





**MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE**

# 2022-2023 Annual Report

**VISION STATEMENT**

“With a good mind it is our responsibility to protect and exercise our inherent rights while creating sustainable partnerships and building a strong community for future generations.”

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission of the MCA is to provide consistent quality services that will enhance the quality of life for all Akwesasronon today, while protecting our rights and preserving our resources for the next seven generations.



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# Thanksgiving Address

(English Version)

As is customary among our people, we begin each meeting or gathering with the Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwén, or Thanksgiving Address. In this greeting, we acknowledge the contributions of all elements of creation and say thank you. At the end of each meeting we close with similar words. The following version of the Thanksgiving Address was sent by the Mohawk Nation and the Haudenosaunee Grand Council via Chief Jake Swamp to the Fourth Russell Tribunal, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, November, 1980.

## THE PEOPLE

We who have gathered together are responsible that our cycle continues. We have been given the duty to live in harmony with one another and other living things. We give greetings that our people still share the knowledge of our culture and ceremonies and are able to pass it on. We have our elders here and also the new faces yet to be born, which is the cycle of our families - for this we give thanks and greetings. Now our minds are one.

## THE EARTH

We give greetings and thanks to our Mother the Earth - she gives us that which makes us strong and healthy. We are grateful that she continues to perform her duties as she was instructed. The women and Mother Earth are our givers of life. We are her color, her flesh and her roots. Now our minds are one.

## THE PLANTS

We greet and thank the medicine plants of the earth. They have been instructed by the Creator to cure our diseases and sicknesses. Our people will always know their native names. They come in many forms and have many duties. Through the ones who have been vested with knowledge of the medicine plants, we give thanks. Now our minds are one. We give greetings and thanks to the plant life. Within the plants is the force of substance that sustains many life forms. From the time of the creation we have seen the various forms of plant life work many wonders. We hope that we will continue to see plant life for the generations to come. Now our minds are one. We give a greetings and thanks to the strawberry plants. We see them when the wind becomes warm again on the earth; the strawberries are indeed hanging there. And it is also true that we use them, that we drink the (straw)berry water. Now our minds are one.

## THE THREE SISTERS

We have been given three main foods from the plant world - they are the corn, beans, and squash - the Three Sisters. For this we give thanks and greetings in the hope that they too will continue to replenish Mother Earth with the necessities of the life cycle. Now our minds are one.

## THE WATERS

We give thanks to the spirit of waters for our strength of well being. The waters of the world have provided many things - they quench our thirst, provide food for the plant life, and are the source of strength for the medicines we need. Now our minds are one.

## THE ANIMALS

We give thanks and greetings to the animal life. They are still living in the forests and other places. They provide us with food and this gives us peace of mind knowing that they are still carrying out their instructions as given by the Creator. We therefore give greetings and thanks to our animal brothers. Now our minds are one.

## THE TREES

We acknowledge and give greetings to the trees of the world. They too continue to perform the instructions which they were given. The maple trees are the symbols as the head of the trees. It is the maple trees that provide us with sap for our syrup and is the first sign of the rebirth of spring. The trees provide us with shelter, shade, and fruits. Long ago our people were given a way of peace and strength and this way is symbolized by the everlasting tree of peace. Now our minds are one.

## THE BIRDS

We now turn our thoughts toward the winged creatures. They have songs which they sing to help us appreciate our own purpose in life. We are reminded to enjoy our life cycle. Some of the winged creatures are available to us as food and they too are carrying out their responsibilities. To us the eagle is the symbol of strength. It is said that they fly the highest and can see the creation. We show our gratitude for the fulfillment of his duties. Now our minds are one.

## THE FOUR WINDS

We listen and hear the voices of the four winds. We are assured that they are following the instructions of the Creator. They bring us strength. They come from the four directions. For this we give greetings and thanks. Now our minds are one.

## THE THUNDERERS

To the Thunderers we call our Grandfathers we give greetings and thanks. You have also been given certain responsibilities by the Creator. We see you roaming the sky carrying with you water to renew life. Your loud voices are heard from time to time and for the protection and medicine you give, we offer our thanksgiving. Now our minds are one.

## THE SUN

Our thoughts now turn to the sky. We see the sun, the source of life. We are instructed to call him our Eldest Brother. With the sun we can see the perfect gifts for which we are grateful. Our Brother sun nourishes Mother Earth and is the source of light and warmth. Our Brother is the source of all fires of life. With every new sunrise is a new miracle. Now our minds are one.

## THE MOON

During the night time we see the moon. We have been instructed to address her as our Grandmother. In her cycle she makes her face new in harmony with other female life. Our Grandmother Moon still follows the instructions of the Creator. Within these are the natural cycles of women. She determines the arrival of children, causes the tides of the oceans and she also helps us measure time. Our Grandmother continues to lead us. We are grateful and express our thanksgiving. Now our minds are one.

## THE STARS

The Stars are the helpers of Grandmother Moon. They have spread themselves all across the sky. Our people knew their names and their messages of future happenings even to helping to mold individual character of mankind. The Stars provide us with guidance and they bring the dew to the plant life. As we view the beauty of the Stars we know that they too are following the instructions of the Creator. Now our minds are one.

## THE FOUR BEINGS

The four powerful spirit beings who have been assigned by the Creator to guide us both by day and night are called the Sky Dwellers. Our Creator directed these helpers to assist him in dealing with us during our journey on Mother Earth. They know our every act and they guide us with the teachings that the Creator established. For the power of direction, we give greetings and thanks to the Sky Dwellers. Now our minds are one.

## THE CREATOR

We now turn our thoughts to the Creator himself. We choose our finest words to give thanks and greetings to him. He has prepared all things on earth for our peace of mind. Then he said, "I will now prepare a place for myself where no one will know my face, but I will be listening and keeping watch on the people moving about the earth." And indeed, we see that all things are faithful to their duties as he instructed them. We will therefore gather our minds into one and give thanks to the Creator. Now our minds are as one.



Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen  
(Mohawk Version)

Ta káti' wi' ó:nen sewatahonhsí:iohst tsi ó:nen entewarihahnhotón:kon.

Akwé:kon énska tsi entitewahwe'nón:ni ne onkwa'nikòn:ra tsi akwé:kon skén:nen iakwanonhtónnion. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton iethni'nihsténha ohwéntsia tsi shé:kon iakotirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra. Teiethinonhwerá:ton ohonte'shòn:a tsi shé:kon iotitirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' wáhe niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton áhsen na'tekontahnón:tere (áhsen nikontenò:se) tsi shé:kon iotirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton niihontéhsha' tsi shé:kon iotirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton ononhkwa'shon:a tsi shé:kon iotirihwahtenkié:ton Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton oien'kwa'ón:we tsi shé:kon iotirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton okwire'shòn:a tsi shé:kon iotirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton kontírio tsi shé:kon iethí:kens. Ta tho wi'wáhe niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton ohneka'shòn:a tsi shé:kon ionkwatston'hákíe. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton otsti'ten'okòn:a tsi shé:kon iethí:kens. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton ne kaié:ri nikawerà:ke tsi shé:kon ioneterihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton ratiwé:rahs tsi shé:kon ronnaterihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton shonkwa'tsi:ah kiohkehnéhkha karáhkwa tsi shé:kon roterihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton ionkhihsótha wenhni:tare tsi shé:kon iakotirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton iotsistohk- warónnion tsi shé:kon iotirihwahtenkié:ton. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon teiethinonhwerá:ton kaié:ri niionkwé:take tsi shé:kon ionkhi'nikòn:rare. Ta tho wi' eh niihtónha'k onkwa'nikòn:ra.

Akwé:kon énska tsi tewarò:rok onkwa'nikòn:ra tánon tetshitewanonhwerá:ton Shonkwaia'tison tsi orihwakwé:kon roweienentà:on.





# Introduction

To the community, March 2023

We are delighted to share our 2022-2023 Annual Report, showcasing the significant accomplishments and advancements made throughout the fiscal year from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. Our services and programs remain tailored to address the needs of the Akwesasne community, and this report highlights the various ways we have successfully met our objectives.

This year, we started to experience a return to normalcy after a pandemic that affected every aspect of our organization and services. We cautiously resumed in-person events and began adapting to a new "normal."

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's fall open houses marked our first large in-person gathering for staff and the community since pre-COVID. We received invaluable feedback that will help us plan future programs and services. We appreciate your continued participation in our events and, most importantly, your input, which is essential for us to serve you better.

The pandemic strengthened many of our services, sparked our creativity, and, most importantly, deepened our appreciation for personal connections with the community. Serving you is our duty, and we take great pride in both our significant and small achievements.

Throughout the 2022-2023 fiscal year, changes were evident across all areas of MCA, including during the interim term of MCA Executive Director Ann Seymour. We extend our gratitude to Ann for her dedication and leadership. Under Ann's guidance, the wellness of staff and the community was prioritized and openly discussed. The MCA Organizational Mental Health & Wellness Initiative emphasized the importance of supporting employees in various ways to ensure their well-being, enabling them to succeed both at work and at home as integral members of their community.

Emergency planning and response were also priorities this year as we faced a very snowy winter and extended multi-day power outages. Our departments and staff came together with a passion for helping the community through these challenging times by providing services, meals, access to medical assistance, safety checks, and regular updates of information. Every department contributed to the effort, and our teamwork under these circumstances greatly benefited the community. We also extend our gratitude to volunteers like the Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department for their dedication to assisting the community during emergencies.

Throughout the year, we celebrated numerous organizational achievements, such as the renewal of our Department of Health Accreditation, which ensures we can continue providing essential health services. We also marked the opening of the Akwesasne Skatepark, offering a healthy and enjoyable space for both youth and adults. Additionally, the Akwesasne Child Law committee was established to begin developing a Child's Rights Law that will protect children according to Akwesasne's standards.

These and other achievements are detailed throughout the following pages of our annual report. We invite you to delve into the report to learn more about our successes, projects, and statistics from all our departments.

We welcome your feedback on this report, which you can provide by emailing [info@akwesasne.ca](mailto:info@akwesasne.ca).

We look forward to continuing to serve you.

Niawenhkó:wa

GRAND CHIEF



Grand Chief Abram Benedict



DISTRICT OF KAWEHNO:KE

  
Chief Vanessa Adams

  
Chief Jackie Benedict

  
Chief Edward Roundpoint

  
Chief Vince Thompson

DISTRICT OF KANA:TAKON

  
Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell

  
Chief Ryan Jacobs

  
Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

  
Chief Tim Thompson

DISTRICT OF TSI SNAIHNE

  
Chief April Adams-Phillips

  
Chief Sarah-Lee Sunday Diabo

  
Chief JoAnn Swamp

  
Chief Dwayne Thomas



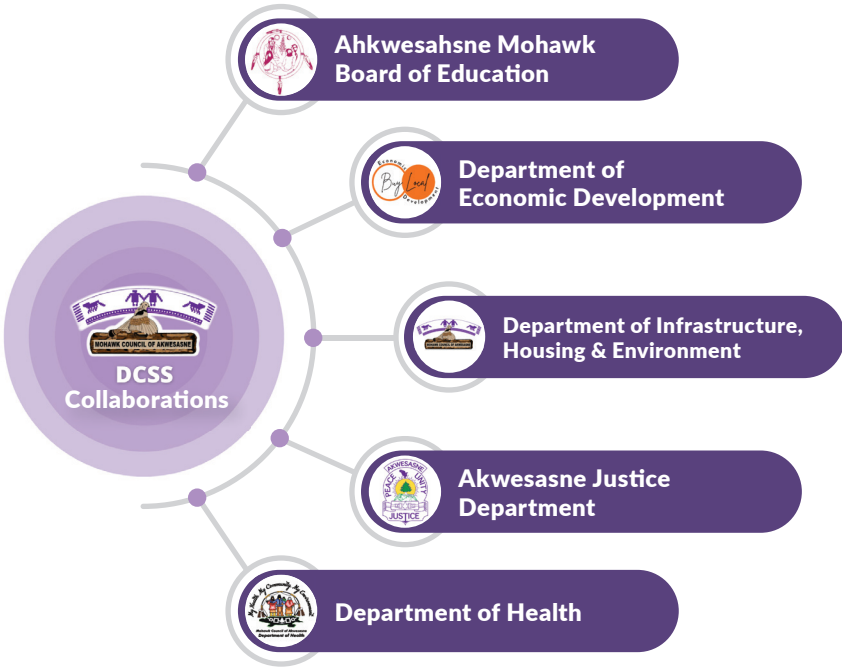
# Department of Community & Social Services

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS:

- » Akwesasne Child & Family Services
- » Akwesasne Family Wellness Program
- » Community Support Program

The 2022-2023 fiscal year continued the long-term reform of the Child Welfare system in Ontario, the continued negotiation of long-term reform of the First Nation Child and Family Services at the federal level, income assistance reform federally, and infrastructure and capital upgrades to DCSS facilities across Akwesasne. Continued human resource shortages, cost of living increases, and changes to government legislation across Ontario have resulted in an increase in need for all DCSS services.

In response to these departmental priorities, DCSS administration collaborated largely with the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education, Department of Economic Development, Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment, Akwesasne Justice Department and Department of Health to support our community.



PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE EXAMPLES:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| » Emergency Home Repairs Program for Families | » Increased Support to Thompson Island Cultural Camp |
| » Full Sponsorship of AMBE Hot Lunch Program  | » Organizational Wellness Initiative                 |

ADMINISTRATION

Department of Community and Social Services administration supports the programs within with higher level strategic coordination and vision of the operations of the department as a whole, linking of program partnership between MCA departments, external community agencies, and professional consultant services as needed.

Department Highlights

DCSS Administration is the first point of contact for the Special Needs Fund for the community and administers this from the first point of contact to approval or denial of an application for funding. This year, we successfully increased the age for eligibility from ages 0-30 to 0-99. This year we received six applications to the special needs fund and all six qualified for funding and were approved. Lastly, DCSS administration has been actively advocating for additional funding and resources in the areas of Developmental Services for children and adults in Akwesasne across Ontario and Québec.

DCSS Administration has supported Akwesasne Child and Family Services in the continued backing of Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club (ABGC) programs and services; new allocation for capital investment in the creation of additional ABGC spots for the children and youth in Akwesasne; and continued/ additional support to the Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (DIHE) to provide additional emergency home repairs to the community.

We began the thorough review of vendors for a new Indigenous-Led Database for ACFS and eventually for the entire DCSS Department to utilize for the efficient, and effective tracking of client/community data under both provincial legislations. To date, we have purchased a new database and began the implementation phase of this new database in 2023-2024. DCSS will be the first, First Nation to have an Indigenous-Led Database that is separate of provincially owned information technology.

We have contributed to the operational expansion of Thompson Island Cultural Camp with additional staff, a pontoon boat for programming needs, as well as additional program supplies for workshops for the community. Additionally, we have also partnered with Economic Development to further support the operations of the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena and providing activities such as free family skating (jointly with Akwesasne Family Wellness Program), the purchase

of a splash pad (installation pending) and a new playground (installation pending). Lastly, a new organizational structure was passed for ACFS to increase staffing across all ACFS teams to address the increased demand for their support and services.

Akwesasne Family Wellness Program with the support of DCSS Administration have passed a new organizational structure which will add a supervisor position, as well as additional staffing in the shelter and outreach program. Infrastructure and capital renovations have been underway to increase the capacity of the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program to serve the community. We are predicting that the main shelter building will be open in full capacity for the Fall of 2023.

DCSS Administration has assisted Community Support Program (CSP) in the update of our policies and procedures related to income assistance rates for basic needs, temporary care arrangements, childcare, funeral allotments, and other financial related policies. This resulted in the Mohawk Council Resolution (MCR) which has provided additional financial support to income assistance clients in the communities to combat inflation. Some other considerations given were policy changes to our employability and employment assistance program to encourage the reintegration of community members to the workforce. We continue to support the completion of the multi-trades lab and have added two additional positions to the Community Support Program organizational structure.

We continue our partnership with Akwesasne Career & Employment Support Services (ACESS) on our ages 18-30 program to assist with getting this demographic into the workforce quicker. We have also partnered with Economic Development to purchase grow containers (installation pending) to address food sovereignty in Akwesasne. With funding provided by CSP, Economic Development will be able to purchase the containers and needed equipment to commence growing our own fruits and vegetables year-round.



Six Special Needs applicants approved



MCA and ACFS proudly presented a cheque to the Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club for over \$974,000.



ACFS developing new Indigenous-Led Database



Continued partnership with ACESS to gain young adults interest to enter the workforce.



AKWESASNE CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

Program Highlights & Accomplishments

Akwesasne Child and Family Services (ACFS) is responsible for conducting child prevention and community support related activities as well as being responsible for conducting the Child Protection Mandate under the Children, Youth, and Family Services Act in Ontario and the protection mandate in Quebec, the Quebec Youth Protection Act.



This past year ACFS has had to navigate the extenuating circumstances of inflation and the cost of living for young families with children. ACFS distributed food/gas cards for families totaling **\$82,225**, including fresh, frozen, and non-perishable food items.



In addition, ACFS distributed Family Sustainability Checks through approved MCR 2022/2023 - #271, in the amount of **\$2,613,000** to assist families with rising costs associated with inflation.



ACFS has continued to disburse surplus monies to various community projects through several approved MCR's during this fiscal year. These projects included continued afterschool programs, summer camp programs, district recreation centers, poverty reduction, transportation, educational services, mental health services, sports and health related programming, traditional/cultural camps and programs, and continued revitalization of Kanien'keha.



The ACFS Annual Snow Suit Drive began in November 2022. The agency collaborated with International Border Company (IBC), in Malone, New York to procure winter clothing for the children and youth of Akwesasne. This initiative provided **54 clients** and **81 families** with new winter jackets, ski pants, winter boots, hats, and gloves totaling **\$37,500**.



