We, Ovide Mercredi and Stephen Augustine, would jointly like to congratulate the Friends United initiative and its founder Rolf Bouman for their contribution to First Nations culture, art and history.

The Friends United initiative promotes the seven sacred teachings love, humility, honesty, wisdom, courage, truth and respect and does so through the paintings of First Nations artists and their messages. We met many of the Friends United initiative artists and they have become true ambassadors for the First Nations of Turtle Island (North America). Their paintings show also peace, equality, friendship, hope, mutual understanding, tolerance and family values

We wish the Friends United initiative and its members the very best for their future and continued success. This is truly a unique initiative and we would encourage everybody who also cares about our future and future generations to see for themselves what the Friends United initiative entails.

Ovide Mercredi
Former National Chief

Stephen Augustine
Mi'kmaq Hereditary Chief