



Office of the Grand Chief

Enniska / February 9, 2023

Wa'tkwanonhwera:ton / Greetings,

Happy New Year! While it is a little past January 1st, this is my first report to you for 2023. Having said that, I hope you had a good holiday season and the month of January.

January has been busy for all of us here at the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. As we begin 2023, we still, as a community and community government, are dealing with COVID-19 and the lingering effects of the pandemic. We are still in a global pandemic, and keeping our people and the most vulnerable safe continues to be our top priority. Vaccination continues to be the best protection for each of us. Please consider keeping your COVID-19 vaccines updated.

December and January have brought some inclement weather to the community, which unfortunately has resulted in several power outages in Tsi Snaihne and Kanata:kon, but most recently for more than 30 hours. We have been working with Hydro-Quebec to rectify this situation. What we have learned is that there are a few factors that have been affecting the reliability of electricity. One is old infrastructure, and the other is trees and vegetation over and around the lines. Unfortunately, the trimming of trees and vegetation was delayed to 2023. As of this letter's date, the work was scheduled for early February. While this work may seem minimal, the high winds and freezing rain create havoc on trees, breaking or damaging the electrical lines. We are working with Hydro-Quebec on the old electrical equipment to get more detailed plans on their timelines for upgrades to support the system. We have also requested a meeting with Hydro-Quebec's CEO to relay our urgency and frustration regarding the recent outages.

As we advance, we will prepare a fulsome report to the community on this ongoing Hydro-Quebec / Electricity work to keep you updated. This will be shared at a future community meeting. While we continue to work to bring stability to the electricity system, we must collectively and individually ensure we are prepared for emergencies at home and in our community. One of the new contributors to community disruption is climate change. Today's weather is different from what we traditionally have seen in and around our community. Extreme climate change impacts us in many ways, including the power lines, poles and equipment having to sustain heavy rain, snow and high winds happening very quickly.

Finally, I am happy to provide you with my November and December 2022 monthly reports. Should you have questions about my report, I always welcome follow-up questions, suggestions, and feedback.

Have a fantastic month ahead, and Happy Valentine's Day.

Sken:nen / Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Abram Benedict', is written over a white rectangular background.

Abram Benedict
Grand Chief



GRAND CHIEF MONTHLY REPORT

KENTENHKO:WA / NOVEMBER

2022

NOVEMBER 3, 4, 2022, INDEPENDENT FIRST NATIONS QUARTERLY

On November 3, 2022, I attended two days of the Independent First Nations quarterly meeting in Ottawa. Romeo Saganash former Member of Parliament presented to the leadership on the continued work he is doing on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People, as well as the work he is doing to support Residential School survivors. The Minister of Crown and Indigenous Relations Marc Miller also attended the quarterly meeting to discuss communities' priorities with the leadership. Minister Miller was questioned on the position of his ministry on the Metis Nation and the claimed rights they are asserting. Many of the Chiefs expressed concern with how the federal government and the province of Ontario are treating the Metis. The

Director of Policy and Communications for the Chiefs of Ontario Office (COO) presented a housing discussion paper to the Chiefs and outlines proposed funding model changes bring proposed from Indigenous Services, and the Assembly of First Nations. While in attendance at the quarterly meeting, I presented to the chiefs the work the MCA is doing on Jay Treaty, the Jay Treaty Border Alliance, and the engagement session the MCA is hosted until February on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People in relation to the Jay Treaty.

NOVEMBER 4, 2022, CANADA BORDER SERVICE AGENCY (CBSA), AKWESASNE BORDER COLLABORATION INITIATIVE



On November 4, 2022, I travelled to Rigaud Quebec to participate in a Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA), Akwesasne Border Collaboration Initiative (BCI) Leaders Circle meeting and a Border Service Officer (BSO) graduation ceremony. At the graduation ceremony I accompanied the CBSA President as part of the platform party and provided the graduating BSO's with congratulatory remarks. During my remarks I explained to the BSO's that Indigenous people view them as agents of the Crown and that the Crown and Indigenous People have not always had a positive relationship and they need to be mind of that. Follow the graduation ceremony we attended the BCI leaders circle meeting. The committee received the proposed 2023/24 work plan and agreed that the priorities tables would include domestic working circle, Cornwall Port of Entry Circle, Dundee Port of Entry Circle, pre-clearance, and community relations circle.

