



Grand Council Treaty #3

Office of the Ogichidaa

P.O. BOX 1720
Kenora, Ontario P9N 3X7
Ph: 1-877-880-5638
Fax: 1-807-548-4776

MEDIA RELEASE

January 21, 2026

Grand Council Treaty #3 Advises Treaty #3 Members Travelling to or Residing in the United States

Grand Council Treaty #3 is advising members who live in, travel to, or transit through the United States to take added precautions while crossing and remaining within U.S. borders.

Recent reports indicate that some First Nation citizens have experienced increased scrutiny, questioning, or enforcement actions by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Individuals are reminded of the importance of carrying valid identification, including a Status Card and or a Canadian passport, as proper documentation may help reduce the risk of unnecessary delays or detention.

The Treaty #3 Anishinaabe Nation holds inherent and treaty-protected rights supporting cross-border mobility, rooted in longstanding treaty relationships that pre-date the international border. Grand Council Treaty #3 continues to affirm that these rights must be respected.

Before travelling to or through the United States, individuals are encouraged to ensure their identification is valid and up to date. Those requiring a new, renewed, or replacement Status Card are advised to contact their **home First Nation membership office or their regional tribal council in advance** for guidance and application support. These offices may assist with applications and liaise with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) where appropriate. Individuals may also contact ISC directly regarding Status Card applications, renewals, replacements, or urgent processing related to travel or safety concerns.

Regional tribal councils within Treaty #3 include **Bimose Tribal Council** (Kenora), **Anishinaabeg of Kabapikotawangag Resource Council** (Sioux Narrows), and **Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services** (Fort Frances).

Treaty #3 citizens requiring assistance with Status Card applications, renewals, replacements, or urgent processing related to travel may contact Indigenous Services Canada's Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) Program at 1-800-567-9604 or visit www.canada.ca/indigenous-services-canada. Regional ISC offices may also assist with prioritizing urgent cases related to cross-border travel, employment, or safety concerns.

In extreme circumstances, Canadian citizens may contact the Canadian Consulate for assistance while in the United States. Although consular officials cannot intervene in legal matters, they can offer guidance, help connect individuals with resources, and support communication with family or Canadian authorities.

Grand Council Treaty #3 remains committed to supporting the safety, dignity, and treaty rights of its citizens, and will continue to monitor developments, engage with federal partners, and share any new or relevant information as it becomes available.

-30-

For more information please contact: Daniel Morriveau, Political Advisor, Grand Council Treaty #3 at 1-877-880-5638 ext. 203 or email Daniel.Morriveau@treaty3.ca