



**Reply to:** Jared Wheeler  
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**File No.** 10272-01

April 17, 2020

**Aboriginal Peoples Television  
Network Incorporated**  
393 Portage Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 2C3

**Attention: Monika Ille, CEO  
Kathleen Martens**

Dear Ms. Ille and Ms. Martens:

**Re: Cease and Desist - Defamatory Publications Against Chief Harold Turner**

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P. Michael Jerch Law Corporation (“Jerch Law”) has been retained by Chief Harold Turner (“our Client”) of Misipawistik Cree Nation, to provide legal representation to address false information authored by Kathleen Martens and published by Aboriginal Peoples Television Network Incorporated (“APTN”) which has defamed our Client and harmed his reputation.

Our Client is considering his options with respect to pursuing legal action against APTN and Ms. Martens.

For now, APTN and Ms. Martens must immediately cease and desist from publishing any further defamatory comments about Chief Turner. Failing to comply with this demand will result in legal action against APTN and Ms. Martens to obtain court orders to restrain APTN and Ms. Martens from continuing the unlawful and harmful activity. Legal action will include a claim for damages and legal costs.

On both April 14 and April 15, 2020 Ms. Martens authored and APTN published false news stories rife with errors and misinformation about our Client, claiming, among other things, that he:

- “hosted a house party two days after cracking down on social gatherings”;
- “partied while his community was in pandemic lockdown”; and
- “trie(d) to fire councillor who called out his pandemic party”.

This information is patently false and defamatory, and has received many, many comments online from across Canada. The false statements made by Ms. Martens and published by APTN have harmed our Client’s reputation, which is the very definition of defamation.

As you may be aware, there are a number of legal options available to our Client to address the concerns expressed herein.

We have been instructed to and do provide APTN and Ms. Martens notice that our Client demands that APTN and Ms. Martens immediately:

- cease any and all defamatory actions with respect to Chief Turner; and
- publish a retraction and apology for the patently false and defamatory stories authored by Ms. Martens and published by APTN about Chief Turner on April 14 and 15, 2020.

We trust that this matter will be handled professionally going forward, and that APTN and Ms. Martens will govern themselves accordingly.

If you have any questions please contact the writer by email at [jwheeler@jerchlaw.com](mailto:jwheeler@jerchlaw.com).

**JERCH LAW**

Per:

  
**Jared Wheeler**