NOVEMBER 7, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING

- The Assistant Executive Director provided Council with a report and analysis of a recent Aboriginal Initiative Fund application processed and sent to the Quebec fund.
- Council discussed the proposed expansion of natural gas onto Kawehno:ke and agreed to examine a community plebiscite vote.

- An update and overview were provided on a roadway access issue, and the next steps for mitigation were outlined.
- Council received an update on a recent meeting with the Seaway International Bridge Corporation regarding bridge pass issuances.
- An overview was provided on the upcoming Kana:takon Christmas fundraiser.
- MCR's passed: Approval for Executive Director to sign agreement for Indigenous Health Grant for Iohahi:io, Approval for (3) allotment of land (mortgage paid off); Approval of fuel tender contract award for 22/23 heating season.

NOVEMBER 8, 2022, JAY TREATY BORDER ALLIANCE

Following our Jay Treaty Border Alliance (JTBA) leadership meeting that occurred in October with First Nation Chiefs and the Minister of Public Safety, I hosted a call with the Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) Indigenous Director to debrief from the meeting. At the meeting, we discussed the scheduling of the governance table meeting to begin the work as agreed by the Chiefs and Minister. We agreed that we would schedule a JTBA governance table meeting during the week of the upcoming Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Special Chiefs Assembly occurring in Ottawa on December 6, 7, and 8, 2022.

NOVEMBER 9, 2022, DEVCORE, DEV CENTER

On November 9, 2022, I hosted a follow-up call with Jean Pierre Poulin CEO of DevCore about developing the Dev Center in Cornwall. Over the last few months, I have been in several meetings with DevCore CEO regarding Akwesasne's collaboration and partnership on the redevelopment. On the call on November 9, 2022, I reiterated Akwesasne's commitment to collaborate, but I did inform the CEO that Akwesasne would assist with the design, and involvement in the casino project, but Akwesasne was not able to play any leadership role in the project. The CEO committed to working with Akwesasne on the entire Dev Center redevelopment.

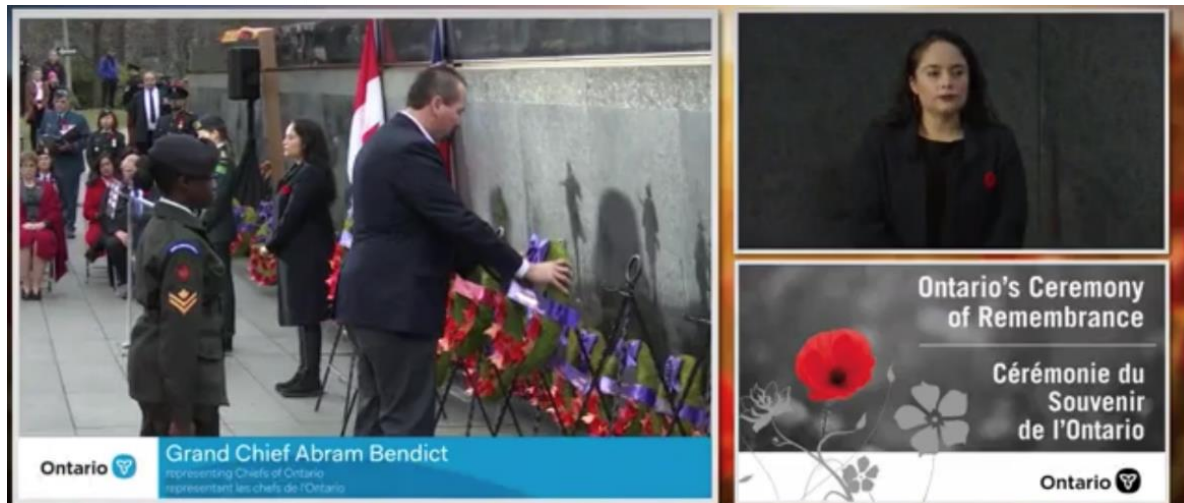
NOVEMBER 9, 2022, MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

On November 9, 2022, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Executive Committee met as part of its regular scheduled meeting. The Executive Committee reviewed the Executive Director draft job description and proposed amendments. A review was conducted by Orbis Risk Consulting who outlined several recommendations. The committee reviewed the proposed changes to the Job Description and agreed to make a recommendation to council to accept the new draft job description.

