



*Office of the Grand Chief*

Ennisko:wa / March 30, 2022

Wa'tkwanonhwera:ton / Greetings,

We are closing fast in March and just about to turn to April. For us here at the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA), this is what is considered year-end, and many of the MCA management are working hard to complete projects and develop reports. While that will continue, I hope we will see some nicer weather come our way. A few weeks during March, we had some beautiful weather, but at the time of this report and letter, it's continuing to snow, and it's freezing out. This winter has indeed seemed to want to hold on, but I'm confident good weather is around the corner.

In March, the MCA welcomed our new Executive Director, Ann Seymour. We are happy to welcome Ann to the MCA. She is joining at a critical junction here at the MCA as our Council works toward developing a new strategic plan. As a nation and community, we hopefully enter the endemic stages of COVID 19. As we move forward, we will focus on pandemic recovery as a community and organization and keep our eye on the goal of being a sustainable community. It is now more important as we deal with climate change and the unrest in the world around us. Our Council is committed to ensuring we continue to move forward and have a safe and prosperous community.

Last week our Council hosted our monthly General Meeting at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Center. Last week's meeting was the first time we hosted an in-person community meeting in over two years. Given the current COVID situation, restrictions have been relaxed a bit so we could host a hybrid meeting. Community members could either attend in person or by utilizing the Zoom platform. Provided COVID remains low; we will continue to use the hybrid model. It was nice to have an in-person meeting and greet our community members. The agenda at the March 24, 2022, General Meeting included an update on the Dundee Tsikaristisere claim settlement, a New York State claim update and an update presentation from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Health on COVID. I want to thank all those who attended and provided feedback, asked questions, and participated in the meeting. The recording of the General Meeting can be found at: <https://youtu.be/DPNow9AkW4>. I have included my monthly report for your review and update.

I hope you have a great month ahead. Happy Easter!

Sken:nen.

Abram Benedict  
Grand Chief



## **Grand Chief Monthly Activity Report Enniska / February 2022**

### **FEBRUARY 1, 2022, INTERNAL MEETING REGARDING ONTARIO PROPERTY**

On the afternoon of February 1, 2022, I met with our legal counsel and our manager for the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office to discuss a recent meeting held with Ontario regarding surplus property owned by Ontario. On the meeting of February 1, I provided an update from the January 13 meeting with Ontario. I requested our ARRO manager to conduct research on the location of the surplus lands and provide a report on the location in relation to Akwesasne. We will continue to pursue this land transaction with Ontario over the coming months.

### **FEBRUARY 1, 2022, BORDER PARTNERS**

Every month MCA's Public Safety Portfolio Chiefs, representatives from the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs, and I participated on the monthly call with the Port Directors for the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the United States Customs and Border Protection (USCBP). The calls now occur on the first Tuesday of the month on the Zoom platform. These calls are designed for Akwesasne to receive regular updates from the Port Directors on current traffic volumes, any issues with local travellers, and reports of any customs officers that may be in

quarantine for any reason. These meetings also allow our local governments to provide relevant updates to the CBSA and USCBP representatives.

### **FEBRUARY 4, 18, 2022, BI-WEEKLY MEETING WITH SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBE**

Our Council has been meeting with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) on a bi-weekly basis as part of our ongoing commitment to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of these meetings is to provide an opportunity for Council and our Emergency Operations Center to share information on our pandemic response with our counterparts from the SRMT. Topics for these weekly discussions include updates on current positive cases of COVID-19, upcoming state, provincial, and federal directives, updates from the monthly border calls, and other COVID-19 related discussions.

### **FEBRUARY 2, 16, 2022 BI-WEEKLY COVID CALL**

On a bi-weekly basis throughout February Council met with MCA's Administration to specifically discuss and receive updates on our response to COVID-19. These meetings provide an opportunity for Council to thoroughly discuss our current precautions and travel restrictions. While discussions may occur at length during these bi-weekly Wednesday meetings, decision-making is reserved for the regular Council Meetings.

