

Letter of Apology-Pic River Community/Chief and Council/Election Officials

I'd like to extend my sincere apologies for my absence from this very important event this evening. Medical appointments couldn't come at a worse time! I so much wanted to be there with the rest of the potential candidates. I offer well wishes and the best of success for fellow competing candidates! I will present my official platform letter on Pic River's website!

Physically I have been living or absence from my home community of Pic River for approximately 2/3 thirds of my life. Life sacrifices led me away from Pic River in terms of employment, a home for my past family, education among other things!

Traumatic events led me to fulfil promises I made to my children. I've always had dreams of becoming a University student. I started the process of fulfilling that promise/educational path in 2007 with 2 years of upgrading before entering regular university program/courses. Education never faded from my memory and coming back to my home community to say 'thank you' for that opportunity.

It is now my turn to return share my dream and present ideas/teachings so community members/elders can better understand 'the language' of political jargon in terms of terminology and phrases often used by government to further confuse, stall, our understanding. A prime example is community constitution! Some members asked the question following an information meeting, "What is a Constitution; the law of the community, or not understanding why such a document was being presented." What is its purpose? What is First Nation Land Management Act? What are its repercussions or what do we stand to lose? Many of these documents still has to go before the Minister and final approval. The Canadian Constitution is still 'the law of the land!' Reservation land still belongs to the Federal government and there is a threat of your little piece/property. Being completely free of the Indian Act is a long time process. Anishinaabe people will always be an imposed people as long as we are under or controlled by federal and provincial legislation. Community meetings have to be taken seriously and not left to a few or small group of community members. I encourage you to become seriously involved! There are BIG changes still too come!

Some of my personal thoughts aren't meant to scare, but to encourage community members to become actively involved for ourselves and future generations.

A more in-depth platform letter will follow soon! Timothy Michano

This will be my first and only draft letter. Time is of the essence and need to get out before tonight candidates presentations