**NOVEMBER 10, 2022, NATION BUILDING
ENTEWATATHA:WI**

On November 10, 2022, I met with the Nation Building Portfolio Chiefs, the Program Manager for the program and the Assistant Executive Director to discuss the status of the Akwesasne Canada self-government negotiations. At the meeting on November 10, we reviewed the history of the negotiations, specifically around the outstanding matters of expropriation, taxation, and access to Akwesasne lands. We discussed the current negotiations process that supports the main table and the chiefs. We agree that changes would be made to make the negotiations more efficient and effective use of time when the Chiefs are at the table with Canada. The Chiefs expressed their desire to ensure the process is being led by the Chiefs and not the technical/legal supports. Overall, the full day meeting of November 10, was very productive and was an opportunity for the portfolio chiefs to ensure communications were the main priority to bringing resolution to the outstanding matters, but also moving towards a draft final agreement.

NOVEMBER 11, 2022, REMEMBRANCE DAY



On November 11, 2022, I was invited by the Ontario Premier's office to attend the November 11 Remembrance Day ceremony at Queens Park in Toronto. I had the great honor of representing Ontario First Nation at the ceremony and placed a memorial wreath of all First Nations Veterans and service members.

NOVEMBER 14, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING

- Council received a briefing on a recent Akwesasne Court decision.
- A recent communication was discussed and referred to the Grand Chief for acknowledgement.
- Council agreed that the MCA would support Canada's Bill C-20 for the creation of a complaints oversight body for Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA).
- A briefing was provided on recent complaint, court decision and communication with the community members regarding

processes and policy shortcomings within an MCA department.

- Council discussed the presence of the Executive Director at district meetings and agreed that individual meetings would be facilitated to address issues.
- MCRs passed: Approval of Akwesasne GROW Local Food Infrastructure Funding agreement; Approval of First Nations Officers Funding agreement; Approval to proceed with purchase of new boat for SAVE unit; Approval of contact award for Tsiionkwanonhso:te fire alarm, magnetic door, nurse station upgrades.

NOVEMBER 14, 2022, ST. LAWRENCE PARKS COMMISSION

On the afternoon of November 14, 2022, I participated in a call with St. Lawrence Park Commission to receive information from them regarding archaeological surveys being conducted on property the commission owns. On the call of November 14, a representative from ASI and the commission explained to me that stage one and two archaeological assessments were underway and that so far, no significant discoveries had been made. The representative from the commission informed me that the St Lawrence Parks Commission was conducting the assessments so that they could sell the property on the open market. Since the Park Commission is a Ontario Crown Corporation, they are required to follow certain processes including have an archaeological assessment completed.

NOVEMBER 14, 2022, FIRST NATIONS DATA CHAMPION

On the evening of November 14, 2022, I participated in the Chief of Ontario Data Champion meeting. Over the last several months the Director of Research and Data Management had been working with the Chiefs of Ontario administration to post and recruit a permanent, full-time Director for the Ontario Data Center. At the meeting of November 14, the champion committee meetings received an update on the recruitment. It was reported that the posting has taken place and that a few applications had been received. The next steps were for the committee to work in collaboration with the Chiefs of Ontario and a delegation from the committee to hire a director. The committee received an overview of the presentation being made the Chiefs in Assembly occurring the following three days.

NOVEMBER 15 & 16, 2022 CHIEFS OF ONTARIO FALL CHIEFS' ASSEMBLY



On November 15, and 16, 2022, I participated in the Chiefs of Ontario Fall Chiefs Assembly in Toronto. The meeting began with an update from the Ontario Regional Chief on several files that he was been working on, as well as an update on the ongoing turmoil at the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) with the National Chief. Following the update from the Regional Chief, the Chiefs received a confidential briefing from legal counsel on a proposed revenue-sharing option. The assembly received a presentation from the Chief of Matawa who outlined the mining exploration happening in their community and the concerns of the community caused by the mining. The Chiefs debated for a long time the approach they

should take for an upcoming reception with Ontario Premier Doug Ford. The Chiefs also received a panel presentation from other communities on resource development opportunities and lessons learned from development with private entities. The following day the Chiefs received updates from elders, youth, and woman's councils. The Director of Policy and Communications provided the Chiefs with a presentation on Housing funding reform and described funding model options for the chiefs to consider. is housing presentation was presented and discussed at many Chief forms for Ontario region to decide on the funding model. Further updates were provided to the chiefs on the ongoing child welfare reform the class action settlement with Canada.