### **FEBRUARY 3, 2022, ONTARIO MINISTRY OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS**

On the morning of February 3, 2022, I hosted a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs for Ontario Greg Rickford's office to discuss my recent meeting with Ontario. On the meeting of February 3, I expressed our desire to work with Ontario to find a positive outcome for the benefit of Ontario and Akwesasne for the transfer of surplus lands. I requested the ministry's support.

## **FEBRUARY 3, 2022, STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND NATIONAL SECURITY**

On the morning of February 3, 2022, Chief of Police Shawn Dulude, Chief Adams-Phillips, and I provided testimony to the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security. We had been invited to provide testimony to the committee on their study on gun control, illegal arms trafficking and the increases in gun crimes committed by members of street gangs. During our testimony, we explained the unique geographical location of Akwesasne and explained the complex realities created by the international border. Chief Dulude and Chief Adams-Phillips detailed the need for additional resources for the Akwesasne Mohawk Police so that they can continue to provide 24-hour surveillance on all parts of the St. Lawrence River. I explained to the committee that all surveillance and enforcement needed to be done by the Mohawk Police and our jurisdiction and authority needed to be respectful for effective enforcement to occur. Additional information and the transcripts can be found at:

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/SECU/meeting-5/evidence>

## **FEBRUARY 3, 2022, FINANCE COMMITTEE**

On the morning of February 3, 2022, I attended the regular Finance Committee meeting. The committee received and reviewed the feedback from the legal review done on the Conflict of Interest and Acknowledgement form as required under the Akwesasne Financial Administration Law (AFAL). The committee requested a section of the policy be sighted on the form and the form is finalized for implementation. An update was provided on two recent job positions that were being created, the liaison position and the trust coordinator position. The committee discussed the need to have the trust support the one position, but currently, there are no resources for the other position. Further follow-up will be done with the trust administrator.

The committee discussed the vacant community member positions and agreed to repost the call for interest.

### **FEBRUARY 4, 2022, STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT**

On the morning of February 4, 2022, members of our Council and managers from within the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne met with a2z Strategic Consultants to continue the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne goal development for the MCA strategic plan. Over the last several months we have been working with a2z to develop the MCA strategic plan, since we are using the Zoom platform we have been doing a series of half-day sessions to work on the plan.

### **FEBRUARY 4, 2022, CHIEF OF ONTARIO ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

On the afternoon of February 4, 2022, I met with representatives of the Chiefs of Ontario to review their draft consultation policy. The Chiefs of Ontario have been working on a policy to present to Ontario as a guide when consulting with Ontario First Nations. Ontario currently does not have a government-wide consultation policy and each department engages First Nations differently. On the call of February 4, 2022, I provided input on their draft and explained Akwesasne's experience with Ontario. The final draft will be presented to the Chief of Ontario Leadership Council in the coming month. Following the approval, the policy will then be presented to Ontario.

### **FEBRUARY 7, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE**

- A briefing was provided on the upcoming replacement of Council's surface pros and the process to transfer over.
- Council agreed to put forward a team for the Habitat for Humanity Build Day, a date will be scheduled.
- MCR's passed: Approval of (4) amendments to the Akwesasne-Canada funding agreement; Approval of (2) allotment of land to community member; Approval of additional funding allotment for

Housing Elders Emergency Fund; Approval of lease agreement with Wild Oakes for AMBE zero to six program.

**FEBRUARY 9, 2022, EXPANSION OF THE PORT OF VALLEYFIELD**

On the afternoon of February 9, 2022, members of our Council met with representatives of the Port of Valleyfield and WSP Canada Inc. The purpose of the meeting was for the representatives to provide us with an overview of the port expansion taking place in Valleyfield. The representatives explained the planning that has already taken place leading up to the construction phase. They provided us with an overview of the environmental assessment and concerns heard from Kahnawake. Members of our Council were able to ask questions to the presenters. We requested that regular updates be provided to us as the project proceeds.

