

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

Tetewaie:na - Honoring the past, facing today's challenges, building a strong future.



Seskeha/August 1, 2017

Watkwanonhwera:ton/Greetings,

I hope everyone is well this first day of August. The last monthly General Meeting was held on July 20, 2017 at the Anowara:kowa Arena on Kawehno:ke and I shared my monthly report with the community at that time; now I'm sharing it with you for your information as well.

The General Meeting agenda included a presentation on the Kawehno:ke corridor improvements being proposed by the Federal Bridge Corporation Limited (FBCL) and a separate presentation from the Entawatatha:wi program to provide an update on their activities. In addition, the Director of Tehotiennawakon updated the community on the ongoing development of the Mohawk Council's tobacco regulatory framework and provided a presentation on a proposed tobacco pilot project with the Province of Ontario. The presentations are available for viewing at: <https://youtu.be/RUGRsNOpje8>. I provided the last presentation of the evening, which was about the proposal from the Chiefs of Ontario for First Nations situated within Ontario to collectively purchase shares in Hydro One.

I encourage you to watch the General Meeting on YouTube. After viewing, please do not hesitate to ask your District Chiefs or myself for further information or for any needed clarification. These presentations outline the proposals that Council will be considering for acceptance in the near future. I also encourage you to provide your feedback on the General Meetings being recorded and provided to you. As we move forward, I will continue to push for new and innovative ways to ensure that you are kept up to date on current issues. Your feedback will surely help us as we make further improvements.

Finally, as we head into the down swing of summer, I am reminding employees of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne that the MCA offers the option for you to provide routine payroll deductions to a number of Akwesasne groups that serve the community. Last year the MCA offered a \$200 incentive to employees to donate to these groups, which include: the Akwesasne Holiday Helpers; the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club; the St. Regis Catholic Church; Akwesasne Minor Sports; and the AMBE hot lunch program. These nonprofit organizations help our community throughout the year. Any payroll deduction that MCA employees can offer, whether one time or monthly, will definitely be appreciated.

Again, here is the link to the July 2017 MCA General Meeting: <https://youtu.be/RUGRsNOpje8>

I hope that all of you have a great month of August ahead, and as always, I look forward to your feedback.

Sken:nen

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Abram Benedict'.

Grand Chief Abram Benedict

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Grand Chief Monthly Activity Report Ohiari:ha/June 2017

JUNE 2, 2017 ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE 2017 CONVOCATION

On the afternoon of June 2, 2017 I was invited to attend the St. Lawrence College 2017 Convocation. The college had three convocation ceremonies that day, but the 1:30 ceremony included graduates from our lohahi:io pre-health science class.



Although this was the only lohahi:io campus program that graduated with St. Lawrence College, a number of Akwesasronon graduated from the St. Lawrence College Cornwall Campus. This year Peter Garrow, a member of Akwesasne, was an honorary degree recipient for his work and dedication to education. It is always an honour to participate in graduation ceremonies. Congratulations to all 2017 Graduates.

JUNE 5, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

- The new Director of Health Keith Leclaire was introduced to Council and welcomed to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.
- The Program Manager for Wholistic Health and Wellness provided Council with an overview and update on the upcoming Indigenous Rights Conference being hosted by Wholistic Health, which is set for June 20-22, 2017.
- The Communications Manager provided Council with an update on initiatives the Communications Unit has been working on and outlined their work plan for the next several months; a representative from Information Technology (IT) provided Council with an update on the re-development of the MCA webpage.

- Council agreed that a letter of appreciation will go to MP Mark Miller for his commitment to Truth and Reconciliation and his commitment to language revitalization.
- MCRs passed: Approval of construction contract award for Whoville project; Approval of application to Indigenous Community Capital Grant Program for upgrades to the Peace Tree Mall; Approval of application to Indigenous Community Capital Grant Program for replacement of the Ahwesasne Mohawk School HVAC system; Affirmation of vote for the acceptance of the Draft Akwesasne Election Law.