NOVEMBER 16, 2022, CUMBERLAND STRATEGIES

On the morning of November 16, 2022, Chief Roundpoint and I met Jon Telch, principal consultant with Cumberland Strategies to discuss the Akwesasne Canada self-government file. At the meeting on November 16, we received an update from Jon on the current information being received from the Minister's office on the Akwesasne file. At the breakfast meeting, we discussed a strategy for advancing our lobby efforts to find an agreeable solution to the outstanding issues on the self-government negotiations with Canada.

NOVEMBER 16, 2022, ONE FEATHER

As part of the ongoing working the MCA is doing with Enbridge Gas on the continued education and engagement

with Kawehno:ke on the proposed Natural Gas expansion, I hosted a call on November 16, 2022, with a representative of One Feather. The purpose of the call was for me to describe the possibility of a plebiscite vote for the residents of Kawehno:ke to vote on the proposed expansion. The representatives from One Feather agreed that this type of vote was possible, but we would have to determine the parameters for the vote and coordination would have to be worked out. This will be followed up on in the new year.

NOVEMBER 17, 2022, ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

On November 17, 2022, I hosted a call with a representative from Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to discuss a file whereby Akwesasne members have been charged for hunting without authorization. The officer on the call provided me with details related to the offense and was seeking input from myself so that he could make a report back to the enforcement division. I expressed to the officer, that my members were hunting for their families and were exercise their right to hunt and gather. The officer acknowledged my assertion and requested that I put my input in writing to him.

NOVEMBER 15, 2022, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

On November 15, 2022, the Executive Committee met to receive follow-up and discuss a Human Resource file.

NOVEMBER 18, 2022, PROCUREMENT CANADA

On November 18, 2022, I hosted a call with a representative from Procurement Canada to learn more about the divisions mandate. Barry Payne from Procurement Canada introduced himself to me and explained that his program was responsible to work with First Nation communities and businesses to increase their participation in bidding on government contracts. Barry explained that the Federal Government committed to increase purchasing from First Nation businesses and that they wanted to work with Akwesasne to have more companies involved. Following this information sharing call of November 18, 2022, I committed to having Barry present to our Council and then to begin to work with our Economic Development Department to host a community information session.

NOVEMBER 21, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING

- Council was provided with a briefing on the availability of Quebec community infrastructure dollars and agreed to consider an application to the fund to support the St. Regis Catholic Church Steeple repairs.
- Chief Edward Roundpoint was identified as next week's Council Meeting chair in the absence of the Grand Chief.
- Council agreed that due to Council attending the Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly no Council meeting will take place on December 5, 2022.
- The General Meeting for December 1, 2022, at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation was set.

- Council received a briefing on a recent follow-up call with Canadian Heritage and agreed to further the conversation with Canadian Heritage on funding opportunities.
- An update was provided on a land lease request made to the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the response to the request. Further dialogue within MCA will occur and be reported back.
- Council agreed that a request would be made to the Justice Department to present the Section 84 release program.
- A request for clarity on the use of Canoe Procurement was made and provided by administration.
- Council agreed to schedule a Mohawk Government Holiday dinner.
- A briefing was provided on the CBSA domestic lane. Council agreed that a release would be sent to the community reminding the implications of improperly declaring your arrival when using the domestic lane.
- Council discussed the current initiatives underway to support staff and community wellness.
- MCRs passed: Appointment of a community member to Akwesasne Review Commission; Approval of ACFS Children's Nutrition Program; Approval of budget modification to support Organization Health and Wellness Strategy initiative; Approval of assignment of lease Hamilton Island; Approval of an amendment to MCR regarding a permit for Bell Canada; Acceptance of new organization chart for Mohawk Government; Approval of delegated authority to Program Manager Akwesasne Family Wellness for occupancy permits issuance; Approval of 20/21 Canada Mortgage Housing audit; Approval to accept one-time special contribution from Canada Mortgage Housing; Approval of amendment to

Canada Akwesasne funding agreement; Approval of amendment to correct salary step increase; Approval of 21/22 Canada Mortgage Housing Audit.

