

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

EXH	MOTION <i>Maimard</i>
	SECOND <i>Richner</i>
	ACTION APPROVED BY THE REGENTS
NOTE:	MAR 17 2005
<u>ACTION REQUEST</u>	

Subject: Archaeological Materials and Burial Remains from Old Birch
(Wardrop) Island, Canada

Action Requested: Authorization to Deaccession the Materials and Remains from
the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology to the
Whitefish River First Nation

Background:

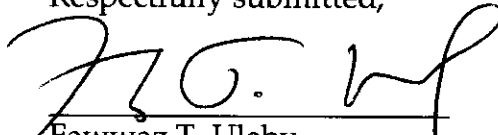
In 1938, Dr. Emerson Greenman, Curator of Great Lakes Archaeology at the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology, accompanied by UM Students and members of the Whitefish River Community, discovered and excavated an historic era cemetery on Old Birch (Wardrop) Island, Canada.

In 1997, in response to a request from the Whitefish River First Nation that the materials and remains be deaccessioned to them, President Bollinger established a framework of issues to guide continuing discussions. The issues were both substantive, relating to uncertain cultural affiliation and the University's ethical responsibility to preserve archaeological evidence for future research, and procedural, relating to potential claims and jurisdictions of the Canadian Federal and Provincial governments.

The Museum of Anthropology and the Whitefish River First Nation have now come to mutual agreement and have substantially addressed all issues articulated by President Bollinger.

We recommend that the Regents authorize the Museum of Anthropology to deaccession to the Whitefish River First Nation archaeological materials and burial remains from Old Birch (Wardrop) Island, Canada.

Respectfully submitted,


Fawwaz T. Ulaby
Vice President for Research

March 2005