

One injunction dropped, but other motions against Caldwell chief and council continue

By Dan Smoke - Asayenes (NNNC)

TORONTO — A federal court judge has given the Caldwell First Nation band council and the federal government the go-ahead to continue providing information to the Caldwell people on a proposed agreement to settle their \$23.4 million land claim with a reserve of their own.

But Madame Justice Barbara Reid, in her ruling in federal court July 5, continued part of a previous injunction granted on May 31 to a group of dissident Caldwell members preventing the band council from purchasing any more land in the Chatham area until Sept. 15.

The same injunction, until Justice Reid ruled otherwise, had also effectively prevented the Caldwell band members from being informed about — or voting on — the settlement

being offered by the federal government.

The Caldwell FN band signed an agreement in principle with the federal government last November to pave the way for rebuilding the band's "lost" community on the shores of Lake Erie. New funding makes it possible for the Caldwells to purchase additional land to create a community for the band's 231 members, dispersed from their original homelands at Point Pelee and Pelee Island.

Jim Mays, a lawyer for the Caldwell FN, told the Native News Network of Canada (NNNC) how the parties appearing before Justice Reid worked out the trade-offs which resulted in her ruling.

The substance of the legal action

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