NOVEMBER 21, 2022, MINISTRY OF CHILDREN COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

On November 21, 2022, Justice Portfolio and I hosted a call with representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Children and Community Social Services (MCCSS). This call was a follow-up to an in-person tour in October. The representative has requested the call to share information about how they are supporting First Nation in developing their own child welfare laws. On the call of November 21, the representatives walked through the process for First Nations to follow so that when their laws are enacted, there will be a smoother transition in implementation. Akwesasne is developing our own child welfare law and will be working with the ministry to ensure our implementation is supported by the province.

NOVEMBER 23, 2022, SYSCO FOODS

On the afternoon of November 23, 2022, I met with a representative from Sysco Foods to learn more about the services, and good sold by Sysco. I discussed with the representative the possibility of purchasing bulk nonperishable food to support the community. At the November 23 meeting we agreed to open an account with Sysco and to explore options with food to support the community.

NOVEMBER 24, 2022, CORNWALL MAYOR

On the morning of November 24, 2022, I met with Cornwall Mayor Justin Towndale. Since Mayor Towndale's election in November, we have committed to meeting regularly to ensure we are supporting each other and continuously looking at partnership opportunities. At the November 24 meeting, I committed to helping the mayor get a Mohawk language translation for his official business card, and we discussed the upcoming Akwesasne, City of Cornwall Co-owners meeting that was happening the same day.

NOVEMBER 24, 2022, CORNWALL AKWESASNE HARBOR MEETING

On November 24, 2022, I participated in the monthly Co-Owners committee meeting hosted by the City of Cornwall. The project manager from ACC Futures provided reports to the owners on the current work plan and status of undertaking, a proposed financial management policy was reviewed and discussed, as the committee reviewed the records retention policy. The committee agreed that the draft policies would be reviewed by the parties and brought back to the committee in January 2023.

NOVEMBER 26,27, 28 2022, HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT

On November 26, 2022, I travel to Toronto to participate in the Higher Education Summit which is a three-day conference

for Ontario College board members and faculty. Over the course of the three days, I participated in a governance session for board chairs only, where several sector updates were provided from compensation to union and governance reform. Two of the three days include main plenary presentations from individuals varying from Climate Change to journalism in third-world countries. The days were broken into afternoon breakout sessions on diverse topics. My sessions were on love and war, Stories of tragedy and resilience from across the world, and leading in a hybrid world, where experts shared their insight and provided the participants with considerations to improve their board and the college overall. The Higher Education Conference is an annual conference that occurs annually within the City of Toronto for all Ontario Colleges to participate in.

NOVEMBER 29, 2022, NATION BUILDING

Following our internal session Nation Building session that occurred earlier in the month of November, I followed up with an in-person meeting request to Canada. On November 29, 2022, Canada Chief Federal Negotiator Steve Gagnon and his two senior legal counsel travelled to Akwesasne to participate in community tour and a meeting with our Akwesasne negotiation team. We started the day off with a full tour of the community, including a detail overview of the challenges created by the international border on our community. All through the tour I highlighted the relevance of the outstanding negotiations issues on our community. Following our community tour, we joined the entire Akwesasne team for

lunched followed by a meeting where we communicated to Canada our desire to change a few things in the negotiations process. We explained that we desired to focus.

NOVEMBER 29, 2022, ONTARIO POWER GENERATION

On the afternoon of November 29, 2022, I hosted a call with representatives from OPG and Autra Power to learn more about the battery storage units. Recently the Ontario Government through the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) issued a call for proposals for companies to submit to become a provider of battery storage units. On the call of November 29, 2022, it was explained to me that Autra Power was a subsidiary of OPS and Autra is responsible for the battery projects on behalf of OPG. I have explained the corporate structure and the plans for Autra to bid on the IESO projects. We discussed partnership opportunities and agreed to connect again in 2023 as their work progresses.

NOVEMBER 30, 2022, JAY TREATY BORDER ALLIANCE

Leading up to the meeting with the Jay Treaty Border Alliance (JTBA) Governance Table occurring in December, I hosted a call with Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) Indigenous Director to prepare for the upcoming meeting. On November 30, 2022, we hosted a call to review the agenda for the December 5, Governance Table meeting, the draft terms of reference for the table, and the draft work plan. On the call, we made minor revisions to the material and agreed it would be circulated ahead of the upcoming meeting



GRAND CHIEF MONTHLY REPORT TSIOTHOHRHA / DECEMBER 2022

DECEMBER 2, 2022, MCA FINANCE COMMITTEE

On the morning of December 1, 2022, I attended the monthly finance committee meeting. The committee discussed a request from administration to allocate additional resources from island revenues to support expanded staffing at the Office of Vital Statistics. The committee supported the allocation and will make recommendation to Council. The committee passed a motion to allow for the three recreations to receive the full rental fee for the MCA uses. The committee also discussed the current MCA honorarium rate and agreed to recommend to Council an increase. An update was provided on the timelines of the 2021/22 audit. The committee agreed to post another call-out for MCA finance committee community members.