Over the last year, ACFS has not been required to commence any child welfare court proceedings or bring any Akwesasronon families to court. When children were unable to stay in their homes and required to live with alternative caregivers for safety reasons, ACFS has offered customary care agreements as an alternative to initiating court applications. Over the last fiscal year, ACFS has entered into 10 customary care agreements with families, allowing children to be safely cared for by extended family and ensure the preservation of their heritage, cultural identity, and traditions. This is done by working collaboratively with the Akwesasne Representative and Advocacy Program (ARAP) who advocate for the rights of Indigenous children involved in child welfare. ACFS, in partnership with ARAP, continues to grow its Customary Care Program to meet the unique needs of Akwesasronon families and ensure children and youth are cared for physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Furthermore, ACFS supported three youth with continued care and support based on their needs and aspirations for a smooth transition to adulthood through the Ready, Set, Go Program in conjunction with Post Majority Care.



ACFS is currently collaborating with Akwesasne Justice Department on the development of Akwesasne Child Rights and Responsibilities Law.

PHILOSOPHY/VISION STATEMENT

As gifts from the creator and the future of our nation, it is essential that the children and youth receive the care and nurturing they need and deserve.

MISSION STATEMENT

We care, trust, and believe in the strength of Akwesasne.

MANDATE

As a fully designated Child Protection Agency, we are committed in promoting the best interests, protection, and well-being of children.



ACFS has collaborated with the Association of Native Child and Family Services on developing new Indigenous tools for family assessments that are culturally relevant and anti-oppressive.



ACFS Associate Director and Service Managers have been active in participating in meetings with the Ontario Eastern Zone Directors and Directors of Service, Association of Native Child and Family Services Agencies of Ontario (ANCFSAO), and Independent First Nations (IFN) in the five-year review of the Child, Youth and Family Services Act through collaborating review, identifying concerns, and providing comments. A collaborated response has been sent to the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services for their consideration.



ACFS was approved by MCR 2022/2023 #333 to contract with Redmane Technology to begin a three-phase development and installation plan for our own Indigenous-led case management software system for frontline staff at ACFS.



ACFS' new organizational chart was approved by MCR 2022/2023 #148 on August 29, 2022, to update management and front-line staff positions required to move the agency into a more prevention-based model.



Staff from ACFS assist in the distribution of family sustainability cheques.



ACFS staff are working on developing a case management software system.

STAFF TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| » Traditional Tea Teachings<br>April 2022      | » String Bean Ceremony Training<br>Summer 2022                            | » Human/Sex Trafficking Conference<br>October 2022                    |
| » Daughters of Tradition<br>December 2022      | » ASSIST Training<br>Summer 2022  | » Active Shooter Training<br>November 2022                            |
| » Cycle of Ceremonies<br>Year Round            | » Basic Health and Safety Training<br>September 2022                      | » Corn Husk Training<br>November 2022                                 |
| » First Aide/CPR Training<br>April 2022        | » Salve Making Training<br>September 2022                                 | » New Employee Orientation<br>November 2022                           |
| » Human Trafficking Workshop<br>April 2022     | » Mental Health, Addiction, Trauma and Resilience<br>September 2022       | » Mending Broken Hearts<br>December 2022                              |
| » Customary Care Training<br>May 2022          | » ONCALL Training<br>September 2022                                       | » Teas and Tinctures<br>December 2022                                 |
| » Jordan's Principle Training<br>May 2022      | » Skillfully Influencing Others Effectively Managing Self<br>October 2022 | » Midwinter Ceremonies<br>December 2022                               |
| » Sensitivity Training<br>June 2022            | » Fire Plan Annual Review<br>October 2022                                 | » Making the Transition from Staff Member to Supervisor<br>March 2023 |
| » Matrix and Note Taking Training<br>July 2022 | » Coming Home Conference and Workshops<br>October 2022                    |   |
| » Cultural Teaching of Dyes<br>Summer 2022     |   |   |





VISION, MISSION & VALUES

To administer income support in providing competent professional services to meet the needs of Akwesasne, with special focus on individual responsibility, social inclusion and community growth and development.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Summary of Program Goals

The Community Support Program mandate is to provide a monthly income source when an individual may be experiencing difficult times from being out of work or lacking educational training and experience to find work. However, our program and services provide more than that for clients and community members who are eligible to access our services for income assistance.

The Community Support Program partnerships with the Akwesasne Career & Employment Support Services (ACCESS) and the Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education and Training Institute for adult learners to facilitate education and employment career and counselling programs and services for clients on income assistance. Those on social assistance may be experiencing barriers to employment, education, and training opportunities, so our social assistance program has opportunities which can provide recipients with options to succeed.

The Community Support Program will support you with every opportunity available to help and guide you to either return to the workforce or to increase your education and training capacity. Being on social assistance and being employable means that you are expected to work toward opportunities that will increase your chances of success in education and employment goals.

Program Highlights & Accomplishments

The Akwesasne Heating Assistance Program (AHAP) 2022-2023, as approved by Council, provided a heating and fuel assistance subsidy to its members to benefit the community of Akwesasne and Akwesasronon who are registered band members under the MCA Membership Code within the three districts of Kana:takon, Tsi Snaihne and Kawehno:ke, and members who reside in Cornwall, ON.

Akwesasne Heating Assistance Program (AHAP) 2022-2023

**Total Approved Applicants 59 years of age and under:**  
863 approved applicants x \$1,000 dollars = \$863,000

**Total Approved Elders 60 years of age and older:**  
508 approved applicants x \$1,500 dollars = \$762,000

**Total Amount Distributed: \$1,625,000**



Highlights & Accomplishments con't.

The Community Support Program, Akwesasne Career & Employment Support Services and Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education & Training Institute partnered the funding and construction of a new state-of-the-art Trades Lab at the Iohahi:io site, which will see community members being trained in certification of trades and technology programs to include a variety of skills & trades such as carpentry, plumbing, masonry, drywall, electrical, welding and other trade skills that are increasingly in demand. It is anticipated the new trades school facility should be completed by the end of 2023.

Our program supported Akwesasne Child and Family Services' Family Sustainability Cheque Distribution this year which saw each household under the jurisdiction of Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, and members residing in Cornwall, ON, receive a check in the amount of \$1,200 to assist with cost-of-living increases.

The Community Support Program funded the ACCESS Kanienkeháka Food Forest Project in 2022 which helped maintain and further revive our community gardening initiatives. This food garden initiative will continue into the Summer and Fall of 2023.

The Community Support Program has funded the St. Regis Village Church's Food Pantry Program for clients and community members alike who are in need of food and supplies. The church is also planning a box garden program for the Summer of 2023 which the Community Support Program will continue to support.

The Community Support Program has funded the Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education & Training Institute to provide micro-credentialing courses and training in programs such as Supply Teacher and Bus Driver Training to meet the demand for these employment opportunities which are available in Akwesasne.

The Community Support Program continues its partnership with ACCESS by supporting individuals seeking education, employment, and trades training opportunities while on social assistance.

The Community Support Program has a Case Manager under their outreach program targeting 18 to 30-year-old social assistance clients to provide enhanced career counseling and workshop activity for this age category. This partnership addresses increased counseling and training activity to ensure client success while accessing social assistance services and monthly income support.

The Community Support Program provides funding support to Iohahi:io's High School Diploma and Upgrading Program. This partnership provides a direct benefit to adult learners enhancing their skills as they move into education, training and employment opportunities and advancements. The partnership between our Community Support Program and Iohahi:io continues to be an effective and essential initiative in collaborating our mutual efforts to bring educational support programs to the community.

The Community Support Program continues to be an active member of the Ontario Native Welfare Administrators Association (ONWAA), which has a membership of 119 First Nations in Ontario. ONWAA provides training and development in income assistance, income reform and policy analysis and interpretation for its membership. The year 2022 saw First Nations members celebrating ONWAA's 50th Year Anniversary.

The 2021-2022 to 2022-2023 fiscal years saw Community Support Program staying within its budgeting allocation at the final closeout year end. In part, this was due to various programs and services temporarily closing or reducing their service delivery capacity for clients under employment and education initiatives due to the pandemic crises.

Ontario First Nations, Chiefs of Ontario, The Assembly of First Nations in consultation with Indigenous Services Canada and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services have begun planning discussions whereby First Nations will engage a pilot project moving disability income supports from provincial

municipal income assistance offices to First Nations delivery sites on their territories. Notably however, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Community Support Program administers its own disability support program separate from the Ontario Disability Support Program and the Province of Quebec.

All the above accomplishments continue to enhance service delivery directly benefiting clients and community members as they obtain goals in employment, education and training that assists them to reach their goals much quicker.



IOHAHI:IO TRADES LAB

Community Support program partnered with ACCESS and Iohahi:io to fund the construction of a Trades Lab in Tsi Snaihne.



EDUCATIONAL + TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

CSP partnered with ACCESS to provide individuals employment, education and trades training opportunities.







Client Statistics Yearly and Monthly Averages

The 2022-2023 fiscal year again realized a moderate decrease of client numbers due to impacts of enhanced Community Support Program partnerships with programs and service delivery under education and employment. Increased partnership activity with programs such as Iohahi:io, ACCESS and AMBE continues to have a positive effect in serving the needs of our client population who are ending up transitioning into education and training programs at an accelerated pace.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
APRIL	810	869	807	686	565	524	571	360	309
MAY	728	875	782	680	571	516	535	389	384
JUNE	863	911	804	659	577	550	500	382	384
JULY	862	836	784	644	605	566	491	328	384
AUGUST	853	935	796	640	582	558	659	392	409
SEPTEMBER	838	837	741	639	544	540	484	317	383
OCTOBER	837	842	730	628	526	514	476	375	402
NOVEMBER	833	812	706	611	519	527	453	388	393
DECEMBER	1058	832	649	551	529	519	463	384	432

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
JANUARY	867	821	676	636	523	533	460	396	443
FEBRUARY	884	821	662	632	523	510	443	400	437
MARCH	912	802	651	561	532	527	439	400	497

Conclusion:

Activities, partnerships, programs and services developments listed are on-going strategies as they have evolved. In moving forward, they will continue into the new fiscal year 2023-2024 and beyond.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Community Support Program**  
Kanonhkwa't'sheri:io Health Facility  
31 Hilltop Drive, St. Regis, QC H0M 1A0  
Phone: (613) 575-2341  
Fax: (613) 575-1983

**Office Hours:**  
Monday – Friday • 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

You can apply for financial assistance by calling the Community Support Program office and asking for our Intake Case Manager who will assist you. Our office is located at the Kanonhkwa't'sheri:io Health Facility at 31 Hilltop Drive, Kana:takon (St. Regis), QC.



VISION, MISSION & MANDATE

The mission of Iethinisten:ha is to provide emergency and short-term safe housing for victims of domestic violence, abusive situations, and historical violence related trauma, through offering a culturally specific therapeutic educational healing program.

The mandate of the program is to provide educational healing services to women, men, and children. There is a separate residential unit for males who are victims of domestic violence. The 24-hour information and support line (1-800- 480-4208) is operational 365 days a year. Violence is a learned behavior, and the program's committed to the unlearning process.

EXAMPLES OF CULTURAL & PREVENTION ACTIVITIES HOSTED:

- » Human Trafficking Conference  
100 attendees
- » 2SLGBTQQIA+ Documentary and 2S Disney Movie  
75+ attendees
- » 2SLGBTQQIA+ Movie for Children at Generations Park  
75+ attendees
- » Every Child Matters March  
60+ participants
- » Cultural Cooking Classes  
30 participants
- » Missing and Murdered Indigenous People event  
75+ attendees



AKWESASNE FAMILY WELLNESS PROGRAM - IETHINISTEN:HA

Program Highlights & Accomplishments

The Cultural Therapeutic Educational Program is a six-week program that can be attended residentially or non-residentially and is available to those who meet the eligibility requirements. Alternative and flexible options for learning are available to those who work or attend school. The program offers alternative and flexible options of learning for those who work or attend school. There are four family units and an accessible unit on the main floor for those with mobility issues, and 18 beds in the main building. The residential Family Wellness Program is funded by Indigenous Service Canada (ISC).

The Outreach Program provides long-term safe housing up to four months for women, men and children who have completed the six-week Domestic Violence Program. The Outreach Educational Program is ten weeks in duration and can be attended on a residential or non-residential basis for those that may already have safe housing. This program also offers flexible options for those working or attending school. The long-term housing option offered through the Outreach Program consists of five, fully-furnished 3-bedroom town house style independent units, two 2-bedroom apartments (one is accessible), and two 1-bedroom apartments (one is accessible). The Outreach program is funded for 18 beds, which includes four that are specific to the men's Domestic Violence Unit. The Outreach Program is funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The Program receives additional funding from the Ontario Native Women's Association, Ministry of Children and Youth Services and Indigenous Services Canada.

The Outreach Program was able to deliver 12 workshops/activities within the community. The program was active on social media and provided numerous Public Service Announcements with more than 10,000 views and shares.

The Program worked with the Port Theatre to host 2SLGBTQQIA+ and Human Trafficking movies to raise awareness of social issues.

The Program was able to purchase new badminton/volleyball nets for three schools as well as soccer balls for the schools.

The Program purchased a mini home which will be used as a Counseling space for women and children, which was covered by a Provincial grant through Mental Health and Addictions call out for proposals.



The residential Family Wellness Program served **24 women and 26 children** from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.



The program received **139 information/crisis calls** from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS:

- » A'nowara'ko:wa Arena
- » Peace Tree Trade Center
- » Thompson Island Cultural Camp

# Department of Economic Development

The Department of Economic Development is dedicated to enhancing the economic prosperity of Akwesasne by fostering local businesses, promoting entrepreneurship, and providing support for cultural and recreational initiatives. This report highlights key achievements and activities carried out by the Economic Development Administration, Thompson Island Cultural Camp (TICC), and the A'nowara'kowa Arena, along with a comprehensive staff overview and special projects.

### Staff Overview

The Department of Economic Development is supported by a dedicated team that ensures the smooth operation of core functions, cultural programming, and community recreational activities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORE STAFF

Director  
Program Support Officer  
Business Services Officer  
Compliance Officer  
Project Development Officer

A'NOWARA'KO:WA ARENA STAFF

Arena Manager  
Administrative Assistant  
Head Caretaker  
(5) Caretakers

THOMPSON ISLAND CULTURAL CAMP STAFF

Camp Coordinator  
Camp Coordinator  
Carpenter  
Cook  
Camp Coordinator Intern

### Administration Highlights

The Economic Development Administration provided support to the community through grants, training programs, and other capacity-building initiatives. Key highlights include:

#### Community Training and Capacity Development

Distributed **\$32,897** to support community training and skills development, enhancing local expertise in areas such as business management, marketing, and financial literacy.

#### Entrepreneurial Support

Allocated **\$97,000** through the Entrepreneurial Small Business Grant to support local startups and business expansions, leading to job creation and increased economic activity.

#### Community Campaigns

Contributed **\$10,000** to the Buy Local Campaign, promoting the importance of supporting local businesses and increasing consumer awareness of locally available products and services.

#### Business Registration

Processed **91 business registrations**, indicating steady growth and diversification in the local business landscape.

## A'NOWARA'KO:WA ARENA

### MISSION STATEMENT

Aim to provide exceptional recreation facilities and programs, promoting wellness, fitness, and sports activities that inspire, educate, and empower community members.

The A'nowara'ko:wa Arena, built in 1995, continues to serve as a multi-functional sport and recreation facility for Akwesasne. With an ice surface in the winter and a floor surface in the summer, the facility supports diverse sports and recreational activities year-round.

### Arena Operations & Highlights

#### Ice Season (October - March)

Hosted Cornwall Minor Hockey, Men's Senior Hockey, and ACFS Sponsored Rock & Skate events.

#### Floor Season (April - August)

Hosted Akwesasne Minor Lacrosse, Women Warriors, Snake Island Muskies, and Cornwall Island Redmen.

#### Special Events

Facility for the NLL Professional Exhibition Series, featuring the Halifax Thunderbirds, San Diego Seals, and Las Vegas Desert Dogs.

### Facility Enhancements & Special Projects

- Continued to upgrade the 27-year-old facility with modernized equipment and improvements to the physical structure, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment.
- Began planning for additional upgrades, including energy-efficient lighting and expanded seating capacity for large events.

## THOMPSON ISLAND CULTURAL CAMP

Thompson Island Cultural Camp (TICC) is dedicated to fostering cultural education, environmental stewardship, and community engagement through immersive experiences and workshops. The camp served as a hub for cultural learning and community-building activities.

### Annual Camp Activities

From May to October 2022, 18 camps were held, welcoming approximately 574 visitors. These visitors included local schools, neighboring communities, Catholic school groups, MCA staff, and others.

### Community Workshops

TICC held 17 community workshops were held, engaging 274 community members. Workshop topics included traditional cooking, hide tanning, clay pottery, pipe making, basswood bag crafting, and more.

#### LANGUAGE INITIATIVES:

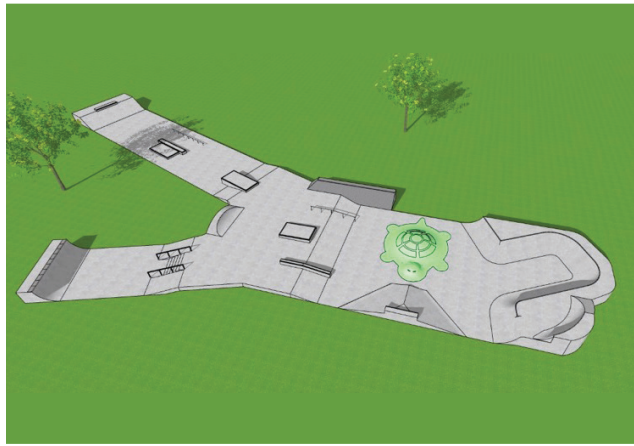
Hosted four Kanien'keha Lunch and Learn sessions, one Kanien'keha Crash Course Challenge, and Kanien'keha Bingo events, engaging over 140 participants in total.

### Elder Support Initiatives

- Distributed 150 Elder Care Packages and 200 Elder Emergency Kits in collaboration with MCA's Wholistic Health and Wellness Program and the Department of Health.
- Conducted five elder interviews to document cultural knowledge and experiences, preserving valuable community heritage.