JUNE 5, 2017 LEADERSHIP MEETING

On June 5, 2017 members of our Council met with members of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council (SRMT) and representatives of the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs (MNCC) as part of our regular leadership meeting to discuss common concerns. The SRMT briefed the leadership on its recently accepted Exclusion Policy for the removal of non-members from the community and explained the process to have an undesirable person ordered out of the jurisdictional area of the SRMT. A lengthy discussion was held with the leadership regarding the ongoing concern with non-members in the community. The SRMT requested that when the MCA amends its existing residency law consideration is given to SRMT exclusion orders so that they are recognized on a reciprocity basis in order to better serve the community. SRMT leadership provided an update on the New York State land claim and explained the ongoing challenges with one of the counties involved. I provided an update on the Dundee Claim and the upcoming referendum for the claim and provided an overview of the negotiations to settle the Seaway claim. The SRMT informed the leadership that they are lobbying New York State to change state law to allow for point of sale tax exemption and asked for support from the other Councils.

JUNE 6, 2017 EMBRACE PROJECT

Back in March 2017 I was invited to the Cornwall Community Hospital (CCH) for the official launch of the Embrace Project, an initiative designed to improve the involvement of family caregivers. On June 6, 2017 staff of the MCA health and social departments and I met with representatives from the Cornwall Community Hospital Embrace Project to learn more about the project and how Akwesasne can participate. The CCH representatives explained to us that the project was designed as an implementation project and its key objective was to provide supports to

family caregivers. CCH partnered with the Change Foundation who will be providing the program with \$2 million dollars over the next three years to design and implement the program. A follow up meeting will be held between CCH and the MCA to further discuss how Akwesasne can participate.

JUNE 6, 2017 MEETING WITH TRANSPORT QUEBEC

Over the past few years the MCA has been attempting to bring representatives from Transport Quebec to Akwesasne to discuss Quebec's financial contribution to the maintenance of roads in Tsi Snaihne and Kana:takon. Quebec previously provided Akwesasne with \$95,000 per year but the agreement for those funds expired in 2011. On June 6, 2017 Portfolio Chiefs and the Director of Technical Services met with Transport Quebec representatives here in Akwesasne to discuss a renewed agreement between Quebec and Akwesasne. Prior to the meeting the Quebec representatives were provided with a tour of Tsi Snaihne and Kana:takon aboard one of the AMBE buses. Following the tour the representatives provided Akwesasne with an offer which included a financial contribution to a road project, a lump sum payment for the past two years, and an ongoing amount for the next few years. The proposal was received by Akwesasne and in the meantime Quebec will send a contribution agreement to Akwesasne for consideration. The Akwesasne team will review the proposal and contribution agreement and determine the next steps.

JUNE 6, 2017 AKWESASNE MEMBERSHIP BOARD

Members of our Council have been routinely meeting with the Akwesasne Membership Board (the board) to discuss common concerns and ways to improve the administration of the board's responsibilities. On June 6, 2017, we met with members of the board to update each other on ongoing issues and for Council to inform the board of the concerns Council members have been receiving from the community. One of the major concerns our Council has been receiving from the community is that the wait times for individuals to receive an interview with the board to be considered for membership is quite lengthy. The board explained that they are having additional meetings to deal with the backlog and the board undertook to process applications from youth that were potential college or university students who need membership confirmation. Our Council explained to the board that we would assist with conducting a review of the current law, regulations and the process the board uses in order to ensure the board is

operating efficiently and within its authorities. We will continue to meet with the board regularly to work on areas of common interest.

JUNE 7, 2017 INDIGENOUS CONTROLLED TECHNOLOGY FORUM

On Wednesday June 7, 2017 I traveled to Ottawa to participate in an Indigenous Controlled Technology Forum. The forum was co-sponsored by the Chiefs of Ontario, was held at the Wabano Center, and was attended by several policing agencies as well as various levels of government, including First Nation governments. The primary goal of the forum was for First Nation communities and agencies to be able to hear from other communities who have used data from various sources to either enhance community safety and in some cases protect those at greatest risk. Presenters from SAS provided a presentation on best practices and a Florida case study whereby a database was created using various sources of data to determine families at high risk of child and family services intervention. The afternoon presentations included a presentation on how data can be used to detect woman and children at risk for exposure. Chief Joe Norton from Kahnawake presented on the importance of data control from First Nation communities for the purpose of economic development.

JUNE 8, 2017 ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP (OFNLP)

On June 8, 2017 I attended the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership (OFNLP) Annual General Meeting of the partners in Toronto. This is the company that is owned by the First Nations in Ontario, and receives the 1.7% gross revenue from Ontario Lottery Gaming Corporation (OLGC) which is then distributed to each community based on an established formula. In Akwesasne we commonly refer to these funds as “Casino Rama dollars”. This meeting occurs annually to deal with regular corporate business, receive reports, and provide direction on any issues that may need decision.

