

Negotiations resume after seven months apart

By Erin Tully
SIX NATIONS

After seven months apart the negotiating teams for Six Nations and the Canadian federal and provincial governments have returned to the negotiating table. At the January, 28th meeting the Haudenosaunee representatives reiterated their declination of the \$26 million offered for the Welland Canal parcel of land and heard the federal response.

The federal government received formal notice via regular

mail concerning the position of the Haudenosaunee last fall.

In the letter the \$26 million offer was officially rejected for the 2,500 acres of flooded land. The Six Nations' representatives also said that they were still open to discussion on the issue.

After the meeting chief negotiator for Six Nations, Allen MacNaughton, gave a brief synopsis of how he felt the meeting went.

"Canada seems to be sticking to the position, just as we've heard in the past that Canada still thinks

that their \$26 million offer is feasible," said MacNaughton. "Of course you know our position is that we don't think so. We've had economists report on it and we don't see a reasonable relation."

In the formal Canadian response to the declination, it was explained that a mathematical format was not used to arrive at the proposed settlement figure.

"We did not arrive at the offer by way of a numerical format. We relied on Canadian law, which establishes that equitable com-

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