DAIRY QUEEN DONATES \$10K TO SKATEPARK



SKATEPARK BREAKS GROUND IN JULY



SKATEPARK GRAND OPENING IN OCTOBER

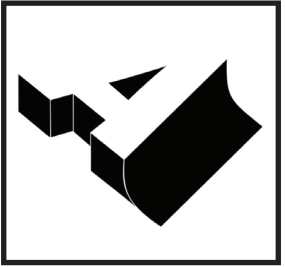


SKATEPARK HOSTS 1<sup>ST</sup> SKATE CAMP



## AKWESASNE SKATEPARK

In October 2022, the Department of Economic Development and community of Akwesasne proudly celebrated the grand opening of the Akwesasne Skatepark! Hundreds of children attended the grand opening where 200 skateboards were given away, along with helmets and pads. Since then, the skatepark has become a popular place for youth and adults alike, from Akwesasne and from the surrounding areas. We continue to host skate clinics and other events at the park, providing a positive venue and experience that promotes health, well-being, sport, and the outdoors!



## DEPARTMENT SPECIAL PROJECTS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

The Department of Economic Development has been actively pursuing several strategic initiatives that align with the community's Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's (MCA) Strategic Goals.

### 1. Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) Project:

The \$13 million high-speed internet project is progressing with the completion of major phases in Tsi Snaihne, Kana:takon, and Kawehno:ke. This initiative aims to provide reliable, high-speed internet access to every home in the community.

### 2. Arena Modernization & Enhancement:

The Arena has seen significant modernization, including the construction of a new skatepark, walking paths, and beautification efforts. This project enhances the community's recreational infrastructure, offering more inclusive and accessible spaces.

### 3. Youth Entrepreneurship Program:

Launched a bi-annual Youth Entrepreneurship Program in collaboration with local partners, providing young community members with the skills and resources needed to start their own businesses.

### 4. Indigenous Capital Community Grant Program:

Submitted a \$2.1 million grant proposal for additional enhancements to the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena, including accessibility upgrades and expanded programming capacity.

## DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Department of Economic Development is committed to ensuring transparency and effective financial management in all its projects and initiatives. Key financial highlights for 2022-2023 include:

- FTTH: Expensed \$4.9M out of \$6M for Tsi Snaihne and Kana:takon
- Community Training and Capacity Development: \$32,897
- Entrepreneurial Small Business Grant: \$97,000
- Buy Local Campaign: \$10,000
- TICC Camp Revenue: \$98,000
- TICC Local Presenters: \$17,000
- TICC Local Honorariums: \$16,000

The department will continue to explore innovative funding options and partnerships to further support community growth and prosperity.



# Executive Services

MISSION STATEMENT:

To ensure core services are provided to all departments and programs for the continuity of operations through responsible and ethical management of community resources.

VISION STATEMENT:

We strive to honor our traditional values of language, culture, safety for all, protection and respect of our environment and each other.

EXECUTIVE SERVICES PROGRAMS:

- » Aboriginal Rights & Research Office (ARRO)
- » Entewatatha:wi (Nation Building)
- » Mohawk Government
- » Office of Vital Statistics (OVS)

FISCAL YEAR 2022/23 - MCA DONATIONS REPORT

	1 <sup>ST</sup> QUARTER	2 <sup>ND</sup> QUARTER	3 <sup>RD</sup> QUARTER	4 <sup>TH</sup> QUARTER	GRAND TOTAL
APPLICATIONS	56	46	47	48	197
APPROVED	47	42	44	45	178
DENIED	9	4	3	3	19
INDIVIDUALS	34	26	36	22	118
GROUPS	3	5	3	2	13
DEATHS	19	15	8	24	66
REQUESTED	\$40,300	\$34,300	\$39,390	\$37,900	\$151,890
ALLOCATED	\$30,600	\$25,525	\$20,650	\$29,725	\$106,500
BUDGETED	\$21,250	\$21,250	\$21,250	\$21,250	\$85,000
VARIANCE	<b>(-\$9,350)</b>	<b>(-\$4,275)</b>	<b>\$600</b>	<b>(-\$8,475)</b>	<b>(-\$21,500)</b>

NOTES:

- Annual Budget is \$85,000, which breaks down to \$21,250 per quarter.
- Of the 197 total applications, 66 were for 'costs related to a death'. Council passed MCR 2019/20 - #368 on March 23, 2020, which increased the maximum approval amount for costs related to the death of a family member from \$500 to \$1,000. This revision to the policy is in effect until such time as the State of Emergency is lifted. No budget modifications have ever been made to accomodate this policy revision. As a result, there is a deficit of \$21,500 for the 2022-23 fiscal year.
- The total allocation for deaths was \$66,000. If the approval amount had not been increased to \$1,000 the allocation for each of these deaths would have been \$500, which would have totaled \$33,000. The funding allocation formula being used by the Special Projects Officer would have kept the allocations in line with the set budget and would have resulted in an overall surplus of \$11,500.

## ABORIGINAL RIGHTS & RESEARCH OFFICE

### Program Accomplishments

#### St. Lawrence Seaway Claim

The Seaway Claim was initially filed in the Federal Court of Canada in June 1976, after unsuccessful attempts by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne to negotiate the settlement of expropriation and damage claims against the St Lawrence Seaway Authority arising from the Seaway Project of the 1950s. In early 2017, the MCA approached Canada to propose negotiating a settlement outside of litigation. Proceedings for the Seaway Claim in court are stayed while the MCA negotiated a proposed settlement agreement with Canada. The MCA received a proposed Offer of Settlement on December 4, 2017 in the amount of \$45,000, 000 in exchange for the full and final release of all claims related to the Seaway litigation.

- MCR 2018/2019 #080 — Accepted the Settlement Agreement
- MCR 2020/2021 #196 — Accepted the Referendum Regulations
- MCR 2023/2024 #081 — Call to Referendum: Seaway Claim
- Community education of the History of the Seaway Claim, as well as the Settlement Agreement, began July 2023 and concluded August 10, 2023. Online voting was held from August 11, 2023 (9 a.m.) and ended August 25, 2023 (5 p.m.). In-person voting began August 26, 2023 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. in all three districts and the southern portion of Akwesasne. Voting was open to all members of the Mohawks of Akwesasne regardless of residency.

#### Tsiakaristisere/Dundee Settlement

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne received an offer for settlement of the Dundee Claim on April 29, 2015, in the amount of **\$239,808,436**, along with the ability to **add 18,282 acres of land** to Reserve status through purchase. Section 3.0 states thar a priority of the funds is to purchase land for the use and benefit of the Mohawks of Akwesasne that will be added to reserve status through the additions to reserve (ATR) process.

#### Additions to Reserve (ATR)

- MCRs for Dundee ATR and Dundee Implementation Committee Director to initiate implementation of the 2018 Settlement Agreement appointments were sent to ISC Québec Regional.
- Contacted ISC Québec RDG to establish the Dundee Implementation Committee meetings set to begin ATR Process for Baikie Keddy, Bidfell and McDonald Sisters properties.

#### Trust

- Created and Council approved MCRs for Settlement funds to be added to a new Trust.
- Gowlings WLG was chosen for the lawyers to create the trust. Welch LLP as the auditor and Proteus for the financial advisor.
- MCR created appointing the Internal Technical Team (ITT) for the creation of the trust agreement. This includes ARRO Manager, Claims Coordinator, Executive Director, Finance Director, and Director of Justice.
- Community Consultation meetings took place from June to July for a total of five meetings to educate the community on the financial vehicle that will be used for the settlement monies as per the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

### MISSION STATEMENT

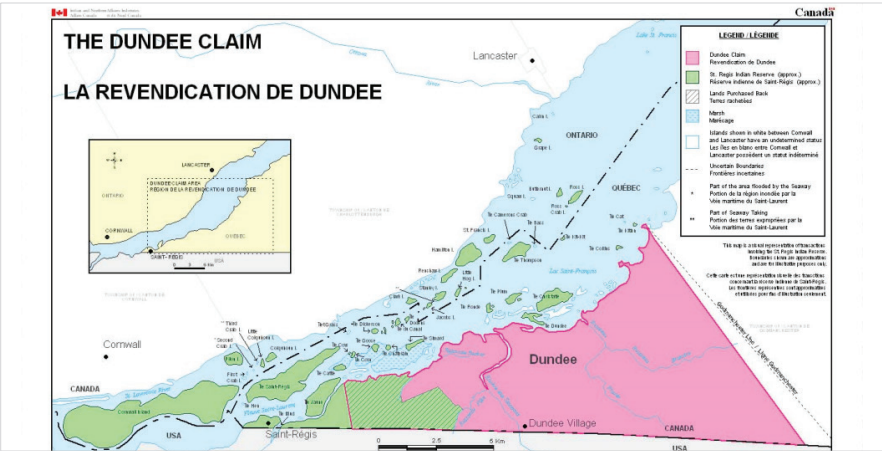
*The Aboriginal Rights and Research Office will work to advance the full recognition of the Inherent, Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of the Mohawks of Akwesasne within the political, legal, social, and economic environments in which they are affected. The Aboriginal Rights and Research Office will initiate activities and projects that make known and understood our Inherent, Aboriginal and Treaty rights within the community of Akwesasne and the public at large. The Aboriginal Rights and Research Office will work toward settling the land claims of the Mohawks of Akwesasne in an expeditious manner and will educate and inform the community to the best of its ability to ensure that issues leading to settlement are favorable, commensurate, and acceptable.*







ARRO Staff members



Dundee Land Claim

Community Education

ARRO staff are tasked with presenting historical and contemporary material to the community effectively and to reach all demographics that make up Akwesasne. As such, all forms of media are used to inform community members of meetings, updates on claims and negotiations, history, archaeology, and culture.

The history of Akwesasne is provided to staff as requested as well as history of Akwesasne to Akwesasne Career & Employment Support Serices (ACESS) college bound students career services program.

Cultural Awareness Training

Training continues to be provided to external agencies who work within and around the community. Canada Border Service Agency personnel take part in community tours, jointly developed with ARRO and CBSA, as well as two-day, in-person sessions. ARRO continues to fulfill requests as they are received to provide cultural awareness training to various agencies.

Online course on the history of Akwesasne is being developed as a prerequisite for CBSA agents prior to in class sessions. This course will be able to be shared within the MCA organization, as well as any outside entity wishing to know more about the History of Akwesasne or may need sensitivity training.

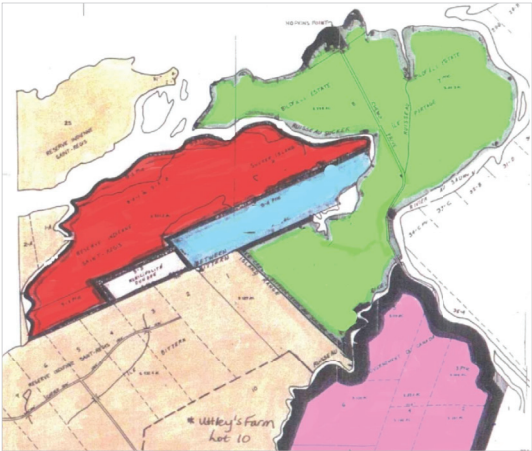
Archaeology/Cultural Properties

ARRO is mandated, under Mohawk Council Resolutions 2001/2002 #264 and 2015/2016 #177, with ensuring the protection and preservation of cultural properties within the jurisdiction of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. ARRO coordinates archaeological assessments for MCA departments and programs, and in areas with elevated potential for cultural properties. ARRO, along with the MCA Environment Program, also consults with external organizations on projects that fall within the traditional territory to ensure that cultural properties are identified and protected.

- Contributed to Cornwall Archaeological Management Plan (CAMP). ARRO ensured Akwesasne Cultural Properties Protocol was used in the development of CAMP.
- Contributed to the reburial of ancestral remains found at the Royal Vic Hospital (Montreal QC). ARRO worked alongside MNCC and MCK as well MCA chiefs to ensure the proper channels were followed.
- Worked alongside Fort Drum with their GPR system on ancestral artifacts in Akwesasne.
- Currently site monitoring Ross Island.



Cairn Island



Dundee Claim — Blue section: Baikie Keddie Property, Green section: Bildfeld Properties, Pink section: McDonald Sisters' Property.

The Additions to Reserve (ATR) Process

A formal, administrative process between a First Nation and Canada is in place, that allows for lands to be added to Reserve status. The Additions to Reserve process includes surveying, title searches, and environmental and archaeological assessments.

- OPG Islands - Presquille, Toussaint, Sheek, and Adams Island are estimated to be complete by January 2024. The OPG islands were included in the 2008 settlement Ontario Power Generation.
- Cairn Island designated as a national historic site 1921 and expropriated in 1922 by Canada without consultation with Akwesasne. The island is currently held by the Parks Canada agency, which is working with ARRO for its administrative return to reserve status. It is estimated to be completed by January 2024.
- Dundee lands Baikie Keddy, Bidfell and McDonald Sisters properties have just begun the ATR process and a formal request has been sent to ISC QC Region.
- Application to receive a grant to be a host community of the ATR process implementation committee to change the ATR process for First Nations has been submitted and we are awaiting selection process.

Research Projects

ARRO has several research projects that are potential Land and Loss of Use claims. In the past, these projects were funded in part by a department of Indigenous Services Canada though funding has been reduced significantly.

- The Nutfield Tract Survey Claim is a claim specific to the expenses borne by the Chiefs at Akwesasne in 1807 to correct the original and erroneous 1784 survey that was completed by British officials in 1784. This claim was submitted and accepted for review by Canada. ARRO awaits the three-year review period of the claim to determine if we enter negotiations with Canada.
- Research has begun on Windmill Point - situated immediately south of the City of Cornwall in the St. Lawrence River where the St. Lawrence College is now situated. "Windmill Point" was not always a peninsula. Until landfill was deposited there in the 1940's, there was an artificial causeway connecting the mainland to what was clearly an island. If it was an island, it would likely form part of the Mohawk territory of Akwesasne.
- The North Shore Claim is based on the loss of Akwesasne traditional lands on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River during a period immediately following the Revolutionary War (1783) through pressure from British Officials. The claim was not accepted for negotiation due to lack of documentary evidence in 2015. More research is being conducted with assistance from Gowling WLG and Joan Holmes to search for more evidentiary evidence for the re-submission of the claim under the Specific Claims Act.
- Cairn Island is being prepared to submit to the Specific Claims Tribunal.





ENTEWATATHÁ:WI  
(NATION BUILDING)

MISSION STATEMENT

To negotiate a self-government agreement with Canada that recognizes expanded jurisdiction and authority; and protect the Aboriginal rights and title for the Mohawks of Akwesasne.

VISION STATEMENT

To implement the inherent right of self-government of the Mohawks of Akwesasne through the Akwesasne Canada Entewatathá:wi Self-Government Agreement.

Entewatathá:wi, also known as the Nation Building project, is responsible to facilitate the Akwesasne-Canada negotiations, participate and support the Council, community advisors in the negotiations of the Entewatathá:wi Self-Government Agreement (ESGA). Nation Building’s work plan reflects the parties’ agreement to the activities pursued during this fiscal year in furtherance of the objectives set out in the Akwesasne-Canada Governance and Relationship Agreement-in-Principle.

This report provides a summary of the activities for the MCA’s Entewatathá:wi project from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

Main Table Negotiations

The MCA and the Government of Canada (Canada) are currently negotiating the specific areas in which the Mohawks of Akwesasne will exercise governance, jurisdiction, and authority. The negotiation team has made significant progress on several topics, including new definitions, interpretation provision, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, International Border Matters, Application of the Indian Act, Administration of Justice, and Registration of Interests in Akwesasne Lands. These are just a few of the subject areas.

Each negotiation session included updates from both Akwesasne and Canada representatives on topics related to the agenda. This fiscal year, Akwesasne and Canada held five main table negotiation meetings to negotiate subject matters in the ESGA. The Akwesasne team is comprised of representatives from Council, legal counsel, MCA department representatives, community advisors, and Nation Building staff. Canada’s team is represented by the Chief Federal Negotiator, Senior Negotiator, legal counsel, and other relevant department representatives.

As part of the negotiation process, Akwesasne holds preparation meetings. This fiscal year, twenty-two meetings were held. These meetings occur before each main table negotiation session to discuss the topics on the agenda. The MCA Chiefs, legal counsel, MCA department representatives, community advisors, and Nation Building staff all contribute to these discussions. This preparation is crucial for effective negotiations.

Legal Technical Review

This is a technical sub-table that was a result from main table negotiations to review the Entewatathá:wi Self-Government Agreement for language edits, technical accuracy, and completeness. This sub-table includes Entewatathá:wi staff, MCA technicians, and legal counsel. Canada’s team includes legal counsel and federal negotiator. The reviewing of the ESGA has been a beneficial and productive process. Any substantive editing is brought back to main table for further discussion, clarification, direction, or decision.

Implementation Working Group

This is a technical sub-table established as a result from main table negotiations to begin preliminary discussions on the implementation process, identify ready chapters, and discuss the planning process for the activity sheets. The Implementation Working Group completed the terms of reference for the Implementation Plan, the introduction and preamble, and five activity sheets.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE GOVERNANCE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR.

Nation Building Initiatives:

Akwesasne Land Code

The Akwesasronon Onkwenwhentsia’shon:a (Land Code) is currently fifty percent complete. The draft law sets out the principles, basic rules, and administrative structures for Akwesasne lands. The Land Code will address sections 18-41 of the Indian Act; these sections will no longer apply to the Mohawks of Akwesasne.

The Akwesasne Land Code, along with the ESGA must be finalized to ensure continuity of critical government functions.

Entewatathá:wi Advisory Committee (EAC)

The Entewatathá:wi Advisory Committee was established to provide advice relating to the development of the ESGA and guidance in the development of community publications. Since 2008 the EAC has evolved in its purpose and composition.


