

# **Friendship Agreement between Saugeen First Nation #29 and the Town of Saugeen Shores**

**Wijikiwenydiwaad Miinwa**

**Zgaabiignigan**

**Friends with one another and we are connected.**

## **Strengthening the relationship between Saugeen First Nation #29 and the Town of Saugeen Shores**

The Chief and Council of Saugeen First Nation #29 and the Mayor and Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores recognize that we live together on the shared traditional territories of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation.

### **VISION**

We share a common vision of developing a collaborative working partnership for the benefit of our communities, based on the principles of the 7 Grandfather teachings,

**Love** - *Zaagidwin*, To know love is to know peace.

**Respect** - *Mnaadendmowin*, To honor all creation is to have respect. Live honorably in teachings and in your actions towards all things. Do not waste and be mindful of the balance of all living things. Share and only take what you need, Treat others the way you would like to be treated.

**Bravery** - *Aakdehewin*, To face life with courage is to know bravery. Find your inner strength to face the difficulties of life and defend what you believe in and what is right for your community, family, and self. Make positive choices and have conviction in your decisions.

**Truth**- *Debwewin*, Apply faith and trust in your teachings. Show honor and sincerity in all that you say and do. Understand your place in this life and apply that understanding in the way that you walk. Be true to yourself and all other things.

**Honesty**– *Gwekwaadziwin* To walk through life with integrity is to know honesty. Be honest. Recognize and accept who you are. Accept and use the gifts you have been given. Do not seek to deceive yourself or others.

**Humility** - *Dbaadendizwin*, Live life selflessly and not selfishly. Respect your place and carry your pride with your people and praise the accomplishments of all. Do not become arrogant and self-important. Find balance within yourself and all living things.

**Wisdom** - *Nbwaakaawin*. To cherish knowledge is to know wisdom. Use your inherent gifts wisely and live your life by them. Recognize your differences and those of others in a kind and respectful way. Continuously observe the life of all things around you. Listen with clarity and a sound mind. Respect your own limitations and those of all of your surroundings. Allow yourself to learn and live by your wisdom.

As neighbouring communities, we commit to share this wisdom to build a better future for our children and generations to follow.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Saugeen First Nation and the Town of Saugeen Shores recognize that building stronger government-to-government relationships will help create a level of certainty for their

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respective Communities and ensure an important dialogue that seeks to improve the quality of life for all residents.

1. Strengthen the cooperative and supportive bond between governing bodies to promote the well-being of all community members!
2. Acknowledge our past and histories and work towards reconciliation.
3. Respect each other's customs, traditions and beliefs, shared values, and culture in spirit and practice.

## **PROCESS**

Establish an annual joint council meeting in review of our friendship and partnership and in consultation on issues of joint interest of both communities. The joint council meeting will occur once annually.

Parties will approach the work set out in this friendship agreement in a way that ensures that each Party acquires and maintains a full understanding of the others' public initiatives, governing structures, traditions, area, and responsibilities.

Love, Respect, Bravery, Truth, Honesty, Humility, and Wisdom.

## **KEY AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST**

The Parties agree to collaborate on key interests in economic and social development including the following key interests and any other shared interests identified in the future:

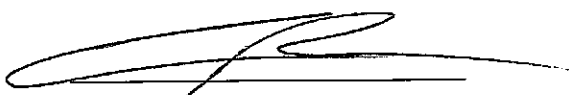
1. Increasing Connection
2. Tourism
3. Building Complete Communities
4. Business Development

This friendship agreement is not a binding legal agreement and does not create any binding obligations on any party.

This friendship agreement reflects an understanding between the Town and the Nation to work cooperatively in the best interests of both of their communities and the region as a whole.

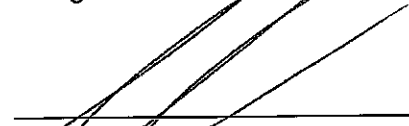
This friendship agreement as a living document intended to evolve as the partner's friendship and partnership evolves.

On this date, Friday January 31, 2025, having agreed to the principles and spirit of this friendship agreement, we sign on behalf of our communities.



Chief Conrad Ritchie (Chi Nimkii)

Saugeen First Nation #29



Mayor Luke Charbonneau

Town of Saugeen Shores