**FEBRUARY 10, 2022, HYDRO-QUEBEC**

On the afternoon of February 10, 2022, members of our Council met with representatives of the Hydro-Quebec Indigenous Relations team. The purpose of the call was for the Hydro-Quebec team to provide us with an update on upcoming improvements being scheduled for the Akwesasne area. The representatives explained they have completed inspections of the lines; upgrades have taken place at the Huntingdon substation and rebalance analyses have been completed to identify low voltage areas. Hydro-Quebec explained they continue to look at a backup line for the area and explore further upgrades. Additional vegetation control will take place in 2022. The hydro representatives also provided us with an overview of the Hertel New York transmission line that is being constructed. We will continue to meet with Hydro-Quebec and advocate for electrical stability in Akwesasne.

## **FEBRUARY 11, 2022, STRATEGIC PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE**

On the morning of February 11, 2022, I chaired the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Strategic Planning Steering Committee. A representative from a2z provided the committee with an overview from the recent 3rd one-day session that occurred the previous week.

## **FEBRUARY 14, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE**

- The Acting Executive Director for the MCA presented to Council a proposed change to the General Personal Policy (GPP) regarding vacation time carrying overtime; further reaching and data will be done and presented back to Council.
- Council discussed and set the agenda for the upcoming General Meeting of February 24, 2022.
- A request to use office space at CIA was discussed and it was determined that Districts Chiefs will use boardroom space for meetings and the space can be assigned to a program.
- Council agreed that due to the upcoming holiday there will be no Council meeting the week of February 21, 2022.
- A request to schedule regular meetings (outside of COVID) with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chief was discussed and agreed to.
- Council discussed resuming in-person meetings and will begin the preparation for District and General Meetings in person in March. A hybrid model will be used for General Meeting.
- A request for follow-up and response made at the General Meeting regarding the Department of Health was discussed and will be followed upon.
- Council discussed a request for a letter of support from the Department of Community and Social Services to partner to provide detox services, the letter of support was approved.

- A briefing was provided and discussed on the recent protest at the end of Brookdale and Water Street in the City of Cornwall. A full debrief session will be scheduled with AMPS, EOC and Council.
- MCR's passed: Approval of amendment to 2021/24 Council portfolio & committee listings, Approval of MOU with Roger Telecommunications regarding the construction of a cell phone tower in Tsi Snaihne; Approval of an amendment to Akwesasne – Canada funding agreement; Approval of (2) mortgage renewal with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; Approval of collective agreement between Akwesasne Police Association and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

### **FEBRUARY 14, 2022, TRANSPORT CANADA**

On February 14, 2022, I hosted a call with a representative from Transport Canada to discuss the next steps with respect to the surplus lands in Cornwall owned by the federal government. Earlier in January representatives of Transport Canada presented to Council the status of the surplus lands and explained possible options for the use. On the call of February 14, 2022, we discussed the next steps and I agreed that I would request Council identify a committee to lead to the file of the surplus land.

### **FEBRUARY 15, 2022, CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY**

On February 15, 2022, I hosted a call with Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) as a follow-up to a recent presentation they did to council on the entry-exit initiative between Canada and the United States. On the call of February 15th, I explained Akwesasne's unique geographical location and my concern with the implications of various identification methods used for members crossing the border. The CBSA representatives explained to me the process used to cross-reference the entry and exit information for individuals and further explained that an interpretative guide was being used for Akwesasne to ensure the uniqueness of our community was



considered. I requested that CBSA continue to monitor and evaluate the impacts on Akwesasne's residence.

### **FEBRUARY 15, 2022, INDIGENOUS OMEGA**

On the morning of February 15, 2022, I hosted a meeting with Lyle Hill from Indigenous Omega. Lyle had recently reached out to me to discuss the possibility of working with Akwesasne on consultation matters. On the call of February 15th, Lyle explained to me the services his company offers in situations where companies are not adequately consulting with First Nation communities predominantly on capital projects. I explained to Lyle that we have minimal interactions with companies, but I would review a proposal from his company.

### **FEBRUARY 15, 2022, CANADA BORDER SERVICE AGENCY (CBSA)**

On the morning of February 15, 2022, I hosted a call with Eric Lapierre the Regional Director General for the Northern Ontario Region for Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). The Cornwall Port of Entry is within Eric's responsibility under one of his District Directors who oversee the Cornwall Port Chief. On the call of February 15, 2022, I discussed with Eric the current unique challenges of the port of Cornwall. I explained the ongoing communications that we have with the port chief and the proactive efforts that we make to mitigate concerns. The call of February 15 2022 was an introductory call and will be followed up with an in-person meeting.