EAC Title Change:



In 2023, its title was changed to the Communications Working Group. Our members are known as our community advisors, and the number of members was reduced from twelve to four. This reduction in members was aimed at maintaining continuity between the Main Table negotiations and the Communications Working Group. This streamlined approach has been proven successful, as it has facilitated more cohesive and efficient communication, ensuring that the group’s objectives are met with greater clarity and responsiveness.

Nation Building established a publication titled “Entewatathá:wi News & Updates” to keep all Council members informed about the progress of the ESGA.

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



In Fall 2022, the first community newsletter titled “Path to Self-Government” was published. This newsletter provided essential background information on self-government and outlined key milestones on the path to self-government. The goal was to educate and engage community members, ensuring they are well-informed about the processes and developments related to self-government.

Executive Services Initiative:

Access to Information and Protection of Personal Privacy or ATIPP, Information Management and Security Management Framework

This project is on-going as it has multiple facets that deal with MCA’s records, the management of personal information, and the protection of sensitive information by departments. The MCA continues to update ATIPP, Information Management and Security to meet the current legislative changes.

Akwesasne Justice Department Initiative:

Akwesasne Legislative Development

The Akwesasne Justice Department Oversight Committee is responsible to oversee, receive community input, and provide community guidance and direction in the development of Akwesasne laws. The Working Task Groups are responsible for drafting the laws.

The laws that are being worked on are:

- Cannabis Law
- Emergency Management Law
- Revisions to the Akwesasne Election Law

NEGOTIATIONS TEAM MEETS WITH MINISTER MARC MILLER

In February 2023, members of the Akwesasne negotiation team met with Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Marc Miller to discuss the ongoing progress of negotiations with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. Requests were made to the Minister to further advance our negotiations and encourage Canada to prioritize dealing with Akwesasne’s outstanding barriers so a final draft can be concluded. The community’s best interests remain a top priority as this process continues.



Pictured Left to Right: Chief JoAnn Swamp, Entewatathá:wi Project Manager Rachel Lazare, Minister Marc Miller, Grand Chief Abram Benedict, Chief Edward Roundpoint, Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell, and Chief Vince Thompson.





MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as the Mohawk Government Operational Team is to identify and employ best practices in assisting the Grand Chief and Council in fulfilling their day-to-day responsibilities and provide routine, effective communications to the people of Akwesasne; to the Departments and Administration within MCA; to the Akwesasne Leadership (St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs), to other First Nations territories, and to external Governments on Council’s behalf.

VISION STATEMENT

“Efficient, effective coordination, collaboration, and responsiveness for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the community.”

Strategic Goals 2022/23

1. Foster a Safer and Healthier Work Environment

Promote a safer and healthier work environment for Mohawk Government staff and leadership while improving internal and external quality of services, particularly through guest relations.

2. Advocate for Kanienkehaka Language and Culture

Support the use and implementation of the Kanienkehaka language in both the workplace and community, enhancing cultural preservation and awareness.

3. Strengthen Intergovernmental Relationships

Improve relationships with Federal, Provincial, Local, and other First Nations Governments, as well as affiliated organizations, to foster collaboration and mutual support.

4. Enhance Community Perception and Communication

Work with the MCA communications unit to improve external perceptions of the Akwesasne community while strengthening communication processes with community members and external stakeholders.

5. Optimize Operations and Funding

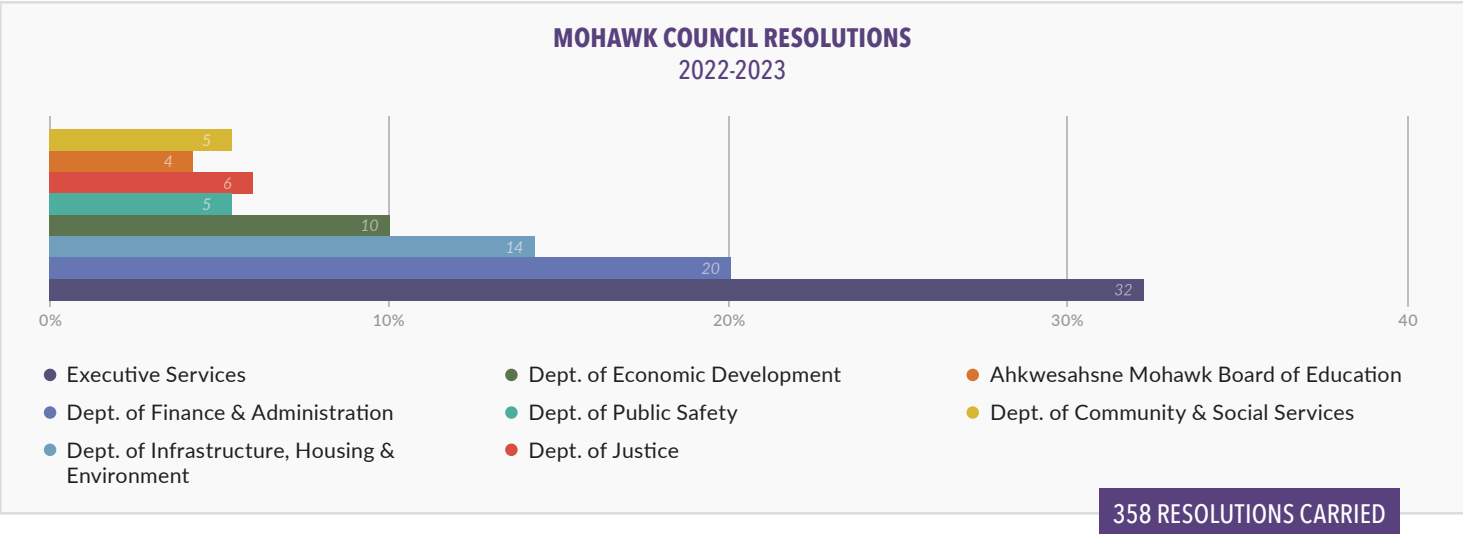
Identify and apply for external funding to enhance MCA programs, assess current record-keeping systems, and establish clear processes for interaction among the council, portfolio holders, and management to improve overall operational efficiency.

MCA Strategic Plan for 2022/27 — Council Strategic Goals

<p><b>PRIORITY 1:</b></p> <p>Governance/Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MCA maximizes its autonomy and authority in self-governance.</li><li>• MCA refines and strengthens governance practices that serve as a compass for leadership.</li><li>• Community and Council work effectively together to ensure a safe and prosperous community.</li><li>• Community laws enhance quality of life in Akwesasne.</li></ul>	<p><b>PRIORITY 2:</b></p> <p>Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Akwesasne is a self-sustaining and supportive community.</li><li>• Akwesasne invests in entrepreneurship to create and develop a competitive edge.</li><li>• Akwesasne prioritizes investing in innovative opportunities that benefit the community.</li></ul>	<p><b>PRIORITY 3:</b></p> <p>Culture and Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Akwesasne is a bilingual community.</li><li>• MCA captures and preserves Mohawk Language and Culture.</li><li>• MCA honors and celebrates Mohawk cultural traditions.</li></ul>	<p><b>PRIORITY 4:</b></p> <p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Akwesasne is an inclusive and welcoming community that takes care of its vulnerable members.</li><li>• MCA offers community members various medical and support services throughout their healing journey.</li><li>• Akwesasne has health professionals.</li></ul>
<p><b>PRIORITY 5:</b></p> <p>Social Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recreational activities are diverse and evolving.</li><li>• MCA prioritizes infrastructure to provide the best facilities for the community.</li></ul>	<p><b>PRIORITY 6:</b></p> <p>Environment and Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Akwesasne land and territory are protected from environmental degradation.</li><li>• Education curriculum from day care to adult learners include indigenous based environmental learning.</li><li>• Akwesasnonon values for the environments are the compass that guides infrastructure decisions.</li></ul>	<p><b>PRIORITY 7:</b></p> <p>MCA Service Efficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MCA develops organizational efficient services.</li><li>• MCA develops safe, effective, and innovative workplaces.</li><li>• MCA develops effective management systems.</li></ul>	

Highlights & Accomplishments 2022/23

Easement of COVID-19 restrictions and integration back into the community and Council office.







Highlights from the Grand Chief

Along with the Council District Chiefs, the Grand Chief holds a seat on all Portfolios and must maintain a prominent level of participation in all aspects of governance of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. This role actively engages in federal and provincial government activities to voice the issues and concerns of the Akwesasne community, as well as engage in discussions with external agencies as required to handle the issues that regularly face our community. The Grand Chief has many files he is responsible for or is actively participating in and regularly updating the community through his monthly reports.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GRAND CHIEF:

- » Canada Border Service Agency Design Thinking Initiative
- » Seaway International Bridge (SIBC)
- » Seaway Settlement
- » Border Partners
- » Additions to Reserve
- » Chiefs of Ontario (COO)
- » Special Chiefs Assembly Cannabis Commission
- » Machine Readable Status Cards
- » Arizona Trade Mission Northern Tribal Border Alliance
- » Smart Cities Challenge
- » Ontario Regional Director for Indigenous Services
- » Canada Various Tours
- » Meetings with Ministers, Deputy Ministers, and other leadership.
- » Crucial Conversations Training
- » Meeting with Mohawk Council of Kahnawake (MCK)
- » Ontario Power Generation (OPG) President and Chief Executive Officer meeting
- » Missing and Murdered Women and Girls Awareness Initiative
- » Annual Student Bursary Checks and Luncheon
- » Akwesasne Community Healing Fund
- » MCA Open House
- » Jay Treaty Border Alliance
- » New York State Land Claim
- » Building Safer Communities Fund
- » INDSPIRE Awards
- » Annual Training on Risk Assessment
- » Cornwall Harbour Co-Owners
- » Indigenous Services Canada
- » Québec Press Conference – Québec Ministry of Public Safety Genevieve Guilbault, Québec Minister of Indigenous Affairs Ian Lafreniere
- » Hydro Québec
- » Governor General Dinner
- » UCDSB Signing
- » ORBIS Risk Consultation
- » Strategic Planning
- » Children's Treatment Centre
- » Remembrance Day - Toronto
- » St. Lawrence Parks Commission
- » First Nations Data Champion
- » Chiefs of Ontario Fall Chiefs Assembly
- » One Feather
- » Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- » Higher Education Summit
- » Québec Aboriginal Affairs
- » Canada Akwesasne Self-Government
- » Akwesasne Tourism
- » Healing & Reconciliation



Council Portfolios

Economic Development

- Chief Vanessa Adams
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Ryan Jacobs
- Chief Edward Roundpoint
- Chief Dwayne Thomas
- Chief Vince Thompson

Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment

- Chief April Adams-Phillips
- Chief Jackie Benedict
- Chief Ryan Jacobs
- Chief JoAnn Swamp
- Chief Vince Thompson

Nation Building

- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Edward Roundpoint
- Chief JoAnn Swamp
- Chief Vince Thompson

Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education

- Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs
- Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo
- Chief Edward Roundpoint

Government Secretariat

- Chief Jackie Benedict
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Edward Roundpoint
- Chief JoAnn Swamp
- Chief Dwayne Thomas
- Chief Tim Thompson

Department of Community & Social Services

- Chief Vanessa Adams
- Chief April Adams-Phillips
- Chief Jackie Benedict
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief JoAnn Swamp

Department of Health

- Chief Vanessa Adams
- Chief April Adams-Phillips
- Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo
- Chief Dwayne Thomas
- Chief Tim Thompson

Department of Justice

- Chief Jackie Benedict
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs
- Chief Sarah Sunday Diabo

Department of Public Safety

- Chief Vanessa Adams
- Chief April Adams-Phillips
- Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

Council Committees

Akwesko:wa

- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Edward Roundpoint
- Chief Dwayne Thomas

Governance

- Chief Jackie Benedict
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Ryan Jacobs
- Chief Edward Roundpoint

Hydro Québec

- Chief Jackie Benedict
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo
- Chief JoAnn Swamp
- Chief Dwayne Thomas
- Chief Vince Thompson

Waterways

- Chief Vanessa Adams
- Chief April Adams-Phillips
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

OVS

- Chief JoAnn Swamp
- Chief Tim Thompson
- Chief Vince Thompson

Property Aquisition Team

- Chief April Adams-Phillips
- Chief Edward Roundpoint
- Chief Tim Thompson
- Chief Vince Thompson

Finance

- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Ryan Jacobs
- Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

Green Team

- Chief Jackie Benedict
- Chief Ryan Jacobs
- Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo
- Chief Dwayne Thomas

Special Needs

- Chief Vanessa Adams
- Chief April Adams-Phillips
- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs
- Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo

YECL (Youth, Elders, Culture and Language)

- Chief Ryan Jacobs
- Chief JoAnn Swamp
- Chief Dwayne Thomas
- Chief Tim Thompson
- Chief Vince Thompson

Port Divestiture

- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell
- Chief Edward Roundpoint
- Chief Dwayne Thomas



Notable Events

Onerahtókha/April 2022

- » Jay Treaty Border Alliance Meeting — April 3-8, 2022 (Ottawa)
- » Iroquois Caucus Strategic Planning — April 12, 2022
- » Assembly of First Nations Québec Labrador Chiefs Assembly — April 27 & 28, 2022 (Montreal)
- » Council only session with A2Z Consulting

Onerahtokkó:wa/May 2022

- » Independent First Nations Child Welfare
- » RES 2022 Reservation Economic Summit — May 22-27, 2022 (Las Vegas)
- » Independent First Nations Quarterly Meeting — May 24-27, 2022 (Ottawa)
- » Meeting with Green Party Candidate - Jacqueline Milner — May 31 , 2022

Ohiariha/June 2022

- » Meeting with Candidate Claude Tardif - New Blue Ontario SDG
- » Meeting with Minister Miller — June 3, 2022 (Kana:takon Recreation)
- » Strategic Planning Community Validation Meetings — each district
- » Québec Public Safety Press Conference — June 9, 2022 (Kana:takon Recreation)
- » Chiefs of Ontario (COO) Annual Chiefs Assembly — June 13-16, 2022 (Toronto)
- » Jay Treaty Border Summit — June 26-30, 2022 (Windsor, Ontario/ Detroit, Michigan)

Ohiarihkó:wa/July 2022

- » AFN Annual General Assembly — July 4-7, 2022 (Vancouver)
- » Minister Patty Hajdu — July 13, 2022 (Kawehno:ke Recreation)
- » Iroquois Caucus Assembly — July 28 & 29, 2022 (Akwasasne)

Sehskéha/August 2022

- » Meeting with Deputy General

- Director, Murphy Lavallée & Claire IsaBelle
- » 2022 Akwasasne Student Bursary Event — August 11, 2022 (Kana:takon Recreation)

Sehske'kó:wa/September 2022

- » Chiefs of Ontario; Special Chiefs Assembly on Metis Rights Assertions — September 7 & 8, 2022
- » Chiefs Committee on Health — September 13, 2022 (Ottawa)
- » Great Lakes Forum — September 26-30, 2022 (Niagara Falls)
- » National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Tobacco Burning Ceremony — September 30, 2022

Kenténha/October 2022

- » Skatepark Grand Opening — October 8, 2022
- » MCA Open House — October 13, 2022 (A'nowara'ko:wa Arena)
- » Tri-Council Meeting - MCA, Mohawk Council of Kahnawake and Mohawk Council of Kanestake — October 14, 2022 (Kahnawake)
- » Resignation of District Chief Ryan Jacobs — October 17, 2022

Kentenhkó:wa/November 2022

- » Independent First Nations Quarterly Meeting — October 31-November 3, 2022
- » Active Threat Response Training — November 9, 2022
- » Donation to: Akwasasne Christmas Enchantment — November 10-13, 2022
- » Kana:takon District Chief Nominations — November 12, 2022
- » Chiefs of Ontario Fall Assembly — November 14-18, 2022 (Toronto)
- » AFNQL Chiefs Assembly — November 22-24, 2022

Tsiothórha/December 2022

- » Donation to: Spirit of Christmas — December 2-4, 2022 (Kawehno:ke Recreation)
- » Kana:takon District Chief By-Election — December 3, 2022

- » Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly — December 6-8, 2022 (Ottawa)
- » Turkey/Ham Giveaway — December 9, 2022 (A'nowara'ko:wa Arena)
- » Donation to: A December to Remember — December 16-18, 2022 (Kana:takon Recreation)
- » Kana:takon District Chief L. King Swearing in Ceremony — December 15, 2022

Tsiothorkó:wa/January 2023

- » Strategic Planning Council Session — January 10, 2023 (Kawehno:ke Recreation)
- » Strategic Planning Council and Administration Session — January 11, 2023 (Kawehno:ke Recreation)
- » U.S./Canada Border Crossing Events — January 18 & 19, 2023 (Potawatomi Hotel & Casino - Milwaukee, Wisconsin)
- » Jay Treaty Border Alliance — January 30-February 4, 2023 (Vancouver)

Ennihska/February 2023

- » Nation Building Portfolio Chiefs meeting with Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, Marc Miller — February 6, 2023
- » Energy Summit — February 15-18, 2022 (Calgary)
- » Independent First Nations Child Welfare Networking — February 21-22, 2022 (Thunder Bay)
- » Chiefs of Ontario Health Forum — February 27-March 2, 2023 (Toronto)

Ennihskó:wa/March 2023

- » Chiefs of Ontario Women's Leadership Summit — March 6-9, 2023 (Toronto)
- » First Nations and Municipalities Summit on Reconciliation — March 22-24, 2023 (Gatineau)
- » Meeting of the AFNQL Elected Women's Council — March 29-31, 2023 (Québec City)

Council Meetings

Meetings are held routinely between the Council and the Executive Director to communicate information, consult, provide updates and consider administrative, business and community issues concerning the Council, the MCA Organization, and/or the community. These meetings occur every Monday.



