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**For Immediate Release**



Charlottetown, PEI – 13 January 2020

**PEI Mi'kmaq File for Leave to Appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada regarding the Mill River Decision**

The PEI Mi'kmaq Governments are seeking leave from the Supreme Court of Canada to appeal the recent decision of the PEI Court of Appeal regarding the sale of Crown Lands at Mill River. The request was filed with the Supreme Court of Canada on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. It is the position of the Mi'kmaq leadership that Aboriginal rights were not duly considered, and the Provincial government of the day breached its duty to consult with the Mi'kmaq in the sale of these lands.

“The issue of Aboriginal rights is of great significance to the future of the PEI Mi'kmaq,” said Chief Junior Gould of Abegweit First Nation. “It is the responsibility of today’s leadership to ensure that our rights are protected for generations to come.”

“The issue of consultation is vital to the protection of Mi'kmaq interests on Prince Edward Island,” said Chief Darlene Bernard of Lennox Island First Nation. “While our relationship with Premier King and his Government remains strong, the issue of rights transcends today’s governments and it is our responsibility to take this step.”

A decision regarding the granting of leave to appeal is expected by spring.

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