OFNLP Audit

The Auditors provided a presentation of the 2016-17 financial statements and the treasurer for the corporation gave an update as well. Some noteworthy information:

- Last year OLGC gross revenue was around \$8.2 Billion
- It's estimated that OFNLP will receive \$138 million this coming year (up 13%)

OFNLP Litigation update

Lawyers provided this update on a litigation file:

- The arbitration against Ontario for withholding \$37 million in capital reserves from the old Casino Rama agreement is ongoing and OFNLP is hoping it will get settled with political intervention.

OFNLP—Update from the OLGCA First Nations Representative to the OLGCA board

Steve Williams is the OFNLP representative to the OLGCA board and he provided an update on the work the board does and explained that he's taking a lot of time to ensure the OLGCA board is aware of First Nation issues as they make consideration and decisions for Ontario gaming.

JUNE 9, 2017 CANADA C-3 SHIP

On the afternoon of June 9, 2017 I participated in the welcoming of the Canada C-3 ship that docked at the Cornwall–Akwasasne Harbor. The crew of the C-3 ship included individuals from across Canada who were aboard the ship for the journey around Canada. The ship began its journey in Toronto and will be continuing its voyage around Canada concluding in British Columbia later in the year. The crew on the ship included a young man from Akwasasne who participated in the ship's voyage trip from Toronto to Montreal. On the afternoon of June 9 a welcoming luncheon was held at the Anowarako:wa Arena, followed by lacrosse demonstrations, and a social. Following the reception at the arena I was provided a tour of the C-3 ship with the ship's organizer and founder.

JUNE 10, 2017 MONTREAL MONT ROYAL NAMING CEREMONY



Recently the Mayor of Montreal Denis Coderre engaged with the local Iroquois communities of Kahnawake, Kanasatake, and Akwasasne to assist in the anniversary celebration of the City of Montreal. Earlier in May I was invited to attend a luncheon acknowledging the historical importance of Mohawk communities to the City of Montreal. On June 10, 2017, I was invited by the Mayor of Montreal to a naming ceremony at the Montreal Mont Royal mountain. As part of the celebration of

Montreal's 375th anniversary, the Mayor was unveiling a Mohawk name for the mountain. The peak of the mountain was given the name Parc Tiohtià:ke Otsira'kéhne, meaning the place of the big fire, which symbolized the historical importance of the mountain as a gathering place for the Mohawk communities prior to European contact. During the naming ceremony, I shared in the celebration by offering congratulatory words to Montreal on its anniversary and also paid tribute to Mayor Coderre for his commitment to strengthening the relations with the Mohawk communities.

JUNE 12, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

- A representative from Enbridge provided Council with an overview and update on going projects in Ontario, and outlined potential renewable energy opportunities for consideration.
- Council set the General Meeting agenda for June 22 in Tsi Snaihne.
- A briefing was provided on the possibility of the former US Embassy building in Ottawa becoming an Indigenous Center.
- A sponsorship request was reviewed and referred to Executive Services for normal processing.
- Council was briefed on a recent meeting with the Akwesasne Homemakers; Chiefs will follow up with Finance and Administration.
- A request for Executive Services to consider updating the MCA resource book was tabled and referred to the Executive Director for consideration.
- Council was briefed on the current status of the Akwesasne Youth Group and agreed to arrange a meeting with the Youth.
- MCRs passed: Approval of amendment to Akwesasne/Canada funding agreement; Approval of a housing upgrade loan to community member; Approval of (4) sets of Council meeting minutes.

JUNE 12, 2017 GOVERNOR GENERAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

On the evening of June 12, 2017 the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) hosted members of the 2017 Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference at the Anowarako:wa Arena. The Governor General's Leadership Council hosts a 14 day conference whereby a selected group of mid-career Canadian men and women, who are expected to advance to senior leadership positions, participate in the conference and attend a number of seminars and community site visits to help provide them with the skills and tools to excel in their careers. The organization reached out to the MCA to assist with providing the participants with a high level

presentation of the functions, responsibilities and realities of a First Nation government. I welcomed the participants and provided them with an overview of the MCA and explained the impacts of the international border on our organization and community. Following my presentation, the participants were provided with a historical overview of Akwesasne including a timeline of the evolution of the community government. The evening was wrapped up with a presentation by the Native North American Travelling College on our traditional songs and dances.