### **FEBRUARY 16, 2022, RBC WEALTH MANAGEMENT**

On the morning of February 16th, 2022, I hosted a call with representatives from RBC Wealth Management. This call was a follow-up call to an email that I had received regarding RBC and MCA possibly looking at partnership opportunities. On the call, the representatives explained to me the services provided by RBC wealth and expressed their desire to work with Akwesasne. I explained the current working relationships that the MCA has with our financial

advisors and informed the representatives that I would keep them in mind should an opportunity present itself.

### **FEBRUARY 16, 2022, JAY TREATY BORDER ALLIANCE**

On the afternoon of February 16, 2022, I hosted a call with other First Nation representatives and representatives from the Jay Treaty Border Alliance (JTBA). Over the last month, I had been working with the JTBA to set up a series of meeting in Ottawa with Members of Parliament to discuss border crossing issues faced by First Nations. On the call of February 16, 2022, we reviewed current efforts being done by the JTBA and possible approaches to a lobby day in Ottawa in April. We discuss possible strategies for a lobby day and received various updates from First Nation leadership on initiatives they have undertaken to ease border issues.

### **FEBRUARY 16, 2022, CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

On the evening of February 16, 2022, I attended the Cornwall Community Hospital (CCH) Medical Advisory Committee. The committee received a presentation on the development of the CCH strategic plan presented by the Chief Executive Officer for the hospital. The committee received updates and reports from the Chief of Staff, Chief Executive Officer, President of Medical Staff, Chief Nursing Officer, and the Vice-President of Medical Affairs. Following the reports, the committee went into an in-camera session to discuss confidential matters.

### **FEBRUARY 17, 2022, EBV ENGINEERING**

As part of our efforts to find an alternate location for the Akwesasne Healing Center, we commissioned EVB Engineer to conduct an assessment of a property for sale within the City of Cornwall. On February 17, 2022, I hosted an update call with EVB to receive a verbal report from the engineers on the assessment of the building. The representatives provided a preliminary assessment of their site

inspection and explained that they would now begin to write up a report for our review. Once the written report is received, we will provide an update and presentation to Council for the next steps.

### **FEBRUARY 22, 2022, CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

On the morning of February 22, 2022, I participated in a Cornwall Community Hospital Board Executive Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the meeting minutes from January 12 and accepted them into the record. Following the acceptance of the minutes, the committee went into an in-camera meeting to discuss personnel matters.

### **FEBRUARY 22, 2022, AKWESASNE HEALING CENTER**

On the afternoon of February 22, 2022, the Director of Community and Social Services (DCSS) and I hosted a meeting with a local entrepreneur who owns vacant property in the City of Cornwall. The local entrepreneur had reached out to me to discuss the possibility of partnering with him to house the Akwesasne Healing Center. I explained that the MCA was not in a position to be able to commit to a long-term lease at this point for the healing center. Since the MCA made it public that the Healing Center will no longer be housed at the former General Hospital, we have received a number of offers for an alternate site. I thanked the local entrepreneur for the offer. The MCA will continue to explore all options for the Akwesasne Healing Center.

### **FEBRUARY 23, 2022, CALL WITH BLOC QUEBECOIS**

Following our presentation to the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security, Kristina Michaud a member of the committee requested a follow-up call with Akwesasne. On February 23, 2022, the Chief of Police and I hosted a call with Kristina Michaud and Marilene Gill, a member of the Bloc Quebecois. On the call, we provided more detail about the challenges the international border

creates for Akwesasne and the reality of police enforcement in Akwesasne. We explained that the Akwesasne Police Service works closely with other enforcement agencies to investigate organized crime. We reiterated to Kristina and Marilene that the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service needed additional resources to be able to be continuing to patrol the St. Lawrence River 24 hours a day. Following our meeting, I extended an invite to the Bloc Quebecois members to visit Akwesasne.

