British – Dakota
Pre-Confederation Treaties

© Dr. Leo J. Omani, PhD.
Chief of Wahpeton Dakota Nation
August 11th, 2014
British Pre-Confederation Treaties

British Pre-Confederation Treaties

• For clarity, Isaac (2004) commented this applies to:
  (1) the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850;
  (2) the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850;
  (3) the Manitoulin Island Treaty of 1862;
  (4) the Murray Treaty of September 1760; and
  (5) the Peace, Friendship, and Trade Treaties, as this pertains to military alliance between the British Crown and the Aboriginal First Nations (p. 72).
British Pre-Confederation Treaties

• Further, with respect to the Peace, Friendship and Trade Treaties, it was noted by Isaac (2004), “these treaties did not involve the cession of land and did not expressly extinguish Aboriginal title” (pp. 72-73), as a result “Aboriginal rights and Aboriginal title may co-exist with treaty rights” (p. 72), for which the term “treaty-protected aboriginal rights” has been applied pertaining to this perspective (p. 72).
British Pre-Confederation Treaties

British - Dakota
Pre-Confederation Treaties

• In total, there are seven (7) Peace, Friendship & Trade Pre-Confederation Treaties agreed to between the Dakota Nation and the British Crown in right of Great Britain, cited as follows:
1st British - Dakota Pre-Confederation Treaty

2nd British - Dakota
Pre-Confederation Treaty

3rd British - Dakota Pre-Confederation Treaty

4th British - Dakota Pre-Confederation Treaty

• June 18th, 1812 – Declaration of War between the British Crown and the U.S.A., Great Britain and Dakota Chiefs reiterate Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Mutual Cooperation. Location of Source: British Museum, Pro-Public Record Office, London, England; original manuscripts: (1) Lord Bathurst to Sir George Prevost, PRO-CO-42-147; (2) Prevost to Liverpool, PRO-CO-42-146; (3) Dickson Papers, Dakota participated in recapturing of Michilimackinack, Amherstburg, Detroit, St. Louis, etc … on behalf of Great Britain.
5th British - Dakota Pre-Confederation Treaty

• January 8th, 1813 – Quebec – Distribution of large Wampum belt, as well as flags to the principal Chiefs of each Nation which included the Dakota Nation for the purpose of descending from him [King George III] to his successor forever in Testimony of the Alliance and Friendship subsisting between their respective Nations and the King of Great Britain.

6th British - Dakota Pre-Confederation Treaty

7th British - Dakota Pre-Confederation Treaty

- July 8th, 1817 – Selkirk Treaty between Lord Selkirk and three Dakota Chiefs ("Le Sonnant", "Le Premier" and "L’ Homme Noire") with two Chiefs from Sault St. Marie present, “Peguis” and “La Robe Noire”. Location of Source: Hudson’s Bay Company Archives, originally signed where the city of Winnipeg is now located, within the province of Manitoba, Canada, original manuscripts noted as, PAM-HBCA-E.8/1, fo. 11; Ross, A., Red River Settlement; 10-11.
Explanation of Wahpeton Dakota Nation, War of 1812
King George III British Pre-Confederation Treaty Medal

- Pictured on the next slide: War of 1812 King George III British Pre-Confederation Treaty Medal that pertains to the Wahpeton Dakota Nation, located near the city of Prince Albert, in northern Saskatchewan, Canada. This was given to Chief Flying Thunder, in the War of 1812 between the U.S.A. and the British Crown (Pritchard to MacDowall 01/27/1890 PAC RG10 3602 65933; as cited in Elias, 1988, p. 204; p. 243).
Wahpeton Dakota Nation, War of 1812 King George III
British Pre-Confederation Treaty Medal
Wahpeton Dakota Nation
Ancestral Indigenous Aboriginal Territory

- Dwayne J. Stonechild (2003), *Dakota Sioux Treaty Adhesion Claim Submission*, drawing from Morrison (2001, pp. 35-39; p. 53), as this pertains to the Wahpeton Dakota Nation commented that the “ancestors of the Wahpeton people, were recorded as early the 1730s by French explorers and traders” (p. 62), in “historic sightings in and around the areas of the Lake of the Woods, Pembina River, Assiniboine River, Souris and the Red River, including ... as far North as Stanley Mission and the Churchill River” for which this river overlaps the northern region of the provinces that have come to be known as Saskatchewan and Manitoba (p. 64).
Wahpeton Dakota Nation - Adhesion to Treaty Six and/or a New Modern Treaty

• While other Dakota First Nation within Canada have either filed in court, or have opted to join the Dakota Reconciliation Table as set up by the Canadian Federal Government in 2012, as well as pursued that of Self Government legislation.

• Taken into consideration the Ancestral Indigenous Aboriginal Territory of Wahpeton Dakota Nation, which also has the only War of 1812 King George III British Pre-Confederation Treaty Medal within Canada, the Wahpeton Dakota Nation is currently pursuing an Adhesion to Treaty Six and/or a New Modern Treaty Agreement through the Office of the Treaty Commissioner within Saskatchewan.