

Fort George 4th August 1826

Council assembled pursuant to adjournment

Present

Captain McKay 70th Regt. Commandant  
Honble William Claus Dy Supt. Gen. Indian Affairs  
Rev. Mr. Hancock Acting Chaplain to the Forces  
Doctor Muirhead  
Alexander Stewart, Esq.  
Daniel McDougall, Esq.  
J.B. Clench Clerk of Indian Affairs  
Benjamin Fairchild Interpreter

Peter a Chief of the Cayugas rose and addressed the Deputy Super't General as follows

Brother

We return thanks to the Great Spirit for permitting us to meet again this day in Council Our hearts are sore. We have heard news that deeply affects us. A report has reached us through the Mohawks that the lands on the Grand River are owned by two nations only. If such is the case we wish to know it before we proceed to business.

The Deputy Superintendent replied: Sir Frederick Haldimand's grant secures the lands on the Grand River to the Five Nations and their posterity forever. Several complaints have been made to me respecting your lands which I have laid before His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor who has been pleased to refer the same to His Majesty's Attorney General. The late Captain Brant in his capacity of Agent parted with some of your land which may be confirmed as it involves a good deal of difficulty. At the same time I wish to be understood as not speaking positively on this head.

The same speaker continued;

Brother We learn from report that the Mohawks, Senecas, and Tuscaroras accuse the Onondagas of an intention to leave this country and settle in the United States. We have looked into this matter and are satisfied that the report is unfounded. The Indians settled at the Grand River are happy and contented under their Great Father's protection. It is true one of the principal chiefs of the Onondagas absented himself from his friends at the Grand River and took with him all the Wampum that belongs to our Council fire which has caused much inconvenience and trouble in our way of doing business. This chief has recently invited us to meet him in Council at Buffalo where he now lives and promises to restore the Wampum. We have deliberated upon his proposition and considered it good policy in agreeing to it thereby hoping to obtain our Wampum.

4 Strings of Wampum