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- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

Long Lake #58 First Nation, ON.

Chief and Council of Long Lake #58 First Nation are pleased to respond to the announcement made this morning by Honourable Bernard Valcourt, P.C., M.P, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development that admits our First Nation into the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management. Along with our Additions-to-Reserve process this is a major step in the development of our First Nation and helps gives us additional tools to manage our own lands and resources.

"This is a very important day in our First Nation and we are happy that Minister Valcourt and his staff and advisors had the foresight to recognize the potential in our First Nation" said Chief Allen Towegishig.

"As a signatory to the Framework Agreement, the Long Lake **#58** First Nation has the option of taking control of its reserve lands and resources, subject to its own laws. A land code will be developed by the First Nation and, if enacted by community vote, becomes the governing law. The comparable Indian Act provisions will no longer apply" said First Nation Manager Henry Waboose.

Long Lake #58 First Nation would also like to acknowledge the contributions of all those involved in this decision including our advisors Aboriginal Business Network and those within the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada who encouraged us to move forward with our application. We look forward to what the next three years will bring and we look forward to participating and learning along with all of the other new entrants to the Lands Management process.

For more information about Long Lake #58 First Nation contact the First Nation Office at 1-800-463-8079 or visit us on the web at <u>www.longlake58fn.ca</u>.