DECEMBER 2, 2022, BORDER COLLABORATION INITIATIVE

On the morning of December 2, 2022, I met with the MCA, Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) Border Collaboration Initiative members. This meeting was to review the approved 2023/24 MCA CBSA work plan and to assign members of council to each working circle. The committee reviewed the work plan and agreed on which members of council will assist with each priority area.

DECEMBER 2, 2022, UNITED COUNTIES OF SD&G

On the morning of December 2, 2022, following the internal Border Collaboration Initiative meeting, I attended the United Counties of SD&G inauguration for the 2023 Warden. Tony Fraser, the Mayor for North Dundas was taking the oath of office to become the Warden for SD&G. All the local Mayors for the counties, and several counsellors were in attendance for the swearing-in. I was asked to make a few remarks on behalf of Akwesasne. I congratulated Warden Tony and offered my assistance in bridging gaps between Akwesasne and the SD&G Counties.

DECEMBER 5, 2022, JAY TREATY BORDER ALLIANCE GOVERNANCE TABLE

On the afternoon of December 5, 2022, members of the Jay Treaty Border Alliance (JTBA) convened the first Jay Treaty Border Alliance and the Government of Canada Governance

Table. At the meeting, the table participants reviewed the Minister and First Nation meeting summary from October 19, 2022. Afterwards, the committee reviewed and revised the terms of reference for the governance table and discussed the roles and responsibilities of each party and how it will keep the technical tables on task and moving along. The committee reviewed the approved work plan and agreed that technical table leads would be responsible for administering them. The committee provided input in the process and provided roundtable expectations.

DECEMBER 6,7,8, 2022, ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS, SPECIAL CHIEFS' ASSEMBLY



On December 6, 7, and 8, 2022, I attended the Assembly of First Nation Special Chiefs Assembly in Ottawa. The assembly included the usual welcomes from the National Chief, and host community. The AFN Charter renewal committee presented to the assembly proposed amendment to the charter. The Chiefs in the assembly debated the recommendation for a lengthy period and made a number of revisions to the resolutions prior to accepting the resolution. The assembly debated other resolutions on the AFN organizational structure. Over the course of three days, the assembly received updates and presentations on various files including from the Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools. The assembly participated in plenary session on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and the final settlement agreement on reform to the child welfare system. Various ministers presented to the assembly including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau who also took questions from the Chiefs. A milestone accomplishment for the assembly was the acceptance of a pathway forward for First Nation Child Welfare Reform with compensation for children and families affected by the underfunded child welfare system. This assembly was more productive than in July, but the AFN has a lot of work to do, including embracing and leading constructive change conducive to the Chiefs in Assembly.

DECEMBER 19, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE

- Representatives from Quebec Aboriginal Affairs introduced themselves to Council and explained their role within the ministry. The representatives explained the Aboriginal Initiative Fund (AIF) and the funding available for community development and business.
- Council discussed the recent prolonged power outage. Administration will follow up with Emergency Measures, and Council will follow up with Quebec and Quebec Hydro.
- MCRs passed: Approval to use reserves to purchase portable units for Iohahi:io expansion; Approval of appointment of community member represent Tsi Snaihne on the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission; Approval of an amendment to Ontario Transfer Payment agreement for Gladue Writer, Approval of an amendment to the organizational chart to OVS; Approval of updated job description for the position of Executive Director; Approval of application to Aboriginal Initiative Fund for church steeple repair; Approval of an amendment to MCA honorarium policy; Approval of 2021/22 audit for Akwesasne Mohawk Police; Approval of 2021/22 audit of AMPS Joint Investigative; Approval of 2021/22 audit AMPS SAVE Team; Approval of 2021/22 audit OFNLP; Approval of amendment to Akwesasne Canada funding agreement; Approval of agreement with Indigenous Services for navigator position.

