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## LETTER OF AGREEMENT

**AND:** University of Winnipeg  
(Department of History)

## The Whitefeather Forest Research Cooperative

The Whitefeather Forest Research Cooperative (WFRC) is an initiative of Pikangikum First Nation. The goal is to bring together a partnership of supports and participants in the development of the Whitefeather Forest Initiative in the form of a knowledge network where Pikangikum people are in the driver's seat regarding the research programme.

The WFRC will promote the goal of the people of the Pikangikum First Nation, especially the Elders of the community, to carry out partnership research in support of the vision, goals, aims and objectives of the Whitefeather Forest Initiative. Partners that have been invited to join the WFRC include the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Sault College, the University of Manitoba, Lakehead University and the University of Winnipeg. Other university, government, industry and non-governmental institutions will be invited as the research programme grows.

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## PREAMBLE

The people of Pikangikum First Nation are the keepers of a land-based indigenous way of life that has been passed on to them from their ancestors. Their culture is a vital part of the cultural diversity of humanity. Through their indigenous way of life the people of Pikangikum First Nation have always cherished the diversity of all living and non-living things on their land.

Pikangikum First Nation people have developed the Whitefeather Forest Initiative to provide livelihood opportunities for their youth in keeping with their indigenous cultural teachings, values and customs. The initiative is being guided by the Elders of Pikangikum. It is the goal of Pikangikum First Nation for the Whitefeather Forest Initiative to develop land-based tribal enterprises rooted in Community-Based Resource Management and Supported by mutually beneficial and consensus-based partnerships with the larger environmental, business, academic and research communities.

The Whitefeather Forest Initiative incorporates a number of key objectives that have been established by Pikangikum First Nation:

1. Acquire from Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) and manage commercial forestry tenure (e.g. a Sustainable Forest License (SFL)) for a portion of their traditional lands within the Whitefeather Forest Planning Area (WFPa);
2. Develop and manage protected areas within the WFPa in co-operation with, the OMNR, and Ontario's partnership for Public Lands (PPL);
3. Promote and develop a community capacity to











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8. Research projects and educational and other activities in support of the development of the Whitefeather Forest Indigenous Knowledge Teaching Centre. In particular, these will support the vision of Pikangikum Elders to develop the Centre as world-class initiative, which will include First Nation led partnership research, an experiential teaching program and a Visitor/Interpretative capacity related to creating greater understanding about and interpreting the indigenous cultural and natural heritage of the Traditional Territories of Pikangikum First Nation people associate with the Whitefeather Forest Initiative. This will include exploring the linkage between cultural and natural heritage on the land and indigenous ecological perspectives of Pikangikum people. A priority of the center will be to offer learning and training opportunities to Pikangikum people and outside students and researchers. This will include the investigation of economic opportunities and the development of interpretive materials, programs and businesses.





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8. Funded research projects under the WFRC shall be presented to the community in clear language through an oral presentation to the community. Concerns regarding the private and public nature of research results shall be discussed in this presentation, in order that they may be addressed before the project completion;
9. Research protocols shall include a consideration of individual consent to participate in research projects, confidentiality of data provided by individuals, masking of individuals for information released publicly, archiving of data and access to archived data;
10. Research Results will be presented in clear language to the Pikangikum Community, the Advisory Committee and Project Partners at community workshops and at meetings of the Advisory Committee;
11. Issues and problems that arise during the Research Project will be dealt with at meetings convened with the Advisory Committee and Steering Group;
12. Written reports, theses, dissertations, publications and any other material for the public release that is based on the activities undertaken for a research project will be submitted to the Advisory Committee for review. In the case of data, results, and conclusions of the western science component of the project strong obligations to the research findings, data, or interpretation will be noted and published. The review process will be undertaken within two months of the document being submitted to the Advisory Committee;
13. Public domain information will be freely available to partners of the WFRC and Community members of Pikangikum;
14. Copies of all documentation to be in the public domain collected during a research project will

<p>13 ከዋላ በቀረበው ዓመት ለካምፕ ለዕለት አርባ-ርባብ የሚሰጥበት የልማትና የሥራ ስራ ለሌሎች ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤</p> <p>14 ከዋላ በቀረበው ዓመት የልማትና የሥራ ስራ ለሌሎች ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤</p> <p>15 ከዋላ በቀረበው ዓመት የልማትና የሥራ ስራ ለሌሎች ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤</p> <p>16 ከዋላ በቀረበው ዓመት የልማትና የሥራ ስራ ለሌሎች ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤</p> <p>17 ከዋላ በቀረበው ዓመት የልማትና የሥራ ስራ ለሌሎች ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤</p> <p>18 ከዋላ በቀረበው ዓመት የልማትና የሥራ ስራ ለሌሎች ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤</p> <p>19 ከዋላ በቀረበው ዓመት የልማትና የሥራ ስራ ለሌሎች ሊሰጥ ይችላል፤</p>	<p>be available for use by WFRC partners;</p> <p>15. WFRC partners will create an archive of all research documentation which will include protocols of access to information;</p> <p>16. Research partners may create archives of public domain information with access protocols (procedures) agreed to by the WFRC partners and private information which includes protocols to ensure confidentiality and masking of sensitive information collected during research;</p> <p>17. During their time in Pikangikum First Nation, research students will undertake to help in compiling any curriculum and educational materials based on the research for use by the Pikangikum Education Authority or the Whitefeather Forest Indigenous Knowledge Teaching Centre;</p> <p>18. Research students will make themselves available during the time that they are undertaking research in the community to help with community programmes in which they can offer services;</p> <p>19. Research students will undertake to prepare their research results in clear language presentation that enhance communication with community members through translation during community workshops.</p>
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## ENDORSEMENT

Nothing in this Agreement shall prejudice in any manner or way any of the Treaty and Aboriginal Rights of the citizens of Pikangikum First Nation or the Treaty and Aboriginal Rights of any other First Nation person.

The parties signing this Agreement represent that they are familiar with, and agree to the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement and that they are duly authorized to sign the Agreement and agree and intend to be bound by the Agreement.

In signing this Letter of Agreement, we solemnly seek continued gifts of good guidance and strength from the Creator in our efforts to work together on developing the WFRC in support of the Whitefeather Forest Initiative.