JUNE 15, 2017 NATION BUILDING MEETING REGARDING AKWESASNE MEMBERSHIP BOARD

Following the meeting with the Akwesasne Membership Board on June 6, 2017, the Office of Vital Statistics (OVS) Portfolio Chiefs and I arranged a meeting with the Nation Building Program Manager and staff to discuss how Nation Building can assist Council and the Akwesasne Membership Board with a review of the current Akwesasne Membership Code and Residency Law, regulations, and the process that the board uses. The Akwesasne Membership Board performs a vital function in the governance and stability of our community. As the Nation Building program works toward a final governance agreement with Canada, it's important that the legislative framework the board operates under meets the needs of the community. We reviewed the current challenges with staff and outlined a terms of reference that could be used to solicit a contractor to assist with a review. Following this meeting the staff of Nation Building agreed to draft a terms of reference for Council's consideration. Future follow up meetings will occur with Nation Building and the Akwesasne Membership Board to discuss the review project.

JUNE 15, 2017 CROSS-BORDER PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

Following the Regional Economic Renewal Summit hosted by the Cornwall and the Counties Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) on April 12, 2017, a small working group was established to facilitate positive change and garner a better understanding of the key linkages and barriers between the communities. On June 15, 2017, I attended the first working group meeting at the offices of the CFDC. The meeting was facilitated by the project manager for the Cross-Border Partnership Program of the CFDC. The working group discussed the current impediments created by the location of the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the Seaway International Bridge Corporation (SIBC). The working group agreed that the SIBC toll fee and location was a barrier to the two communities of

Cornwall SD&G and Akwesasne. Although CBSA contributes to the barrier their location was legislative, whereas the toll location was not. The working group discussed the history of the toll and the location necessity and agreed that further research would be conducted on the legislative requirement of the toll and the location. The project manager for the FCDC agreed to further research the toll fee and location and report back the work group at a future meeting.

JUNE 16, 2017 CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY (CBSA)

On May 16, 2017 we initially met with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the CBSA stated that they were willing to begin discussions on the implementation of alternative reporting on Kawehno:ke. As follow-up, on June 6, 2017 we sent a letter to CBSA outlining that the MCA would like for alternative reporting to be available to all registered members of the Mohawks of Akwesasne. Then on June 16, 2017 I met with representatives from CBSA to further the discussion on alternative reporting. The CBSA explained the logistical challenges with making alternative reporting available to all community members right from the start and requested that MCA consider a phased in approach starting with a smaller number of individuals to test the alternative reporting, then continuously increase the number over time. The CBSA further explained that between the MCA and Akwesasne we would have to further explore a machine-readable identification card for the use of alternative reporting. I explained to the CBSA that Akwesasne has recommended to Indigenous Affairs that a status card be developed that is machine readable. Over the next few months the MCA will be providing the community with additional information on the alternative reporting option prior to the MCA responding to CBSA on the pilot.

JUNE 16, 2017 MEETING WITH SERVICE CANADA

On the morning of June 16, 2017 my Executive Assistant and Chief Thompson met with representatives from Service Canada to discuss the ongoing working relationship with Service Canada, as part of the agreement we signed with Service Canada in 2009. Part of the agreement signed with Service Canada and the Minister of Human Resources and Social Development stipulated that a committee, made up of representatives from Service Canada and the MCA, shall meet when the need arises to discuss issues arising from the agreement. The MCA requested a meeting with Service Canada to review the protocol and process used by Service Canada when they are reviewing and assessing files in Akwesasne. Recently our office has received an increase in calls from Akwesasne Elders who

were being assessed for overpayments for Old Age Security (OAS) Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) benefits, but some Akwesasne Elders weren't being forwarded the overpayment provisions of the signed agreement. On June 16, 2017, I welcomed the Service Canada representatives to the territory and outlined our expectations for the meeting. During my opening comments to the representatives, I reminded them of the history of how we arrived at the signed agreement. Following my comments, I departed from the meeting to attend another meeting.

