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Francisco Cali  
Board President  
P.O. Box 3727  
Grand Central Station  
New York, New York 10163

August 5, 2005

Dear Francisco Cali;

This letter is in regards to our administration transition process. Currently we are still under the Canadian Indian Act. We have established a convention based on our cultural identity, under tribal, custom and usage. We have already went through first reading and by October of this year we will put the convention to a vote by the citizens of Onion Lake Band. Onion Lake is located 30 miles north of Lloydminster and is located within the boundaries of Treaty #6. We are confident it should pass, however after it is passed there will be a 40 day wait where it will sit at the office of the Minister of Indian Affairs to either approve or disapprove and the discretion rests with the Minister. If our Convention is not approved, this is when we are going to ask the International Indian Treaty Council to help us and politically support us to have it passed and recognized.

What we are also attempting to do is to go into band custom, under section 74 (b) of the Indian Act and this is the clause we are going to use to go through the process and this is the only way we can do it. Where it requires a simple Band Council Resolution (BCR) and this will be mailed out to the Minister at his office in Ottawa, Ontario.

I realize this may seem premature but I always want to make ready for the worst and then again it may pass with no problem but we don't know that for sure and what I can propose at this time is I will keep you updated of this process we are currently involved with in the hopes of the Convention passing.

I want to take this opportunity at this time to thank you in advance.

Yours truly,

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Chief Henry Lewis  
Onion Lake First Nation

**31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary International Indian Treaty Council Conference**  
**hosted by the Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations,**  
**at Ermineskin Cree Nation, Alberta Canada**

**August 3 – 7, 2005**

**Resolution in Support of Onion Lake First Nation**

**The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the International Indian Treaty Council, held August 3<sup>rd</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> 2005 at Ermineskin First Nation, attended by Indigenous Peoples from North, Central and South America and the Pacific, endorses by consensus the above letter from Onion Lake First Nation as presented to the Conference by Chief Henry Lewis. The IITC further affirms its commitment to support future requests from Onion Lake First Nation in defense of its Treaty Rights, Traditional Culture, Subsistence Rights, Land and Territory Rights and Self-Determination.**

*Adopted by Consensus August 7, 2005*