Total Council community meetings: 42

Mohawk Government Support Staff Regular Activities

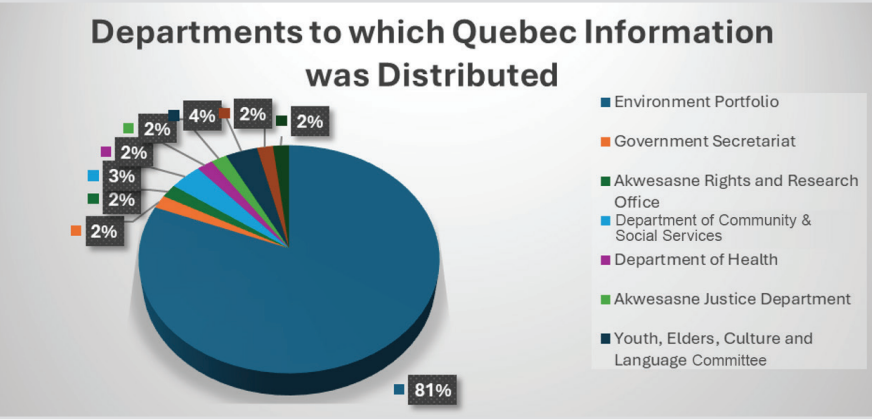
The Mohawk Government Office plays a vital role in the daily operations of the Mohawk Council by providing essential administrative and operational support. We focus on addressing community issues that require communication with council members and their respective portfolios.

Our mission is to connect various departments and programs, facilitating the council's advocacy efforts on behalf of the organization. We are dedicated to ensuring that the council has the resources necessary to perform their roles effectively and efficiently.

Liaison Officer

QUÉBEC LIAISON

- 27 translated documents: 63% MCA Staff/Chiefs, 37% Community Members
- President of Droulers/Tsiionhiakwatha Board of Directors since 2020, board member since 2017. Managed and oversaw work of Executive Director. Annual callout for gift shop items.
- Member of Museum of Civilization Indigenous Advisory Committee. Worked with museum to put in place free admission for members of First Nations present in Québec to allow Akwasasronon, Tyendingaronon, Wahtaronon, Oshwekonronon, Ganienkehranon and Kanatsioharekeronon to enter the museum free of charge.
- Lead MCA technician for Cultural Agreement Working Group.
- MCA signing of Indigenous Initiatives Fund (IIF) IV agreement, presentation to Grand Chief and Council.
- Most prevalent issues experienced by community members: applying for a marriage certificate; registration of trailer, snowmobile, and garden tractor; exchange drivers' licence for QC license, registering vehicles; solidarity tax credit.
- 53 pieces of information disseminated to MCA departments regarding consultations, training opportunities, requests for archaeological permits etc.



Akwasasne Leadership Meetings

Meetings involve representation from the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs, and the Mohawk Council of Akwasasne: SRMT/MCA COVID meetings transitioned back to SRMT/MCA general topic meetings.





Hydro Québec

- Coordinated accompaniment for HQ (Hydro Québec) work being carried out on-territory
- Assisted community member with removing/adding a contract holder
- Regular updates on planned vegetation inventory
- Regular updates on planned vegetation control activities
- Follow up on Hydro Québec Liaison contract
  - Created and provided historical documents and information on additional duties accepted (limited to translation)
- Worked with HQ to identify process for obtaining information from HQ during power outages and provided information to Acting Executive Director and Mohawk Government Manager
- Communication of planned power outages to community
- Shared information regarding locations where branches need to be cleared



Ontario Power Generation (OPG)

CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP FUND

- Shared information on eligibility and application process
- Outreach to eligible projects to raise awareness of available funding
- \$2,400 in funding approved for Unity Street
- \$20,000 in funding to Ontario First Nations Economic Developers Association (OFNEDA)
- \$5,000 in funding to Akwesasne Pow Wow
- \$7,500 in funding approved to transfer from Akwesasne Healing Centre to Akwesasne Family Wellness Program

CAPACITY BUILDING FUND

- Shared information on eligibility and application process
- Turbine Art Installation project with Roger Perkins

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN OPG AND MCA (POM)

- Lead Technician
- Bimonthly meetings
- Briefing Notes
- Coordination, meeting materials preparation

JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE

- Drafting bi-annual report for the Joint Steering Committee
- PowerPoint presentation
- Briefing Notes
- Coordination, meeting materials preparation

RELATIONSHIP ACTIVITIES

- Coordinated OPG donation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to MCA
- Worked with ARRO (Akwesasne Rights & Research

Office) to provide input and feedback on land acknowledgment wording

- Process for meeting requests with OPG
- Shared information on visitor centre programming

VISITOR CENTRE GARDENS PHASE II PROJECT

- Event working group
- Garden signage
- Contributed high resolution MCA maps to OPG

VISITOR CENTRE MEETING SPACE

- Shared information on process for reserving meeting space

EMPLOYMENT

- Posted on MCA Facebook page and distributed to Akwesasne employment partners the following postings:
  - Vice President of Indigenous Relations
  - Security Officer
  - Project Lead
  - Hydroelectric Operating Technician Trainee
  - Electrical and Control Technician/Technologist Trainee
  - 2 summer students
    - » 1 developmental position at the Saunders Hydro Dam Visitor Centre
    - » 1 non-developmental position with the civil maintenance crew
  - Indigenous Relations Advisor
- Advised OPG of Akwesasronon applicants



OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Our role within Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is to ensure the integrity of Vital Statistics in the areas of Membership, Indian Registration, Lands, Estates and Leasing. Keeping in mind the Kanienkehaka traditions, customs, beliefs of the Mohawks of Akwesasne, OVS will strive to change as internal and external circumstances arise.

Strategic Goals

To provide the resources needed to operate an efficient and productive Office of Vital Statistics. To network with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) so that community concerns are addressed and resolved in a timely manner.

Program Highlights

The Office of Vital Statistics contains five (5) components:



The staff in OVS are responsible for obtaining, recording, reporting and retaining correct information about the land and people under the jurisdiction of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. Personnel maintain integrity of services by ensuring that all transactions are performed in accordance with any applicable MCA policies and procedures, MCA Laws and the Indian Act. OVS also provides administrative assistance to the Akwesasne Membership Board and assists with the issuance of Bridge passes.

The Office of Vital Statistics is a member of both the National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association (NALMA) and the Ontario Aboriginal Lands Association (OALA). These associations provide training and a link with INAC concerning new initiatives and policies and enable interaction with other First Nations in Canada on both a national and provincial level.

Accomplishments

Block 1 Lands

Training of our new Lands Officer took place and this fiscal year, OVS conducted community consultation on the return of 108 lots in eight different areas of Cornwall Island that have been returned as a result of settlement of part of the Seaway claim. This process will continue until all 108 parcels have been allotted to affected members.

Lands Management

Two OVS staff completed Level I of the Professional Lands Management Course. There is a second level that will be completed during this fiscal year which will result in a Professional Lands Management Certificate.

MISSION STATEMENT

Advancement through change.

OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS HAS TAKEN AN ACTIVE ROLE IN:

- » OVS Chiefs Committee Meetings
- » Staff Meetings
- » Property Acquisition Team
- » Nation Building
- » Land Code Taskforce
- » Akwesasne Housing Authority
- » Land Code Working Group and Negotiations with Canada
- » Akwesasne Membership Board Meetings
- » Additions to Reserve — OPG Islands & Cairn Island



Updates

During this fiscal year, the Office of Vital Statistics has continued to provide guidance, presentations and recommendations to the Grand Chief and Council on: Estates issues, Population Statistics, Membership, Community Land, Right of Way, Easements, and Leasing/Permit issues.

Membership

The Membership review was completed in August 2018. The finalized report contained recommendations on several topics, which include addressing items such as: automation of processing applications, defining the role of the Membership Clerk, and suggested revisions to various administrative procedures. The Membership Review Committee began meeting once a month to review and develop amendments in regard to the recommended changes determined by the review. During this fiscal year, meetings continued. This will be ongoing until the process is completed.

OVS Records

Prior to the pandemic, most records in OVS were paper records. We had a limited number of electronic lands records only. The COVID-19 pandemic has proven the need to move to electronic record keeping allowing staff to provide effective electronic service delivery. Over the fiscal year, we have implemented practices and procedures, both internally and externally with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), to support electronic delivery and electronic record keeping. We have completed several areas in which paper records have been scanned and stored electronically. Work is continuing scanning old estates information. The update of files will continue until all files are electronically stored.

Challenges

OVS Staff have encountered issues in the area of Registration. Many policy changes have taken place requiring training on the new policy changes.

Short Staffing

OVS experienced short staffing in the areas of Leasing and Estates this year. Recruitment took place for these positions in the Fall 2022.

Overall Service Delivery

Many tasks that OVS staff perform daily rely on ISC for registration of lands, estates, leasing, and Indian Registration documents. Since the COVID-19 Pandemic, the challenges that OVS staff encountered include constantly changing ISC personnel and policies and trying to keep up to date on those changes so that we can continue to provide effective and efficient service. A request to have refresher training has been submitted due to ongoing policy changes.

Membership

There is currently a backlog of 120 Membership applications due to several issues such as time constraints and elections. The Membership Board holds monthly meetings (at minimum) to process applications for Membership and Residency Permits. During this fiscal year, meetings were not held for five months due to two separate elections. The Akwesasne Membership Board has continued to hold Zoom meetings. Most months that the Membership Board was able to meet, two meetings were held. However, because of the use of the Zoom platform being used, more time had to be scheduled between applicants and this resulted in less applicants seen per meeting. A benefit of having Zoom meetings is that more applicants were showing up.

Surveys

The Office of Vital Statistics does not receive survey funding to assist landowners in obtaining a survey when they are required. The minimum cost for a survey is approximately \$3,000.00 and varies according to the amount of new survey fabric to be installed, or work to be completed. Landowners are responsible for paying the survey costs.

Each year, the Office of Vital Statistics submits a list of priority surveys to ISC for completion. This list consists of those lots that we have determined need a survey due to not having enough survey fabric, require subdivision to settle an estate, any leased areas that require a survey, and areas not surveyed. Natural Resources Canada and ISC decide which surveys to complete from that list based on funding identified by ISC. The priority survey list was updated and sent to ISC on February 25, 2022, and consisted of 301 lots requiring a survey. During this fiscal year a total of three priority survey projects were initiated.

Certificate of Indian Status (CIS)

OVS has continued to issue status cards by appointment only. With scheduling of appointments being a requirement, we did not run out of cards this year. Supplies did get to less than ten, but with prioritizing restrictions in place, we received a new supply before we ran out. Those who were not a priority were placed on a waitlist until a new supply of cards was received and appointments were made accordingly.

Individual Member Files

There are ongoing issues in keeping individual member files up to date. OVS records are dependent upon items submitted to this office by community members.

OVS requires copies of the following documents:

- Birth Certificates
  - Name Changes
  - Marriages
  - Divorces
- Deaths

All deaths must be reported by providing a copy of a Funeral Director's statement of death, or a death certificate issued by the Province or State, regardless of residence and whether the member owned land or not.

Administrative Statistics

INDIAN REGISTRATION	
13,252	REGISTERED INDIVIDUALS AFFILIATED WITH AKWESASNE (AS OF DEC. 31, 2022)
146	BIRTHS REPORTED THIS YEAR
25	DEATHS REPORTED THIS YEAR
27	INDIVIDUALS WHO GAINED INDIAN STATUS
1,646	STATUS CARDS ISSUED

LANDS	
245	NEW CERTIFICATES OF POSSESSION WERE ISSUED
70	LAND TRANSFERS PROCESSED
217	LAND CONFIRMATIONS WERE PROVIDED TO MCA DEPARTMENTS

ESTATES	
16	ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFERS (ESTATES)
45	OPENED ESTATES
47	CLOSED ESTATES

SURVEYS	
10	COMMUNITY MEMBER SURVEY PLANS WERE COMLETED
4	PRIORITY LIST SURVEYS, SURVEY PLANS WERE COMPLETED
1	OTHER SURVEYS COMPLETED

LEASING REGISTRATIONS	
31	ADDENDUMS TO LEASE
12	LEASES
7	ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE
16	AMENDMENTS TO LEASE
1	PERMITS
10	OTHER

OTHER	
162	BRIDGE PASS APPLICATIONS PROCESSED
677	MEMBERSHIP AND STATUS CONFIRMATIONS PROVIDED TO MCA DEPARTMENTS
14	GOOD STANDING INQUIRIES WERE RECEIVED

AKWESASNE MEMBERSHIP BOARD STATISTICS	
15	MEMBERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS HELD
77	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PROCESSED
60	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP
7	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP
2	MEMBERSHIP APLICATIONS DENIED
8	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS CANCELLED DUE TO NO SHOW
10	RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS PROCESSED
8	RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS APPROVED
0	RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS RENEWED
0	RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS DENIED
2	RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS CANCELLED DUE TO NO SHOW



**13,252 Registered  
Individuals Affiliated  
with Akwesasne**

(As of Dec. 31, 2022)



OVS conducted intake sessions to assist community members applying for MRZ status cards.



**146 Births Reported  
This Year**



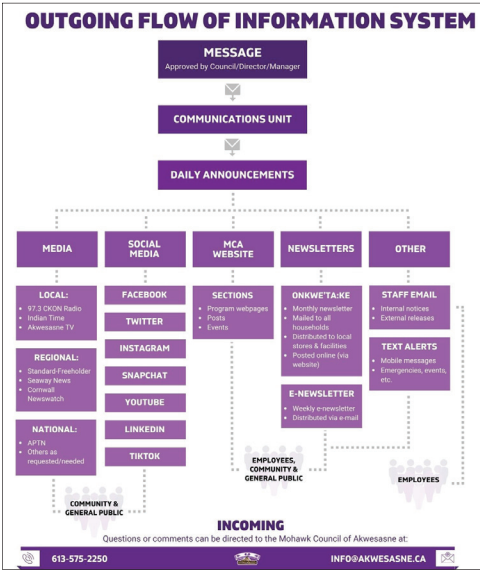
# Department of Finance and Administration

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS:

- » Communications Unit
- » Finance
- » Human Resources
- » Information Services

COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

The Communications Unit has a mission and vision to support the flow of information from MCA to the community and providing channels for incoming information and questions from community members. We also provide support for internal communication amongst staff and departments. Our Communication Flow of Outgoing Information graphic depicts the communication system that has been developed over the past decade to ensure effective information reaches community members.



Communications Staff

This year, we added a valuable position to our team in the Communications Unit: Graphic Designer. This position specifically focuses on creating high-quality graphics and publications, improving MCA's image as a professional organization.

MCA Power Outages & Winter Weather

This year marked a significant increase in power outages, specifically in the districts of Tsi Snaihne & Kana:takon. Two of these outages lasted for several days and required a strong, united response from the MCA team. Communications utilized processes and strategies learned throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to quickly adapt and ensure the community received regular and timely updates to the situation. We coordinated the updates from all departments and prepared the Grand Chief for radio and Facebook live announcements.

Winter weather also played a big role in MCA's operations. Weather advisories, heavy and often snowfall, and icy conditions required many delays or closures. Communications plays a key role on the Inclement Weather Committee created this year to develop a policy for closures and delays. Our priority is to ensure updates are relayed quickly to the community at any hour of the day necessary. We developed internal processes for these timely updates.

Social Media Report

Our highest reaching social media posts for the 2022-2023 year were:

- APRIL 2022**  
*Dairy Queen Donates \$10k to Akwesasne Skatepark*
- MAY 2022**  
*DOH Welcomes New Wholistic Health & Wellness Program Manager*
- JUNE 2022**  
*Department of Health Welcomes New Accreditation Manager*
- JULY 2022**  
*Iakhihsohtha Staff Host Grease Night*
- AUGUST 2022**  
*Mohawk Police Seize \$10,000 in Fentanyl*
- SEPTEMBER 2022**  
*Kawehno:ke Crosswalk Painted with Orange Feathers in Honour of the Every Child Matters movement*
- OCTOBER 2022**  
*The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is thrilled to announce the opening of the Akwesasne Skatepark*
- NOVEMBER 2022**  
*DOH Congratulates Staff on Achieving First Nations Health Managers Association Designation*
- DECEMBER 2022**  
*MCA Community Health Program Celebrates and Acknowledges Amanda Garrow achieving her Master's in Community Health from SUNY Potsdam*
- JANUARY 2023**  
*MCA Condolences for Family, Friends of Diane King*
- FEBRUARY 2023**  
*Skateboard Project Celebrates Indigenous Artwork*
- MARCH 2023**  
*AMPS Media Release: Unidentified Bodies Found in Snye*



CBSA

Communications is heavily involved in Council's MCA & CBSA Border Collaboration Initiative. This project has been ongoing since 2020 and involves several working circles focused on specific CBSA topics. The Cornwall Port of Entry Working Circle prioritizes issues on the ground and day-to-day complaints and improvements. This circle also explores ways to improve the relations between CBSA & MCA through tours, projects, and planning. The Communications Manager coordinated this initiative, which helps to ensure that important information and announcements flow quickly to the community.

Organizational Mental Health & Wellness Initiative

This year, Executive Services prioritized the mental health and wellness of employees, which was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors. Communications often assists in employee engagement and therefore we organized activities for this initiative including cookie decorating and yoga.

Newsletter

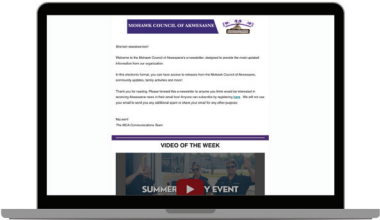
We continue to publish a monthly newsletter that is mailed to all households in MCA's jurisdiction. This is a great way to stay informed with what's happening when life can be too busy to keep up. For those who live outside the jurisdiction, you can also view our newsletter online at [www.akwesasne.ca/newsletter](http://www.akwesasne.ca/newsletter). We will continue to publish this newsletter to reach our elderly, and those community members who prefer not to utilize social media.

Social Media

According to our community polls, social media (Facebook in particular) is still the most popular source of information. We continue to find new ways to use social media to share news and updates from MCA. This is fast-changing area of our work.

Website & E-newsletter

We understand that not everyone uses social media or has access to our mailers due to your location. You can always stay informed by visiting the MCA website [www.akwesasne.ca](http://www.akwesasne.ca), where we ensure important releases and updates are posted. You can also sign up for a weekly e-newsletter – a summary of the week's announcements sent directly to you via email.