JUNE 16, 2017 L'HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL ART MURAL PROJECT



Following the introduction at the Service Canada meeting I traveled to Cornwall City Hall for an unveiling ceremony of a gift to the City of Cornwall from the senior art class at L'Heritage High School. The unveiling was of a mural painted by L'Heritage students who are both Indigenous and non-Indigenous and the artwork is their collective response to their study of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report and the 94 Calls to Action. Local Akwesasne artist Natasha Smoke Santiago provided assistance to the L'Heritage art class on Akwesasne's history and the importance of art expressions. I shared in the unveiling and offered our appreciation to the L'Heritage students for recognizing the connection between the community of Akwesasne and the City of Cornwall and for doing their part in the spirit of reconciliation.

JUNE 19, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

- Representatives from the Chiefs of Ontario briefed Council on the Chiefs committee's efforts to negotiate the purchase of shares in Hydro One, and outlined the next steps in ratifying the proposed purchase.
- Council agreed the July General Meeting will occur on July 20, 2017.
- An update was provided to Council on the Akwesasne hunters' case.
- Council reviewed a draft letter addressed to area auto dealerships reminding them of tax exemption responsibility and the use of Akwesasne Territory; the letter will be further developed.

- A briefing was provided on a recent Assembly of First Nations Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL) quarterly meeting.
- Council approved a letter to the Cornwall Crown Attorney regarding sentencing.
- MCRs passed: Approval of funding agreement for 1,000 Officers Partnership Program; Approval of funding agreement with Ministry of Education to support Iohahi:io programming; Approval of Sale of a Stanley Island Cabin to community member; Approval of Lease on Francis Island; Approval of funding agreement to support Native Inmate Liaison Officer (NILO); Approval of proposal to INAC for Justice Program; Approval of Service Contract with Hydro Quebec.

JUNE 20, 2017 MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE CHIEFS OF ONTARIO POLITICAL CONFEDERACY



On the morning of June 20, 2017 members of the Chiefs of Ontario Political Confederacy met with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Glen Murray. The province of Ontario committed to an Environment and Climate Change Political Table to advance the many environmental files the province is implementing. The meeting on June 20 began with opening remarks by the Ontario Regional Chief followed by my remarks, as the portfolio holder for Environment at the Chiefs of Ontario. Following the opening remarks, staff for the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) reviewed Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) with the Chiefs, many of the Chiefs expressed to the Minister their frustration with the province and the pace at which the province is rolling out elements of the CCAP. The Minister explained that the province has set aside \$85

million dollars for First Nations to participate in the CCAP but the challenge, as explained by the Chiefs to the province, is that Ontario is moving too quick and proper consultation is not happening. The Chiefs further explained that many of the programs and initiatives the province has in the CCAP don't align with community priorities. MOECC staff provided additional background information on the Green Investment Funding and Cap and Trade. The Minister committed to further dialogue with the communities, to working with the Political Confederacy to ensure communities are comfortable with the engagement, and to working with the leadership to ensure communities are accessing the \$85 million dollars.

JUNE 20, 2017 CHIEFS OF ONTARIO (COO) POLITICAL CONFEDERACY (PC)

Following the meeting with Minister Glen Murray at the Ontario Legislature, the members of the Chiefs of Ontario Political Confederacy met to conduct regular business. The Chiefs debriefed from the meeting with Minister Murray and agreed to send a follow up letter to the Minister outlining the action items from the meeting. The Ontario Regional Chief briefed the PC on the recent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the National Chief for the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the Prime Minister of Canada. The PC expressed serious concern over the lack of consultation and approval of the Chiefs in assembly prior to the National Chief signing the MOU. The PC agreed that a letter would go to the National Chief alerting him that he can expect this item to be raised at the upcoming Assembly of First Nations Annual General Assembly. A briefing was provided on the vacancies on assigned portfolios, the PC agreed to issue another call to Chiefs for interest. The PC discussed a recent letter received from Gowlings WLG, requesting that the Chiefs of Ontario consider becoming an intervener in the 'Mikisew Cree First Nation V Governor General in Council' legal case. The PC directed that additional information be sought on the case and reported back at the next PC meeting in July. The PC received an update on the Ontario Regional Chiefs 7 Point Communications Plan and agreed to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to assist with a review of the Chiefs of Ontario. The next Political Confederacy meeting was set for July 19, 2017 at the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

JUNE 21, 2017 ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES (OACAS)

The board for the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS) met on June 21, 2017 to conduct its regular monthly business. The agenda included a debrief from the recent child welfare leadership meeting on June 4-6, 2017 in

Toronto where the members of the OACAS met to receive information from the OACAS and provide direction on provincial priorities. The board also discussed the new format used at the leadership meeting and discussed areas of improvement. An update and discussion was held on the recent changes to the by-laws for the board and how those changes will be implemented at the board. The board was briefed on the last Auditor General's report followed by a discussion on ensuring agencies are making changes to financial policies to ensure the CAS is compliant. Updates were provided on the Indigenous Services, Shared Services, Intra-Zone, and CEO report. The next regularly scheduled board meeting is set to occur on September 21, 2017.

