to this day.

Next year marks the 150th anniversary of Treaty No. 6, which was entered into in 1876 at Fort Pitt in what is now known as Saskatchewan. For Onion Lake Cree Nation, this milestone is not only symbolic: it is a call to our Treaty partners to live up to the commitments made on our Lands. Treaty No. 6 is not a Land surrender, it is a sacred agreement to share the Land in peace, friendship and mutual benefit, with clear responsibilities taken on by the Crown to last forever "as long as the sun shines, waters flow and grass grows".

The Throne Speech delivered by His Majesty King Charles III provides an opportunity for the Crown to reflect on its Treaty obligations and responsibilities. For Treaty Nations, it is a time to be present, bear witness and remind the Crown that Treaty relationships are not historical — they are active, enduring and central to the legal foundation of this country.

"Our ancestors stood together at Fort Pitt in trust and dignity — in peace and friendship. As their descendants, both the Crown and First Nations Peoples carry the responsibility to ensure Treaties are upheld — in Ceremony, in spirit, and through real, tangible action," Okimaw Lewis emphasized.

As the 150th anniversary of Treaty No. 6 approaches, Onion Lake Cree Nation calls on the Crown to recommit — not just in words, but in meaningful action — to the Treaty partnership that still defines this Land.

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About Onion Lake Cree Nation:

Onion Lake Cree Nation is a signatory to Treaty No. 6 and straddles the Alberta–Saskatchewan border, making it Canada’s only border Cree Nation. The Nation entered into Treaty at Fort Pitt on September 9, 1876, and is home to approximately 7,300 registered members.