### **FEBRUARY 23, 2022, LAURENCREST YOUTH SERVICES**

On the afternoon of February 23, 2022, I hosted a call with the Executive Director (ED) for Laurencrest Youth Services. I requested the call with the ED to discuss the current programming at Laurencrest and to discuss the long-term plans for the residential facility they own. The ED explained to me that they are currently running a day program and have been in conversation with other community partners to examine options for the facility used. I committed to continuing to dialogue and update the Executive Director on Akwesasne plans for the Akwesasne Healing Center.

### **FEBRUARY 23, 20200 CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL STRATEGIC PLAN**

On the evening of February 23, 2022, I participated in the Cornwall Community Hospital Board of Directors meeting to review the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. The Chief Executive Officer presented the current environmental scan that had been completed within the hospital and presented the emerging priorities. The board discussed the risks and opportunities from the environmental scan and discussed the strategic direction for the next 5 years. Based on the feedback provided by the board of directors the hospital administration will work to finalize the five-year plan.

## **FEBRUARY 24, 2020, CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

On the evening of February 24, 2022, I chaired the Cornwall Community Hospital Governance Committee. The meeting began with a review and acceptance of the previous meeting minutes. The committee reviewed the board performance check-up report and the attendance semi-annual report. The Chief Executive Officer provided the committee with an update on the recent changes to the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporation Act and explained that some changes will have to be made to the CCH by-laws in order to meet the new amendments to the act. Following the updates and reviews, the committee went into an in-camera session to discuss personnel matters.

## **FEBRUARY 24, 2022, GENERAL MEETING**

On the evening of February 24, 2022, our Council hosted our monthly General Meeting utilizing the Zoom platform. The agenda for the February General Meeting included a presentation and update from the Department of Health on COVID-19, our manager for Nation Building provided an update on the Canada Akwesasne self-government negotiations. I concluded the presentations with an update on the recent trucker convey protest that took place in the City of Cornwall in early February. The entire recording of the February General Meeting can be found at: <https://youtu.be/qjF7CMxsEA4>. The next General Meeting will occur on March 24, 2022. Preparations are underway for the meeting to take place in person and online. Questions in advance can be emailed to [meetings@akwesasne.ca](mailto:meetings@akwesasne.ca) to ensure they are answered at the next meeting. You can also request the General Meeting link by emailing the same email address.

## **FEBRUARY 25, 2022, QUEBEC MINISTER OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS**

On the morning of February 25, 2022, Chief Roundpoint and I hosted a call with Quebec Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Ian Lafrenière to

discuss the ongoing occupancy at Hopkins Point. Mr. Lafrenière invited former Quebec Minister Geoffrey Kelley to join the meeting. Minister Lafrenière provided an update to us and Geoffrey on his conversation with the Mayor of Dundee and efforts previously made to bring the occupation to a resolution. Minister Lafrenière requested Geoffrey's assistance to contact the parties to attempt to find a resolution. We will continue to dialogue with the Quebec representatives on this matter in an effort to find a resolution to the occupancy.

### **FEBRUARY 25, 2022, FEBRUARY 12 PROTEST DEBRIEF**

On February 12, 2022, a group of farm tractors and other vehicles gathered at the end of Brookdale Avenue in Cornwall to show their support for the trucker convoy gathered in Ottawa. The gathering slowed traffic crossing into Cornwall but also caused several Akwesasne residents to be alarmed and upset at the threat of a possible road closure. Considering 70% of the traffic crossing at the Cornwall CBSA is Akwesasne members any closure would have adverse effects on Akwesasne. Fortunately, the protest gathering ended the same day it started after about 10 hours. Following this, on February 25, 2022, members of our Council met with our Chief of Police and our Emergency Measures Officer to debrief from the incident. We agreed that we needed to continue to ensure we are maximizing communication to the community on future incidents and that we keep a communications protocol going for updates to Council.