Sign up at [www.akwesasne.ca/signup](http://www.akwesasne.ca/signup).

Contact Us

If you ever have a question for MCA but don't know who to contact, email [info@akwesasne.ca](mailto:info@akwesasne.ca). Communications staff receive these requests and promptly share them with the appropriate program or department.





HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources (HR) team plays a crucial role in any organization, managing a wide range of responsibilities to ensure the smooth operation and well-being of the workforce. Here are some of the key responsibilities:



**Recruitment and Hiring**  
Attracting, interviewing, and selecting new employees to fill open positions.



**Onboarding and Training**  
Ensuring new hires are properly integrated into the company and providing ongoing training and development opportunities.



**Employee Relations**  
Managing relationships between employees and the organization, addressing grievances, and fostering a positive work environment.



**Compensation and Benefits**  
Administering payroll, benefits, and compensation packages to ensure employees are fairly rewarded.



**Compliance**  
Ensuring the organization adheres to labor laws and employment standards.



**Performance Management**  
Overseeing employee performance reviews, setting goals, and providing feedback to help employees grow and succeed.



**Health and Safety**  
Promoting a safe work environment and ensuring compliance with health and safety regulations.



**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB)**  
Implementing policies and practices that promote a diverse and inclusive workplace.

Total Rewards Compensation

A total rewards compensation package encompasses both monetary and non-monetary benefits designed to attract, motivate, and retain employees. Here are the key components typically included:

**Base Salary:** The fixed amount of money paid to an employee for their work.

**Health and Wellness Benefits:** Medical, and vision insurance

**Retirement Plans:** Contributions to pension plans

**Paid Time Off (PTO):** Vacation days, sick leave, parental leave, and other forms of paid leave

**Work-Life Balance:** Flexible work schedules, and remote work options.

**Career Development:** Opportunities for training, professional development, and career advancement

**Voluntary Benefits:** Additional benefits such as disability insurance, financial counseling, or critical illness coverage

The MCA continues to offer a total reward compensation package to their employees. The total rewards package is inclusive but not limited to the following: accrued sick and vacation time, annual personal time, statutory and Council Designated Holidays.

In addition to this, the MCA offers the Akwesasne Pension Plan that is a cost shared contribution by both the employer and employees. This means that for every dollar the employee contributed to their own retirement savings account, the MCA equally matches.

Benefits Group and Pension

The MCA provides group health insurance to their employees. The Group Health Insurance provides additional coverage to eligible employees compliments provincial healthcare coverage. The MCA equally matches the cost for health care coverage for employees. For every dollar that is charged for premium costs, MCA pays for half that amount and the employee pays the other half.

Health and Safety

Health & Safety is a major concern for MCA, and it is important that the organization is complying with the standards of Health & Safety under the Canada Labour Code Part II and prescribed regulations as well as provincial legislation that is applicable to the organization. The Health and Safety component under the Human Resources also ensures that the work being carried out within MCA is conducted in a safe manner and within established standards.

Compensation & Salary Grids

Salary grids for non-unionized environments were adjusted for a cost-of-living increase. The Nurses and Water Workers Salary policies were updated to reflect market rates. Non-unionized employees were provided a step increase to assist in combating the effects of inflation.



Career Opportunities

The MCA services the community in almost every avenue possible, from professional technical support to front line support. There has been ongoing shortage for various workers, the community is in dire need to people to fill the following roles:

- Teachers
- Accountants
- Social Workers
- Registered Nurses
- Police Officers
- Bus Drivers
- Personal Support Workers
- Early Child Educators
- Data Analyst

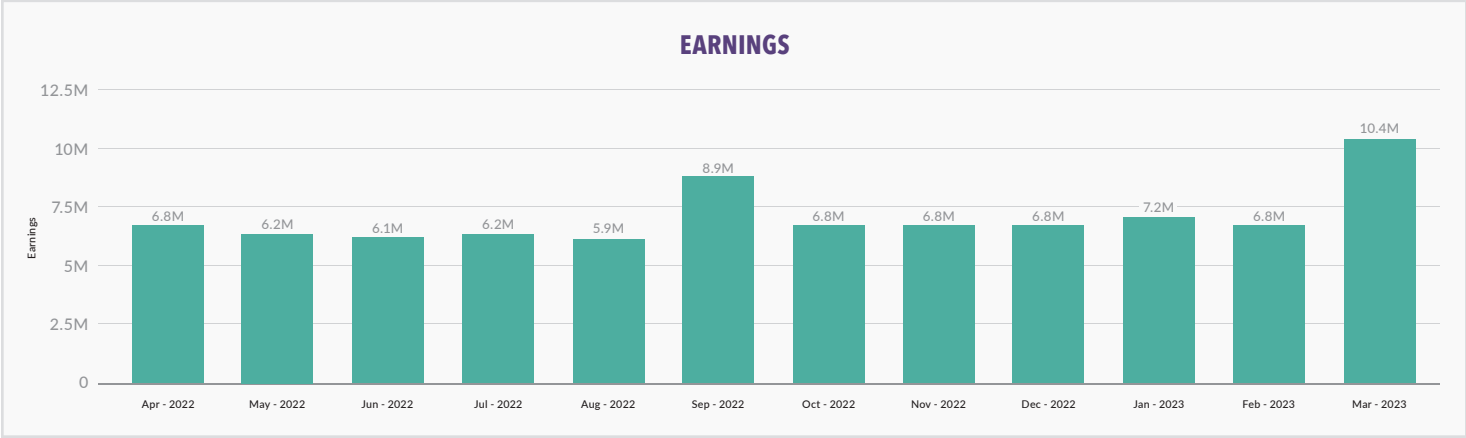
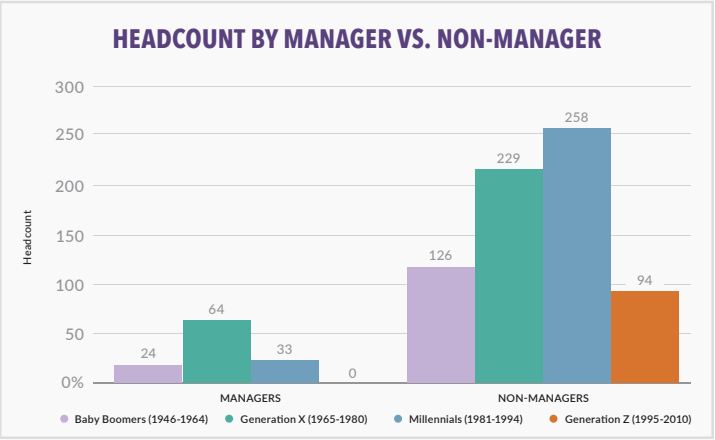
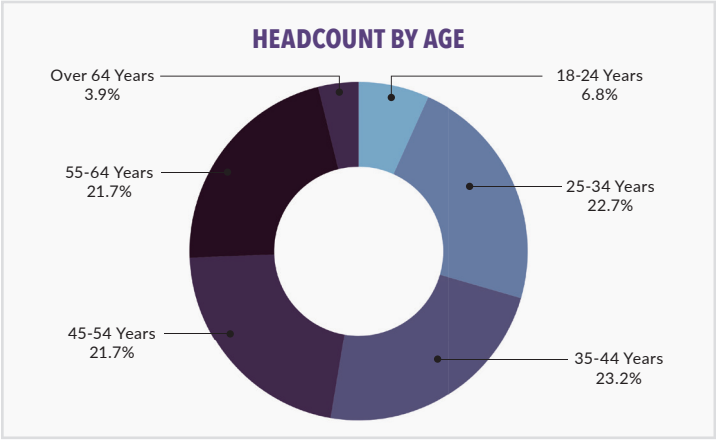
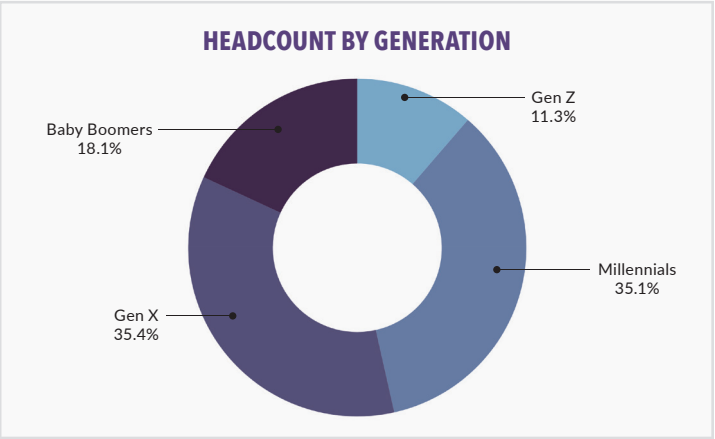
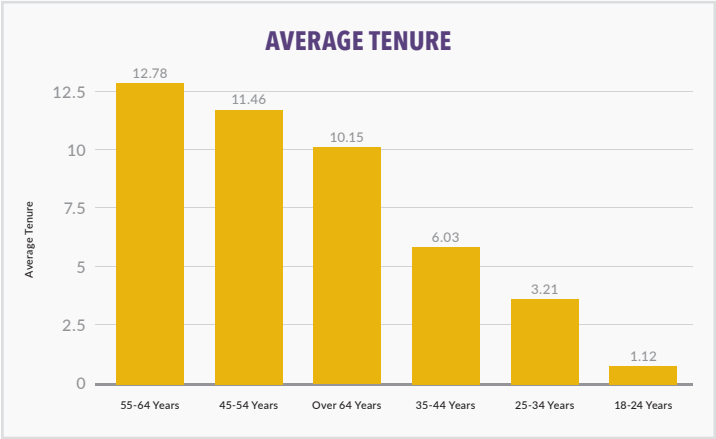
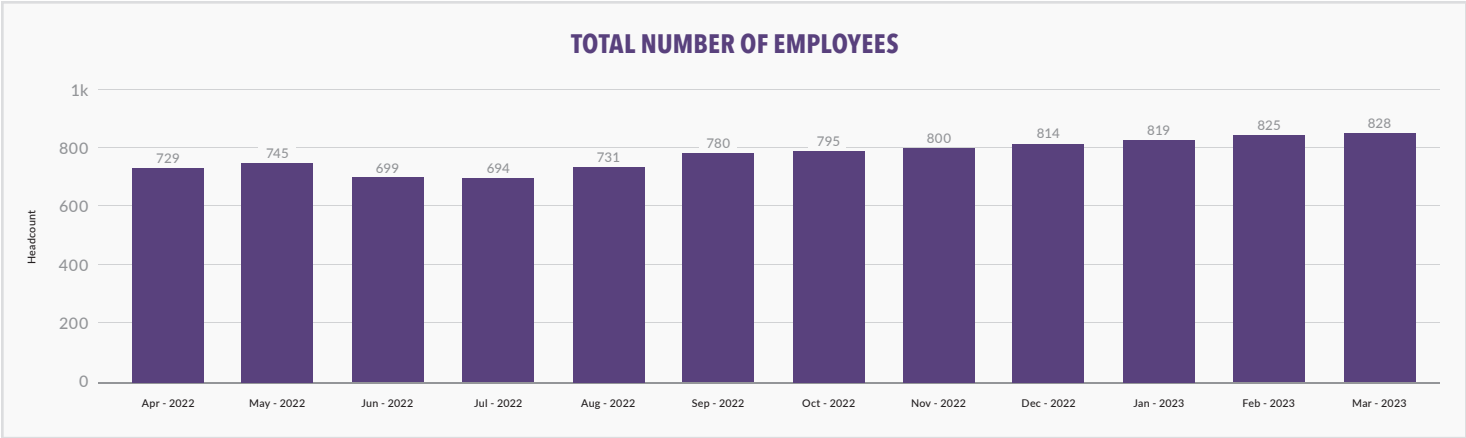


Unions

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne currently has the following collective agreements:

- Public Services Alliance Canada (PSAC)
- Akwesasne Police Association (APA)
- Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)
- Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU)





## INFORMATION SERVICES

### MISSION STATEMENT

Advancement through change.

### Program Highlights

Information Services provides all hardware, software and network support related services to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. These services include Helpdesk Support, Software Support, Information Systems Support, Network Support, Hardware Support and Data Management. Information Services oversees the maintenance, repair, upgrade of more than 800 devices, 700 computers, 25 local area networks (and servers), copier fleet, virtual private network monitoring for 250 simultaneous users and one wide area network. Other duties include servicing approximately 680 phone extensions on one corporate phone system, two small office phone systems, along with 250 cellular phone users. Information Services also oversees the development/maintenance of over 75 software systems within the organization, and the classification and archival of documents.

### Program Accomplishments

#### MCA & AMBE Network Upgrades (continued)

Information Services' Network Team has continued to upgrade servers (including virtual machines hosting legacy operating systems) along with new firewalls, core switches and Access Points to continue preparing the organization and schools for the fiber upgrade currently undergoing development within Akwesasne. The upgrades installed will utilize the fiber network speeds to improve data migration and digital communication across the organization and to external partners at greater speeds currently in use today within MCA and AMBE network infrastructures.

#### Starlink Implementation

While the Fibre-to-the-Home project is underway, the need for greater bandwidth and internet speeds was still a necessity to help several facilities move forward with projects and development. Several facilities opted to upgrade services through Starlink, a satellite broadband internet service, to support their facility's needs. Currently, several educational programs and our long-term care programs are adopting Starlink upgrades to accommodate children with education and our elders who use modern technology to communicate with family members.

#### Long-Term Care Radio Upgrades

In cooperation with Mohawk Networks, Information Services has completed the radio tower upgrades for long-term care. With the geographical layout of Akwesasne and MCA facility locations separated by a mass of water and straddling provinces, the use of radio towers utilizing wireless

broadcasting signals to allow internet speeds and network communication to reach remote facilities without tunneling or physical cables has been cost effective and advantageous. Since devices and components require a higher use of internet bandwidth, it was necessary to upgrade the current radio communication units to improve signal strength and internet throughput. This project has been in conjunction with the Starlink upgrade for long-term care.

#### Bulk

Information Services continues to coordinate the yearly bulk purchase by focusing on mobility due to COVID-19's end and the need to improve work on the go or at home. This purchase consisted of 80 laptops, which included options to add docking stations, keyboards, mice and displays to make transitioning from an office to a home/work setting easier for MCA staff. Due to COVID-19, the annual bulk purchase plan was carried out to ensure that all IT requirements for employees using a hybrid work life were met. This process will be continued moving forward.

#### Office 365

Information Services continues the utilization of Office 365 and its cloud solutions. This enables personnel to become mobile with a high percentage requiring them to work from home or in remote locations. The transition was an absolute necessity due to the COVID-19 pandemic and moving forward with today's requirements to access information on-the-go. The continued use of this service will allow MCA to move forward with a hybrid work solution to accommodate

employees with a work/home balanced lifestyle, as well. Use of online applications such as OneDrive and SharePoint have allowed departments to collaborate more effectively to share resources and ideas internally and externally without the use of a VPN service (so long as the user at home has an adequate internet service).

Information Services will continue to push data migration from on-premises to OneDrive for improved performance, simplified and reliable data management, and automated security and compliance. This will reduce costs and free up physical space that has been occupied by physical devices/components.

#### Records Management

Information Services and the Records Management Program have begun the process of digitizing archived information and documentation, while keeping relevant, up-to-date records and reducing physical storage space. Physical copies will remain on hand for records access while digital copies will serve as a backup resource. Records Management will utilize a SharePoint site to host all digitized documents for all nature of clients.







# Department of Health

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

To foster healthy generations.

**VISION STATEMENT:**

Akwesasne will be a community where people being engaged, children and families are resilient; culture is honored; and we use innovative, wholistic approaches to service delivery.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROGRAMS:**

- » Accreditation
- » Community Health Program
- » Home Care and Home Support Program
- » Iakhihsohtha Lodge
- » Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility
- » Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits
- » Wholistic Health and Wellness Program
- » Jordan's Principle

**ACCREDITATION**

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's (MCA) Department of Health (DOH) programs have been preparing for the on-site survey for the past four (4) years, while maintaining COVID-19 pandemic standards. Employees were trained in areas of mental health, land-based healing, ethics, threat ready and workplace safety.

During the week of January 30 - February 2, 2023, Accreditation Canada surveyors visited Akwesasne to conduct an on-site survey. The surveyor team consisted of peer health professionals which included doctors, nurses, hospital administrators and other health or social experts that assessed our health and social services programs, ensuring that our patient safety and quality standards are met. Accreditation's focus is not to find wrongdoings; the focus is to be transparent and help find areas of need and show us focal points for quality improvement.

DOH is pleased to announce that on this years' survey, we received a 95% and continue to be Accredited through Accreditation Canada since 2004. This accreditation applies to all Health and Social programs and buildings. During the debriefing, the Accreditation Canada Survey Team highlighted:

- Patient/client and community satisfaction, and being goal orientated.
- Best response to COVID-19 pandemic throughout Canada.
- Land-Based Healing techniques.
- Communications and our Communications Unit for transparency.
- Overcoming barriers and jurisdictional issues.

**Key Goals**

1. To improve the health and well-being of the community.
2. Health indicators and data management.
3. To achieve excellence in patient centered care and leadership.



**COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES (CSS)**

The Community Support Services Program is funded by the Ontario Health LHINS, with services available to our elderly population in all three districts (Kana:takon, Kawehno:ke and Tsi Snaihne).

CSS Home Maintenance workers aid with lawn care and snow plowing for the winter so that the Ambulance or healthcare workers can enter their driveways safely. They also continue to provide ramps for our physically handicap and ensure medical equipment is delivered for our palliative and end-of-life care.

Community Support Services served a total of **2,914 clients**, including our elders in all three districts.