DECEMBER 19, 2022, MCGILL UNIVERSITY

On the afternoon of December 19, 2022, I hosted a call with Geoffrey Kelly who is the former Quebec Aboriginal Affairs Minister. Geoffrey had requested a call with me to provide an update on behalf of McGill University on the ongoing dispute over the demolition of the Royal Victoria Hospital. An Indigenous group has recently received a court injunction to stop the demolition citing the site was a possible burial ground for Indigenous children. On the call of December 19 Geoffrey Kelly updated me on the status and efforts underway by McGill to find a solution to the dispute.

DECEMBER 19, 2022, QUEBEC ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS



On the afternoon of December 19, 2022, we hosted representation of the Quebec Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs responsible for the administration of the Indigenous Initiatives Fund. The Tsi Snaihne Recreation welcomed the delegation to the recreation center and provided them with a nice lunch. Following the lunch, the committee described what the recreation does for the community and how the supports from Quebec have helped the recreation. The committee discussed their ideas for future expansion of amenities at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation. After our tour of the Tsi Snaihne Recreation, we headed to the St Regis Mission Church where we toured and learned more about the steeple stabilization project. Recently the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne applied to the Aboriginal Initiative fund to assist the St. Regis Mission Church.

DECEMBER 20, 2022, ONE CIRCLE COMMUNITY UNVEILING CORNWALL POLICE SERVICE

On December 20, 2022, I attended the Cornwall Police Service office in the City of Cornwall to take part in the unveiling of a unique piece of art commissioned by the Chief of Police Shawna Spowart. Yafa Goawily the artist described to the audience the history of the piece and explained every element of the art piece and what it meant and how it made its way into the art. The art is a representation of the diversity of the region including Indigenous and Newcomers to Cornwall.

DECEMBER 20, 2022, CUSTOMS, AND IMMIGRATION UNION



On the morning of December 20, 2022, I met with representatives from the Customs and Immigration Union who is the union presenting Border Service Officers (BSO) for Canada Border Service Agency

(CBSA). I had contacted the local union representative and agreed to meet to begin a dialogue to ensure information sharing and collaboration where possible. At the meeting on December 20, 2022, we discussed the ongoing challenge at the Cornwall Port of Entry with staff shortages and how it impacts the community. I explained my ongoing advocacy for more officers at the Cornwall POE and committed to supporting the union on their efforts to get more officers. We also discussed the upcoming awareness training where I explained it was important to have the training in Akwesasne. I committed to the union that I would meet directly with their membership to share information and to hear them out and answer questions.

DECEMBER 21, 2022, SPARKS ENERGY

On December 21, 2022, I participated in a call with Jessica Bourdeau from Sparks Energy regarding the ACC Futures. Jessica was commissioned by the ACC Futures board to conduct a stakeholder engagement on ACC Futures and learn how they can continue to provide improved services to their clients. On the call of December 21, 2022, I explained our working relationship with ACC Futures and described the service provided to the Mohawk Council. I offered insight into challenges and strengths and how we can continue to build upon our existing relationship with the harbor project and continue to expand services in to Akwesasne.

DECEMBER 21, 2022, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA

On December 21, 2022, I hosted a call with Environment and Climate Change Canada, wildlife enforcement division regarding a recent incident where Akwesasne hunters' equipment was seized by the enforcement officer for setting up within protected areas near Sugar Bush Island. On the call of December 21, 2022, I expressed our frustration with the actions of Canada. The representatives expressed a desire to work closer with Akwesasne and explained the legislative barriers they face with protected wildlife lands. We committed to reconnecting after the holiday to ensure the equipment is returned and that the MCA is collaborating with Environment Climate Change Canada.

DECEMBER 21, 2022, CANADA BORDER SERVICE AGENCY

On the morning of December 21, 2022, I hosted a call with the Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) Regional Director General Eric Lapierre to discuss current staff shortages at the Cornwall Port of Entry. I expressed to Eric the continued frustrations of the wait time and the anxiety it causes. I also discussed the ongoing awareness training with the CBSA and Akwesasne. Eric committed to continue to connect regularly to discuss the ongoing collaboration.

DECEMBER 21, 2022, GLENGARRY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

On the morning December 21, 2022, I joined a call with the President & CEO of the Glengarry Memorial Hospital Robert Alldred-Huges regarding the hospitals strategic plan. On the call the CEO provided me with an overview of the plan and discussed various new elements and what they meant to the hospital. After the review I provided feedback from an Akwesasne lens into the plan and talked about the importance on inclusion and reconciliation.