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# NEWS RELEASE

**Thursday September 15, 2016** **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## NAN STATEMENT ON NAPS LABOUR AGREEMENT

**THUNDER BAY, ON:** Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler has issued the following statement after an eleventh-hour labour agreement has been reached between negotiators for the Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service (NAPS) Board and officers represented by the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC):

> "We are grateful to learn that a tentative agreement has been reached between the negotiators for both parties that will avert a labour action. We congratulate both bargaining teams and everyone involved in this lengthy and trying process. This will come as a relief to the leaders of NAN First Nations policed by NAPS who have been justifiably fearful of the consequences of a labour action, the safety of their members and the administration of justice in their communities. First Nations served by NAPS deserve the same levels of policing as any community across the country, and we will continue to negotiate for a new Tripartite Policing Agreement with the federal and provincial governments that meets the needs of our officers and ensures the safety of our communities."

NAPS officers voted overwhelming in favour of a strike mandate on July 12, 2016. Details of the agreement reached today were not released.

NAPS is the largest First Nations police service in Canada and the second largest First Nations police service in North America, employing more than 130 uniform officers and 30 civilians. Based in Thunder Bay, NAPS polices 35 communities across NAN territory, which encompasses nearly two-thirds of the Province of Ontario.

***For more information about Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service please contact:*** *Mike Metatawabin, Board Chair – (705) 288-7518 or by email mmetatawabin@napsboard.ca*

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