**174 clients** received home maintenance within the three districts of Akwesasne.

- PROJECT CENTERS INCLUDE:**

  - » Ontario Health
  - » LHIN Community Support Services
  - » Tri-District Elders
  - » Congregate Dining and Foot Care
- RESPITE SERVICES:**

  - » Meals on Wheels
  - » Home Maintenance
  - » Respite Care
  - » Foot Care
  - » Congregate Dining
  - » Tri-District Elders Lodge
  - » Home Security Checks
  - » Disabilities and Crisis Intervention



COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM



COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM SERVICES:

» Vaccine Preventable Disease

» Infection Prevention and Control

» Communicable Disease Emergencies

» Environmental Health

» Diabetes Prevention & Education

» Diabetes Management Services

» Maternal, Family and Child Health Services, Indigenous Healthy Babies Healthy Children Home Visiting Services

The Community Health Program (CHP) provides numerous services to community members addressing overall personal and community health initiatives and issues. Services were maintained throughout the fiscal year.

Community Health offers many services and has provided for the immediate response to the global pandemic, while continuing to offer ongoing support for programs and community members. The testing site closed as the guidance changed to allow for rapid testing for various situations. The Green Food Bag initiative remains suspended this fiscal year due to COVID-19 pandemic.

The Community Health Program provides activities to reduce the incidence, spread, and human health effects of communicable diseases and infections, and to improve health through prevention and promotion activities. We also provide advice, guidance, recommendations, and public education of health and safety for community members and to community organizations as well as health promotion, prevention, and Diabetes Management Services.

The Diabetes Prevention Services Team offers health promotion activities through healthy eating and exercise programs. Our Maternal Child Health Services assist families to provide the best opportunities for healthy development for children and families through home visiting, service coordination and referrals to complementary services.

Strategic Priorities in 2024 and Beyond

1.

Existing programs and services be augmented to meet emerging healthcare trends.

2.

Strengthen and build on our network and partnerships to increase service delivery.

3.

Health promotion and prevention activities including advisement on public health measures.

The Community Health Program provides professional services which strive to meet the community's needs regarding their personal health. The CHP will collaborate to access services for clients to provide for health prevention, promotion, and education.

HOME CARE AND HOME SUPPORT

Program Name Update: Home & Community Care Program

The Home and Community Care Program consists of a Program Manager, Nursing Supervisor, PSW Supervisor, PSW's, Nurses, Physiotherapist Assistants, Medical Social Worker, Home Maintenance Representatives and Administrative Staff.

On-going education and training takes place to upkeep nursing and PSW skill set.

Further education in Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), screening protocols, and health and safety measures, while supporting the pandemic needs through COVID-19 testing.

Encouraged family involvement in patient care through education and support from the Nurses, PSWs and Medical Social Worker.

In collaboration with the Physiotherapist, our Physiotherapist Assistants support treatment plans to clients in their home.

The Home and Community Care Program provides medical and supportive care through Nursing services, Personal Support Workers support, Medical Social Worker liaison, Physiotherapist Assistant (PTA) support, and medical equipment delivery for clients who want to receive care in their home rather than the hospital setting and can safely stay home with family assistance.

Our nursing team carries a wide skill set to support our clients' medical needs and has further training in palliative and end-of-life care for people wishing to spend their last days at home. Home Care services require a referral from a physician or nurse practitioner, along with an individual plan of care accompanying prescriptions.

Home support services are available to assist people whose capabilities are diminished due to acute or chronic conditions. PSWs provide support for Activities of Daily Living (ADL), such as personal care, meal preparation, grocery shopping, housekeeping, and assistance with medical appointments.

The Medical Social Liaison Worker will aid with resources, crisis intervention and client advocacy. The Physiotherapist Assistant (PTA) will come in-home and assist clients to complete their physiotherapy treatment plan previously developed with the Physiotherapist.



Key Goals & Objectives

1.

To keep clients in their home as long as possible with family support, while maintaining client safety.

2.

To empower clients with responsibility in their own health care, through one-on-one education and understanding of individual acute or chronic illnesses, disease, and treatments.

3.

To advocate for client financial support, safety and legal challenges, and a healthy home environment.

4.

To provide in-home physiotherapy treatment support and send referrals for further services as required.



Assistance to clients seeking funding for prescribed medical equipment is available and can be delivered directly to client homes. Our Home Maintenance Representatives also offer education on using the equipment safely, and can provide further services, such as ramp installations, lawn mowing, and snow removal for our most vulnerable. Referrals to further supportive services are available upon need identified by our Advanced Nursing Team focused on client-centered care, client and family education, and client safety.





Meals on Wheels  
Provided 24,449 Meals  
to the Community



Iakhihsothas Annual Trivia  
Fundraiser raised **\$7,500** for their  
holiday events and activities.

IAKHIHSOHTHA LODGE

The Iakhihsohta Lodge provides 16-hour nursing, medical, nutritional, housekeeping, laundry, restorative care, and social & leisure activities in a secure environment for adults and elders. The Lodge has 20 beds for long-term care (LTC) and 7 Respite Beds, one double room reserved for use by residents or community members and their families requiring palliative care support.

The Lodge remained 100% functional throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to be short-staffed in all departments. With the help of our dedicated team, shifts remain covered, ensuring excellent care for all our residents.

This past year the Lodge was fortunate not to experience a COVID-19 outbreak. The Lodge continues to implement policies to ensure that the residents, staff, and family members are knowledgeable of public health measures and can keep our residents safe. With 97% of our residents and all our staff fully vaccinated, visitation resumed according to policy. The Lodge welcomed essential caregivers, families, friends, and entertainers back into the facility.

The Lodge provided 24,449 meals to community members who utilize the Meals on Wheels Program. The Dietary Team provides for approximately 97 elders and adults within our community.

Throughout the pandemic, the Lodge provided various activities for the residents. We were also able to host our Annual Trivia Fundraiser and raised \$7,500 for our Christmas/Holiday Events and Activity Department. It is with the help of programs, organizations, and donors that made this event possible. We are thankful for the staff and providers for providing the best possible care for the residents at the Iakhihsohta Lodge.

TSIONKWANONHSO:TE LONG-TERM CARE

The past year has been a year of relief and reflection following the very difficult past two and a half years. Our facility has re-kindled our Falls Committee, IPAC Committee, Occupational Health & Safety Committee, Continuous Quality Improvement, Medical Advisory Committee, and several other Ministry mandated committees.

In March 2023, the Ministry of Health administered a directive to end the need for COVID-19 screening and rapid testing. In June 2023, the Ministry had approved the use of masks on an as-needed basis. The use of masks is mandatory when the staff perform a risk assessment of high-risk residents. Visitors are encouraged to wear a mask if they feel the need.

- Implementation of Surge Learning Management System to schedule, track, and report on each staff member's progress, upload policies and procedures for staff to review as assigned.
- Three (3) new activity aides in the Recreation Department enables the home to offer additional recreational activities at our residents.
- The roof, call-bell system, freezer, fire alarm and magnetic door safety system have all been updated.
- Professional development efforts have resulted in certifications in the First Nations Health Manager's Association, Leading-Edge Green Belt, Long-Term Care Administration and Queen's University Infection Prevention and Control.

Tsionkwanonhso:te celebrated their 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from August 13-17, 2023. We continue to provide restorative care, full physiotherapy and occupational therapy to meet the needs of our residents. Our Registered Dietician continues to come to the home once a week to ensure that we are meeting the nutritional and hydration needs of our residents while providing a pleasurable dining experience for all our residents. We send our thanks to Dr. Ojistoh Horn and Dr. Hannah Cookson for navigating through these very past difficult few years.



Tsionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care  
received some updates including the  
installation of a **new roof!**

AKWESASNE NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS

Management and staff of Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits (ANIHB) are pleased to share their accomplishments and reflections on continuing challenges to deliver quality services in a manner consistent with the Policies and Procedures of the Department of Health.

FISCAL YEAR 2022/23 – NON-INSURED CLAIMS

DENTAL	
Dental Benefits Funding:	\$5,096,748
Total Claims	12,394
Total Service	30,438
Ortho Cases	601
Exceptions Approved	378
Denials	1,597
Appeals	22
Approved	14

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION	
Medical Transportation Funding:	\$1,142,805
AMA Runs 814	Approved 813
Other Ambulance 128	Approved 128
Handicap Accessible Van	1,754
Private Vehicle	1,508
Medical Transport Approved	88
Incomplete	2

MEDICAL CO-PAYMENTS	
Co-Payment Funding:	\$335,402
Total Claims	536
Total Service	4,173
Québec Reimbursement Claims	5,389
Denials	14
Appeals	9
Approved	8

PHARMACY	
Pharmacy Benefits Funding:	\$5,454,328
Total Benefits	183,948
Exceptions Approved	468
Denials	9,700
Appeals	97
Approved	82

MEDICAL SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT	
Medical Supplies & Equipment Funding:	\$517,985
Total Claims	429
Total Service	2,175
Exceptions Approved	531
Denials	61
Appeals	7
Approved	6

VISION	
Vision Funding:	\$606,925
Total Claims	3,169
Prior Approvals	3,234
Exceptions	76
Denials	65



As an essential service, our Medical Transportation Program provides service six (6) days a week. They are committed to ensuring community members reach their destinations on time in a safe, comfortable, and professional manner. The ANIHB is a team dedicated to providing our community with services year-round that foster confidentiality, compassion, respect and integrity.



It is imperative that everyone maintain a valid OHIP/QHIP as any services covered by your provincial health card are not considered benefits of the ANIHB Program. It is expected that everyone maintains provincial coverage.

For a detailed listing of benefits, scan the following QR codes:







WHOLISTIC HEALTH & WELLNESS

The Wholistic Health and Wellness Program (WHW) assists the community by providing resources to help with Medical, Physical, Addiction/Mental Health, Prevention, and Traditional Medicines options. Our varied services are provided by licensed, regulated health professionals. WHW proudly has a multidisciplinary team that consists of individuals who are directed toward supporting clients through assessment, diagnosis, and treatment from both native traditional and mainstream clinical healing processes.

Primary Care

Dr. Ojistoh Horn  
Family Physician

Dr. Kent Saylor  
Pediatrician

Dr. Enrique Torres  
Family Physician

Dr. Marie-France Levac  
Endocrinologist

Dr. Hannah Cookson  
Family Physician, Mental Health

Dr. Marsha Wysote  
Family Physician

Janet Brant  
Nurse Practitioner

Patrick Labrooy  
Physiotherapist

Martine Pierre-Louis  
Physiotherapist

Mark Terrance  
RN, Primary Care Supervisor

Dawn King  
RPN/LPN

Loretta Smoke  
RPN/LPN

Sandra Thompson  
LPN

Katie Deer  
LPN

Anna Thompson  
RPN/LPN

Monica Mitchell  
RPN/LPN

The Medical Clinics have seen a total of **7,213** primary healthcare visits consisting of Physician and Nurse Practitioner appointments.

Facilitated by Dr. Ojistoh Horn, the Wholistic Health & Wellness Program began serving as an educational site for future doctors in 2017. The teaching site offers placement for medical students from McGill University, Queen's University and University of Ottawa. In total, 11 medical students/residents experienced Akwesasne "strength-based" approach, combining traditional and Western based health options within our integrated wholistic health system. The curriculum supports the enhancement for Indigenous medical students, working with placements, and systemic racism issues. The teaching site involves various clinical settings, as well as the layout of community, expectations, and recognition of the core values that ensure wellness in the community: relationships, balance, connecting to the land, cultural practices, ceremony, and language.

Despite ever-changing procedures and processes for conducting routine practices, the Wholistic Health & Wellness Team prevailed in maintaining their services to the community. Dr. Catherine Bélanger signed on to aid Akwesasne's primary health care team in the Summer of 2023. She provided support to the Akwesasne Medical Clinic as well as Iakhihsoththa Lodge.



Traditional Medicine

The Traditional Medicine team provides our community with traditional healing services, access to healers and seers, cultural counseling, and medicines. Traditional Medicine practitioners relay and reinforce information to clients related to cultural teachings, wellness planning, the cycle of ceremonies and general healthy lifestyle strategies. During 2022-2023, the Traditional Medicine program had **889 client visits**.

Mental Health

The Mental Health Team offers out-patient community mental health services. As a community-based clinic, services are offered to a diverse age range of clients, from pre-school to the elderly. Access to services continued in a virtual format to provide mental health support to the community, as well as staff. Providers increased with the addition of Valerie Rowe, Registered Psychotherapist and Hannah Cookson, Family Physician. Adjustments were made from play-therapy to bibliotherapy, focusing on support for parents during the pandemic. The Wholistic Health and Wellness Mental Health component provides services to the community, accounting for **366 clients** with **2,089 client sessions** this fiscal year.

Valerie Rowe  
Registered Psychotherapist

Dr. Hannah Cookson  
Family Physician

Addictions

The Addictions Team provides the community of Akwesasne with a varied response to substance use. The Addictions team provides assessment, awareness, counseling, education and harm reduction information as well as identification of substance use issues. This includes community-based interventions from a wholistic viewpoint and includes identification of harm reduction and treatment options from both a cultural, and trauma informed lens. The Wholistic Health & Wellness Addictions team works together to conduct client intake and service provision in a culturally safe and trauma informed manner, cognizant of the changing needs present in the substance use arena. There were **147 client sessions** for our Addictions team in 2022-2023.

Prevention

The Prevention Team facilitates workshops and activities to place an emphasis on the connection between youth and elders, and encourage feelings of self-worth and self-esteem via a positive learning environment. The Prevention Supervisor, and three Prevention Specialists, worked to decrease stigma surrounding mental health, addiction, and problem gambling.

Elder Enrichment programming started in April 2022, providing services designed for our elder community members ages 55+. Sessions are held every Tuesday with a total of **58 events** and **610 elders participating**. The Too Good for Drugs Program curriculum was delivered to all AMBE school's grades 1-8 with 120 sessions facilitated.

The Safe Zone initiative was renewed in September 2022, comprised of ten committee members. With **12 events**, **145 participants**, **2 staff training sessions** with **22 employee participants**, the Prevention team created safe spaces, events, activities and educational opportunities to increase knowledge and end stigma for our 2SLGBTQQIA+ community members. The Student Enrichment After-School Program (CCVS) sessions are held every Wednesday at CCVS High School for Grades 8-12. **35 sessions were provided with 247 total students**.



Wholistic Health & Wellness Prevention Unit staff.

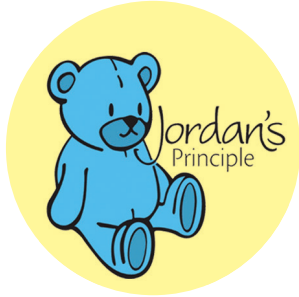


Fan-making class held for the Elder Enrichment Program.



Safe Zone hosts a variety of events for community members.





JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE

Jordan's Principle ensures there is substantive equality for First Nations children. A Canadian Human Rights Tribunal order, Jordan's Principle ensures there are no gaps in public-funded health, social and educational programs, services, and support for Akwesasne children. Program services are offered to both on- and off-reserve Akwesasne children, under the age of 18, regardless of status. The service delivery program provides needed support(s) when needed in a timely fashion.

The community program launched in August of 2021. In September of 2021, the office at 33 Third Street in Kana:takon opened its doors to the community. In March 2023, the office moved to Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility.

Our services begin with an intake meeting in which we discuss with our clients what they believe their biggest current need is. The intake process consists of a very organic discussion about daily living and familial needs. From these discussions, we may be able to identify, and clarify, needs that the client may have, and what areas the program can aid. Each client is treated as an individual case whose needs may vary vastly from one Akwesasronon to another. Consent is requested for Jordan's Principle Akwesasne to act as a Navigator for the client. With supporting letters from our navigators and/or social or health professionals, along with pricing quotes for the services and products, applications are submitted to Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) – Jordan's Principle. After submission, an approval, denial, pending (sent to national review) will be sent back. After an approval of an application, the work is far from over. We then procure actual goods and services, confirm receipts of goods and services, and submit to is reimbursements for Mohawk Council of Akwesasne or parents/caregivers.

We currently employ a Program Manager, three Navigators, and an Administrative Assistant.

Between April 2022 and March 2023 (FY 2022-23), the Akwesasne Jordan's Principle office has **submitted 110 applications** on behalf of Akwesasne families or First Nation children. Of the total application 82 the children ordinary reside on reserve and 28 off reserve. Jordan's Principle provided assistance totalling over \$266,000.00. Assistance included but was not limited to health, social, physical well-being and groceries, computer, school uniform.

Jordan's Principle **purchased and supplied 20 generators to families in need** during the ongoing power outages. With the assistance of MCA's Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment and Mohawk Government, the generators were delivered, set-up (including a full tank of gas), provided a brief training and conducted the necessary oil change after the first 5 hours of use. Along with the generators, \$60,000.00 (\$100.00 x 600) grocery gift cards were purchased for the community.

Jordan's Principle employees are very dedicated to ensuring every opportunity is explored for the overall benefit of each child. The staff of Jordan's Principle Akwesasne are positive that this delivery service will continue to grow and continue to identify and support Akwesasne and First Nations children, which will no doubt have a considerable, positive impact for the next seven generations and beyond. The program has had and will continue to have a significant impact for many Akwesasne families in need.



Jordan's Principle office now located at the Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility.



Purchased 20 Generators to Families in Need During Power Outages



Jordan's Principle staff received Certificate of Appreciation from Independent First Nations (IFN).

SAHATIHA'HARÁ:NE DETOX CENTER

The Sahatiha'hará:ne (Back on the Path) Detox Center received funding from the Ministry of Health (MOH) as a pilot project to meet urgent needs related to substance abuse, misuse, use, and the accompanying negative effects correlated with addiction. The former Adolescent Group Home, located at 44 James Lane in the District of Kawehno:ke, was identified as the location.

The goal of the detox center is to provide a safe, stigma-free environment for withdrawal from substances, to facilitate hope, and provide options for further assistance. The development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Onentokon Treatment Facility in Kanesatake was established in May 2023. This will assist in the facilitation of further options for recovery and sobriety.

Renovations

Renovations were initiated to make the site suitable for occupation. The renovation process was lengthy, with many adjustments made, as there were key issues identified once the initial construction process began. This resulted in delays in the buildings completion due to supply chain restrictions originating from the COVID-19 pandemic. Construction was initiated in late Fall 2022. The detox center is nearing completion, with an anticipated soft opening in the Summer of 2023. The building was deemed ready for occupation in May 2023.