JUNE 22, 2017 AKWESASNE TSIKARISTISERE / DUNDEE LAND CLAIM NEGOTIATIONS

On June 22, 2017 our Akwesasne Tsikaristisere/Dundee land claim negotiations team met with Canada's negotiations team to continue our ongoing development of the final settlement agreement with Canada. Over the past several months, Akwesasne has been lobbying Canada to reconsider their requirement for Akwesasne to conduct a referendum and achieve a 50% threshold. We have continuously reiterated to Canada that the 50% threshold represents about 4,000 members and that this amount is seemingly unachievable. At the June 22, 2017 Canada reported that the Minister of Indigenous Affairs has agreed that Akwesasne will not have to run a double majority referendum, instead they will be required to meet a 25% threshold. This is very positive news for Akwesasne as a 25% threshold is the amount that was required for the Akwesasne Couples Property Law and Akwesasne was able to achieve this in the past. Updates were provided to Akwesasne on the Additions to Reserve (ATR) provision of the final agreement and a patents issue. Following the meeting, Akwesasne will send proposed final agreement language to Canada for consideration. It is expected that Akwesasne will conduct a referendum on the acceptance or rejection of the Akwesasne Tsikaristisere/Dundee Land Claim offer from Canada by December 2017.

JUNE 22, 2017 MEETING WITH THE AKWESASNE YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

Prior to the General Meeting held in June, a few members of our Council met with two Akwesasne Youth Council Representatives. Over a year and a half ago Council appointed 5 youths to represent Akwesasne as our official youth representatives. Due to scheduling challenges and resourcing the youth representatives have faced challenges in organizing themselves and meeting regularly. In an effort to meet

regularly and assist and support the youth, our Council committed to meeting with the youth every month, and we determined that we would meet with the youth on the same day as the General Meeting every month at the location of the General Meeting. At the June 22, 2017 meeting, the youth explained their challenges in further detail. We reviewed the composition of the youth council and determined that a number of vacancies exist and that a call out for interested youth would occur. It is the intention of the Council to continue to meet with the youth regularly and support them in the development of a full youth council.

JUNE 22, 2017 GENERAL MEETING

On the evening of June 22, 2017 our Council hosted our monthly General Meeting at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center. The agenda for the evening included a introduction of the newly hired Director of Health for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Keith LeClaire, then Nolan Terrance was honored by Council and put in the Ionkwakwe:nion book of honoring. A presentation and update was provided on the Kawehno:ke Bridge Corridor improvement plan and an update and presentation was given on the proposed Tsi Snaihne Administration Building. I provided a presentation on a Wealth Creation opportunity for the community's information and future consideration. After the presentations, we took questions from the community in the business from the floor segment of the agenda. **Here is the link to the June 2017 MCA General Meeting: <https://youtu.be/KXM-a2Wj0OU>**

JUNE 23, 2017 CANADA/AKWESASNE SELF GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS

On the morning of June 23, 2017, I attended the scheduled self-government negotiations with Canada in the district of Tsi Snaihne. I provided opening comments to the negotiations team for Akwesasne and Canada and reminded Canada that Akwesasne has a request to meet with the Minister of Indigenous Affairs as well as the Justice Minister. These two meeting requests were made several months ago and will have implications on the Akwesasne Canada negotiations. Following our opening remarks, we reviewed the record of decisions from the last meeting, held May 3rd and 4th. The negotiations team approved the records. The Akwesasne team provided an update and report from a recent meeting in British Columbia on the review of the Federal Fiscal Funding Policy for First Nations. An overview of the existing head start and education arrangement in Akwesasne was provided by the Director of Education to Canada. Akwesasne has proposed that head start be included in the education section of the self-government agreement with Canada. Canada provided an update on their

investigation on the inclusion of head start, and committed to further investigate this. Akwesasne put forward for consideration to Canada the creation of a special geographical classification for Akwesasne that would recognize the multi-jurisdictional and international challenges of Akwesasne; Canada will further research this and investigate this option. I concluded my attendance at the negotiations with Canada at noon, and handed the lead off to Chief Lazore and Thompson.