### **FEBRUARY 25, 2022, UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS, AND GLENGARRY**

On February 25, 2022, a representative of Aboriginal Rights and Research and I met with Todd Lihou from the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry to received information on the development of a commemorative plaque being placed in Morrisburg. Todd explained the plaque will recognize the St. Lawrence Iroquois

and requested the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's feedback once a draft plaque has been developed. We will continue to work with the United Counties on the development of the commemorative plaque.

### **FEBRUARY 25, 2022, AKWESASNE COMPLIANCE PROGRAM**

On the afternoon of February 25, 2022, members of our Justice portfolio, public safety, the Chief of Police and I hosted a meeting with representatives from the Ontario Solicitor General, Quebec Ministry of Public Safety and Public Safety Canada. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Akwesasne's compliance officer program. Over the last several years the MCA has been advocating and lobbying our government partners for resources for the Akwesasne compliance program. On the call of February 25, we explained in detail the purpose of the program, and the financial resources needed to support the program. The representatives asked several questions of us while we discussed the operationalization of the program. The representatives committed to following up and examining how this program can fit into new program partnerships being introduced by the governments.

### **FEBRUARY 28, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE**

- Representatives from Proteus and Gowling along with MCA Aboriginal Rights Manager presented to Council an overview of the community trusts and limited partnership investment models for consideration.
- Council affirmed that the Property Acquisition Team (PAT) will lead the Transport Canada and Canada Lands Company (CLC) file on behalf of Council.
- Chief Tim Thompson was identified as the meeting chair for the upcoming Council meetings in absence of the Grand Chief.
- Council identified Chiefs Adams-Phillips, Phillips-Jacobs, and Francis-Mitchell to lead the Book of Recognition work.
- Chief Tim Thompson was identified as the MCA representation to the Ex-Officio Director seat for the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club.

- Economic Development portfolio agreed to follow up with Economic Development on possible garden/seed/tree planning/initiatives.
- A briefing was provided on the Iroquois Caucus Nuclear Waste file and confirmed Chief Jacobs' participation as the MCA lead.
- Council discussed the need to ensure the community is updated on operational shortages that will affect MCA's ability to respond and deliver services. Administration will follow up with the respective program to develop a notice to the community.
- A concern for unified MCA closures was discussed, MCA administration will continue to work on process and protocol.
- Council discussed a request to revisit the BMO mortgage amount cap. This will be discussed at the next housing portfolio number.
- A briefing was provided on the efforts to open a clinic in Snye, item will be deferred to the health portfolio.
- MCR's passed: Approval of mortgage renewal with Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC); Approval of mortgage guarantee with BMO; Approval of Letter of Agreement with Watershed Canada; Approval of funding for FN Mobile Crisis Response Team fund; Approval of an amendment to Akwesasne funding agreement for police service; Approval of (2) 20/21 audit for AMPS, Approval of 20/21 audit for OFNLP; Approval of 20/21 audit for CMHC; Approval to offer a contract to a candidate for the position of Executive Director; Approval of revision to organization chart for AMBE; Approval of revision to organization chart for Iohahi:io; Approval of an amendment to MCA General Personnel Policy.

## **FEBRUARY 28, 2022, HABITAT BUILD DAY**

On February 28, 2022, members of council participated in a Habitat for Humanity build day. We attended the construction site in Cornwall and were able to assist with painting a few of the rooms. The Saucier-Leaf family of seven will receive their brand-new Cornwall home in the coming weeks, a result of the generous work of the Habitat for Humanity non-profit organization. Habitat for Humanity



relies on partnerships and volunteer work to help families experience the dream of homeownership. Last year, MCA was approached by the Cornwall Habitat for Humanity and a member of Akwesasne requesting a partnership. MCA was proud to help by donating a parcel of off-reserve land to the project.

### **FEBRUARY 28, 2022, LOYALIST PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

On the morning of February 28, 2022, I hosted a call with a representative of Loyalist Public Affairs. The purpose of the call was to request a proposal from the representatives for their services. Loyalist is a lobbyist firm, and currently, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is considering engaging a firm to assist with some of the barriers on the Canada – Akwesasne self-government negotiations. On the call of February 28, 2022, I provided the representative with an overview of the Akwesasne negotiations. A proposal will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.