



UNION
OF NOVA
SCOTIA
MI'KMAQ

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OPEN LETTER TO LOCAL MERCHANTS WITHIN UNAMA'KI (CAPE BRETON, NOVA SCOTIA) REGARDING FIRST NATIONS TAX EXEMPTION

Under s.87 of the *Indian Act*, status First Nation members are exempt from sales tax when purchasing goods or services. This has been an ongoing issue, with some merchants honouring status while others do not.


Unama'ki is one of the seven Mi'kmaq districts in Nova Scotia and there are five First Nations located within Unama'ki; Eskasoni, Membertou, Potlotek, Wagmatcook and We'koqma'q. Collectively these communities have a population of over 10,000 and tremendous local buying power.

With the recent travel restrictions due to COVID-19, it is even more important to protect the health of Cape Breton citizens by shopping locally instead of travelling to other areas of the provinces where case numbers are higher.

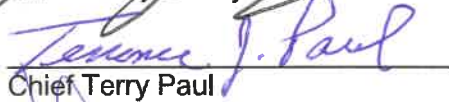
Please respect the law and allow for First Nation buyers to make their purchases exempt from sales tax at point of sale.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter,

In Recognition of Aboriginal & Treaty Rights,




Chief Leroy Denny



Chief Terry Paul



Chief Wilbert Marshall



Chief Annie Bernard-Daisley



Chief Norman Bernard