JUNE 23, 2017 MEETING WITH PUBLIC SAFETY MINISTER RALPH GOODALE



On June 23, 2017 I traveled to Ottawa for a meeting with the Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale. Recently I have been meeting with Chief Hill of Six Nations and Chief Sayers of Batchewama First Nation as part of an Assembly of First Nations Chiefs Committee on border issues. Several months ago Chief Hill had requested a meeting with the Minister of Public Safety to discuss border crossing challenges First Nation people experience when crossing into

Canada. At the meeting of June 23, 2017, the Chiefs highlighted the real challenge is that the Government of Canada does not recognize the Jay Treaty and the rights that Indigenous People have regarding mobility and free passage. The Minister acknowledged the challenges of the communities and committed to follow up with Minister Bennett on the work the Minister Special Representative is doing as part of the recommendation from the Senate of Canada. While at the meeting I reiterated to the Minister the daily impacts the duty to report has on Akwesasne, but also acknowledged Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) on the recent offer to further examine alternative reporting for Akwesasne. I also explained to the Minister that Akwesasne is supportive of the creation of an independent body to review complaints against CBSA. The Minister informed us that legislation will be coming forward to form the oversight of CBSA. Finally prior to departing I asked if a final determination has been made on the permanent location of the Cornwall Port of Entry, the Minister informed me that a final decision has not been made and the current political climate in the United States plays a factor.

JUNE 26, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

- Representatives from MCA Entewatatha:wi Nation Building program briefed Council on a proposal to Canada to create a special band classification for Akwesasne that recognizes the financial impacts of the international border on the community.
- Representatives from Seven Leaf Medical Cannabis provided Council with an update on the company's application progress to become licensed with Health Canada.
- Council was briefed on a shoreline erosion concern and will research options for mitigation.
- MCR's passed: Approval of (3) Leases on Stanley Island; Approval for the Cornwall Canada Day Committee to launch fireworks from the Anowarako:wa Arena property; Approval of (3) sets of Council Meeting Minutes.

JUNE 27, 2017 AKWESASNE COMMUNITY SETTLEMENT TRUSTEES

On the morning of June 27, 2017 our Council met with the Trustees for the Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust, including the Administrative Trustee, to receive an update on the trust operations and investments. The trustees provided an update on the final awards for the 2017 distributions and the upcoming reviews of the 2017 bursary applications. The trustees also reported that this year they set aside \$50,000 for a State of Emergency fund; this was identified as a priority by the Elders of Akwesasne. The trustees explained that over the next year they will develop a policy on the use of the fund and the trustees stated that they would look to set aside some money annually for this purpose. The investment manager provided the group with an update on the investments of the trust and reported that this year's investments are resulting in good returns and this is expected to continue for the next few years.

JUNE 28, 2017 MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH

On June 28, 2017 we hosted the Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Economic Development and Growth for the Government of Ontario Victor Severino. I had previously met Victor at the Regional Economic Renewal Summit on April 12 at the Nav Center. The morning began with a sit down meeting with Victor to provide him with an overview of the community of Akwesasne and our ongoing economic development initiatives. Jim Ransom the Director of the Department of Tehotiiennawakon provided a presentation on the Broadband application to Canada as well as the conceptual Akwesasne Electrical Cooperative. We also

provided Victor with an update on Akwesasne Renewable Energy Strategy and the ongoing work with the Kawehno:ke Corridor improvements. Following the presentations we toured the Akwesasne Cornwall Harbor and explained the next steps and potential benefits. Our day concluded with a tour of the Thompson Island Youth Camp and Hamilton Island.



JUNE 30, 2017 WELLINGTON COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

On June 20, 2017 I was invited by the Premier of Ontario to attend the Prince Edward County Wellington Farmers Market. The Farmers Market was part of the welcoming reception for the Royal Highnesses—the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall. The Premier of Ontario and the Chief of Tyendinaga welcomed the royals to Wellington. Chief Maracle of Tyendinaga reminded the community of the importance of the relationship between Tyendinaga and the British Crown. Although I was not able to meet the Prince and Duchess, it was an honor and to be able to be part of the welcoming celebration.