Recruitment Process

The recruitment process to acquire qualified and certified health professionals that are needed is a high priority. Detox center staff required to open is a Medical Doctor (MD), a Registered Nurse (RN), and Registered Practical Nurses (RPNs). The current detox center staff consists of one Cook, one Housekeeper, two Withdrawal Specialists, and the Program Manager. Currently, the plan is to utilize a contracted nursing service to open the doors and start receiving clients.

Community Outreach

The team has conducted community outreach, and the distribution of Naloxone kits and fentanyl testing strips to interested community members while we are in the final stages of preparation. Naloxone kits and fentanyl testing strips are instrumental in helping save the life of an active user. The team has completed Naloxone training, and all staff have their current CPR/First Aid certifications. Staff have completed Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) in suicidal ideation and regarding trauma informed care.



Sahatiha'tará:ne Detox Center staff members.



CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like more information or to conduct a telephone screening, please call:

613-932-5050.

Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center is located at:

44 James Lane, Kawehno:ke, ON



# Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment

MISSION STATEMENT:

Provide professional project delivery service to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne in the planning, design, construction and maintenance of all community buildings and infrastructure. This service is delivered according to policies and directives of the organization.

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS:

- » Infrastructure Sector
- » Housing Sector
- » Environment Program

Strategic Goals

- Provide safe drinking water to all residents within MCA districts by using the most stringent guidelines and modernized systems/equipment.
- To exercise jurisdiction over the implementation of Water & Wastewater Management standards and regulations.
- Provide direction to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Community Building Maintenance Programs, Water & Wastewater Operations, Roads Program, Housing Programs, the Environment Program that includes Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- Effectively manage MCA's capital planning process and provide project management services for all capital projects.
- Continue lobbying strategies to seek funding for the provision of community Infrastructure as identified in the 20-year Capital Plan and 10-year Lobbying Strategies for capital investment and provide the proper maintenance of existing infrastructure.
- Continue to build the capacity of Akwesasne's workforce, foster self-reliance of our people in the construction industry and professionals in the Architectural and Engineering Fields.
- To better monitor and identify areas of the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory to protect and preserve for future generations.
- Work together with departments within MCA to better manage our available lands, natural resources and data sets to assist in infrastructure development and resource planning.
- Build capacity through trainings, work opportunities and outreach initiatives which enhance our ability to provide more in-depth scientific insights while increasing our internal ability to attract and retain good workers – limiting the need for outsourcing of work.

Highlights & Accomplishments

Capital Projects

The Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (DIHE) continued to respond to the needs of the MCA organization and community for all MCA facilities and infrastructure services. Although we did experience some form of material supply and schedule delays along with rising costs, DIHE was still able to complete and initiate many essential projects:

WADE LAFRANCE MEMORIAL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION CAPITAL PROJECT

The final site restoration work from Phase 2 was recently completed in July 2023.

PARK STREET AND HILLTOP ROAD AND WATERMAIN CAPITAL PROJECT

The final site restoration work is near complete with minor deficiencies is scheduled for completion in August 2023.

KAWEHNO:KE RECREATION ROAD WATERLINE EXTENSION PROJECT

Completed in late 2022 and is now servicing over 10 homes.

TSIIONKWANÓNHISO:TE UPGRADES

Fire alarm replacement, mag secure locking system, nurses call station, and the roof replacement projects. These projects have now been completed as of July 2023. The building is currently undergoing a building condition assessment report to look at the building's equipment operations and upgrades to interior and exterior finishes. The intent of the report is to identify the deficiencies and seek funds for replacement and retrofit of the facility.

NEW FIRE STATION #3 (TSI SNAIHNE) CAPITAL PROJECT

Detailed drawings and specification is complete. The Project Approval Request (PAR) is being finalized with an update to the Class A estimate. A survey and community consultation are a requirement for submission and will be posted out to the community for 2023. Upon data received, DIHE will then finalize and submit project application to Indigenous Services Canada and other various funding opportunities.

KAWEHNO:KE BASKETBALL COURT LIGHTS AND WASHROOMS

Detail design and estimate complete. Project will go out to tender; anticipated construction will begin mid-Fall 2023.

MCA DIHE SAND/SALT BUILDING FOR KAWEHNO:KE

Detail design and estimate complete. DIHE will submit project application to Indigenous Services Canada and other various funding opportunities.

IOHAHI:IO PROJECTS

Portable classroom and breezeway connection with site servicing, longhouse and pavilion. Detail design drawings, specification and estimate are scheduled to be completed in early Fall 2023.

MAIN WATERLINE ADDITIONS

Planning continues to add homes to the main waterline who were previously unable to be connected for various reasons, (i.e., lack of funds to extend the line farther than the prescribed meters, lack of proper wastewater systems, lack of easement for access). There are 28 homes under review.



NEW TSI SNAIHNE SCHOOL – NEW BUILDING DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

DIHE is working with Figurr Architects and HSP Engineering to complete full tender drawing package with Class A estimate. Upon completion, DIHE will submit project application to Indigenous Services Canada and other various funding opportunities. Anticipate drawings to be completed end of 2023/2024 fiscal year.



HAMILTON ISLAND BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

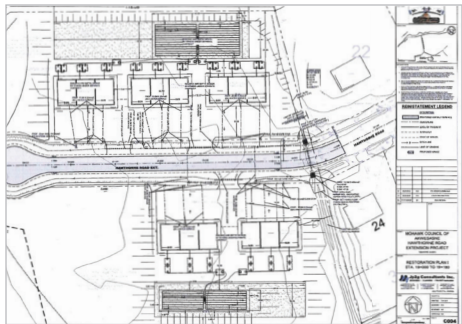
This capital project request for proposal was completed and issued out to proponents. Jacobs Engineering was the successful proponent and awarded design development in early 2023. Upon design completion, DIHE will submit project application to Indigenous Services Canada and other various funding opportunities. Anticipate drawings to be completed end of 2023/2024 fiscal year.



MCCUMBER ROAD LED STREET LIGHTING

Detail design development and pricing completed by HSP Engineering and Cornwall Electric. Materials on order and anticipate installation Fall 2023.





Hawthorne Road Extension – Tsi Snaihne



Kana:takon Beach Project Proposed Rendering

HAWTHORNE ROAD SUBDIVISION EXTENSION

Design development is being planned for 2023/2024 and will provide a new road and site service for 4 to 6 housing units.

KANA:TAKON BEACH PROJECT

Detailed design underway and expect drawings, specification and estimate to be completed mid Fall 2023. DIHE will then finalize and submit project application to Indigenous Services Canada and other various funding opportunities.

FIRST NATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PLAN (FNIIP)

Project Description forms have been submitted to INAC for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. The plans identify Akwesasne's priority Community Infrastructure Projects for the coming years that include but are not limited to:

- Water & Wastewater Treatment Plants various retrofits & upgrades.
  - Community Service Buildings Replacement (Planning/Space Needs).
  - District Schools Major Systems Upgrades Repair. Projects filed since 2019/2020.
  - Hamilton Island Bridge Replacement, River Road, and Wade Lafrance Memorial Road Bridge(s) Design/Build Replacement.
  - Various upgrades, road replacements for the three districts, and design stage.
  - Adult Education (design pending), Roof Replacement, HVAC Replacement.
- Tsi Snaihne School Road Housing Sub-Division Lot Servicing.
  - New Emergency HAVFD Building for Station #3 (Tsi Snaihne).
  - New Tsi Snaihne School.
  - New AMS School feasibility report and preliminary design.
  - New Sand/Salt Dome – Kawehno:ke.
  - New Medical Clinic –Kawehno:ke.
  - Tsiionkwanónhso:te Building condition report to seek funds for renovations on the exterior and interior.

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE


Core capital dollars are allocated to support Maintenance Management and the general operations of all MCA Community Buildings. In addition to Program funds, Core capital funds were utilized to undertake numerous health and safety related building repair projects as prescribed through the 2019 ACRS Inspection Report. Admin. Building 3 was completely renovated for the Human Resource program, Admin. 1 is currently being updated for Administration and Council for space needs, Admin. 4 and Angus Mitchell is under review for upgrades. Funds were applied to meet the need for health and safety investments related to COVID-19 pandemic for all MCA facilities.

WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM


The Water/Wastewater Infrastructure Sector provides safe and healthy water and wastewater services to Akwesasne. The Ontario certified Akwesasronon operators continually monitor and improve the operations-maintenance of Akwesasne's vast water and wastewater systems.

The Water and Wastewater plant Operators, including the Manager, are required to renew their Ontario Ministry of Environment water and wastewater certification every three years. Certification renewal includes approximately 40 hours of water and wastewater training per year. All MCA Operators are members of the Aboriginal Water and Wastewater Association of Ontario.

This year, Water and Wastewater Program had two Operators increase their Ontario Water Treatment Certifications.



Operator David increased his Class 2 Water Treatment to a Class 3 Water Treatment License.



Operator Francis increased his Class 1 Water Treatment to a Class 2 Water Treatment License.

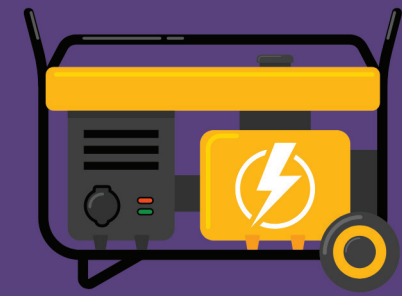
WATER/WASTEWATER SYSTEMS INFRASTRUCTURE

NAME	TYPE	SERVICE AREA	SIZE	HOMES/BUILDINGS
Kana:takon Water Treatment Plant	Class 3 WT	Kana:takon & Tsi Snaihne	27 km Waterline	933
Kawehno:ke Water Treatment Plant	Class 3 WT	Kawehno:ke	9 km Waterline	455
Kana:takon Wastewater Plant	Class 2 WWT	Kana:takon	5.5 km Sewer Line	530
Tsi Snaihne Wastewater Treatment Lagoon & Submerged Attached Growth Reactor Bed	Class 1 WWT	Iohahi:io, Daycare, Iakhihsotha, School & Homes	1 km Sewer Line	38
Kawehno:ke Apartments Wastewater Treatment Block 97 Rotating Biological Contractor	Class 1 WWT	Kawehno:ke (East) – Tsiionkwanonhso:te, Kawehno:ke Apartments, Homes	1 km Sewer Line	64
AMS Wastewater Treatment Rotating Biological Contactor	Class 1 WWT	Ahkwesahsne Mohawk School Area and West Community Buildings	1 km Sewer Line	5
Arena Wastewater Treatment Rotating Biological Contractor	Class 1 WWT	Kawehno:ke (Central) – Arena, Phillip Hopps Memorial Road	50m Sewer Line	1
Chapman Rd. Subdivision Wastewater Treatment	Septic Bed	Chapman Road Housing Subdivision	100m Sewer Line	19
Kawehno:ke Daycare/Senior Center Wastewater Treatment	Septic Bed	Kawehno:ke (Central) – Daycare, Recreation & Tsi District Elders Lodge	50m Sewer Line	2



THE WATER/WASTEWATER PROGRAM REPAIRED, INSTALLED OR MONITORED INFRASTRUCTURE THIS YEAR AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- Emergency backup generator monitoring due to Hydro Québec power outages.
- Five curb stop repairs in Kana:takon, Kawehno:ke and Tsi Snaihne.
- Four water service installations to the curb stops.
- Four hydrant repairs.
- Four watermain emergency repairs.
- Water leak monitoring and investigation for the Québec portion of Akwesasne.
- Monthly and quarterly sampling for compliance of Canadas Wastewater Systems Effluent Standards for release back to the waters.
- Weekly, monthly and quarterly water quality sampling for Health Canada and Ontario regulations (as best practice).
- Work with MCA's Community Health Nurses on water quality standards for people still on well systems.
- Quarterly and annual sewage desludging for Kana:takon, Kawehno:ke sewage plant and RBC's.



ROADS MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The Roads Sector provides maintenance services within all three Districts: Kawehno:ke, Kana:takon and Tsi Snaihne. Through regular inspections of roadways, servicing both gravel and also asphalt surface, & maintain adequate surface water drainage from roads and streets. They maintain three bridge crossing structures and participate in the completion of and provide oversight to roads related capital projects.

Tasks include annual patching of potholes, spot resurfacing, sweeping of curbsides and intersections, crack sealing, line painting and pavement markings of asphalt surfaces and grading/shaping of gravel road surfaces with installation of granular material and application of liquid and/or flake dust suppressant.

Winter roadways require manufactured pre-treated sand with a 20% liquid magnesium chloride solution that is stockpiled indoors. Regular plowing/sanding/salting of roadways, clearing of parking areas, snow removal from curbsides and sidewalks is done.

Roadside/intersections grass and weeds are cut to maintain sight distances for motorists. Drainage ditches/catch basins are cleaned to ensure free flow of surface water runoff. Driveway culverts were installed for property owner access. Streetlights, road signs and guard rails are inspected & repaired as required.

Bridge crossings are swept and flushed with water to remove dirt and salt/sand accumulation as per regular maintenance. Bridge materials were ordered for repair work and scheduled to begin in the Summer 2023.

The ditching of Iohahi:io Road was completed and funds were allocated by AMBE to re-surface the gravel road to help assist with road maintenance.

Ditching in Sugarbush was completed to get the surface water flowing off the roadway surface.

Repairing the guard rail and clearing debris around and under the guard rails in Tsi Snaihne. Roadside grass cutting for all three Districts was completed.

Annual line painting and crack sealing work was done.

Assisting with various community calls relating to road servicing.

Building and Maintenance Operations Administration, Education, Health and Social Building Assets

Primary Goals & Objectives:

To develop and implement a strategy-based maintenance plan for 57 assets incorporating preventive and predictive activities that are subject to continual improvement and linked to the department vision, implement a means in which we can effectively operate and maintain the assets we have today, a process to ensure effective funding is in place to realize and maintain the infrastructure we have today and for in the future.

To effectively oversee the operation and maintenance of the approximately 520,000 square feet of floor space within MCA operations and to direct effective repairs consistent to current standards that apply.

Ensure our Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) is fully operational in all areas of maintenance, and that the system is functioning as required. The purpose of the CMMS is to perform preventative maintenance, report repairs, and to track the efficiency of addressing the service provided.

Actively developed the Operation and Maintenance Plans and Budget Projections for all assets in consultation with the Maintenance Managers and support Staff. This information is shared with Directors and Program Managers. The new BOARD Finance Accounting System facilitates budget lines being actively populated.

DCSS/DOH Sector Operation and Maintenance

(Responsible Floor space, 16525 sq. meters (177,873.62 sq. ft.) in 12 Assets)

AFWP/Transitional Housing/Group Home/Whoville House:

- New garage door installed at Detox Center.
- New gutters installed at Detox Center.
- Lighting upgrades at social outreach Whoville House.
- Bathroom renovations complete 22-23.
- New hot water tank at shelter main building.
- Detox Center renovations to washrooms, lighting upgrades throughout building, interior repainted, and new flooring installed.

Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility:

- 1,200 AMP main breaker rebuild.
- New East exit door installed.
- Phase 1 driveway sealing project complete.
- Staircase re-tiled by Mainville Flooring.
- Health Facility signs refurbished by Sonne Signs.

Iakhihsohtha Lodge:

- East and West wing insulation project complete.
- New snow blower purchased.
- LED lighting upgrades are ongoing.

Tsiionkwanónhso:te Long-Term Care Facility:

- Direct replacement of make-up air unit #1.
- LED lighting project complete.
- Direct replacement of five 100-gallon commercial hot water tanks.
- New building sign installed by Sonne Signs.
- New garage door installed.
- Door security upgrades were completed by Gryphon Systems.
- 10 HP and 20 HP electric motor purchased for penthouse HVAC system.

Kawehno:ke Recreation and Kana:takon Recreation:

- Emergency lighting upgrades Snye Recreation.
- Restroom fan electrical repairs complete.
- New snow blower purchased for Kawehno:ke Daycare staff.
- New riding lawn mower purchased for Daycare staff.
- New dumpster purchased Kawehno:ke Recreation.

Administration Building Maintenance Services:

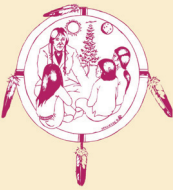
(Responsible Floor Space 13,769 sq. meters (148,154 sq. ft.))

Staff oversee operation and maintenance at 29 different facilities in Kana:takon (Administration facilities, DTS Maintenance Shop, Roads Garage, Akwesasne Mohawk Police Services and AMPS Substation in Tsi Snaihne), Kawehno:ke (CIA 1, 3, 4, CIA Roads Buildings, and Environment Exterior Building).

Main tasks are to prevent deterioration of existing assets, to ensure buildings and systems are fully operational, and minor repairs are done for health and safety reasons.



Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility staircase re-tiled by Mainville Flooring.



Ahkwesasne Mohawk Board of Education Maintenance:

(Responsible Floor Space of 12,563 sq. meters (135,178 sq. ft) in 10 Assets)

The Head Caretakers are tasked with taking control of the facilities and ensuring complete-consistent operation throughout the year by completing and maintaining the following tasks:

- Purchase/install of new transfer switch at Tsi Snaihne School.
- New 3 Phase transformer for Kana:takon School.
- Iohahi:io HVAC project scheduled for completion July 23.
- Phase 2 of AMS window project completed.
- Implementation of COVID-19 safety protocols for all education facilities.
- Backflow preventer at AMS School.
- Installation of 2 filter drink fountains at Tsi Snaihne School, all AMBE facilities now have filtered drinking water stations.
- AMBE maintenance now oversees the GNL 1 Mohawk Language curriculum building.





HOUSING SECTOR

Programs & Accomplishments

CMHC – Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI2):

The Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (DIHE) – Housing Sector received grant funding of \$2,439,000 to construct 16 rental units on November 30, 2021. This initiative was approved to construct eight single bedroom units for Elders (Point Road, Kawehno:ke) and eight single bedroom units for near homeless (Whoville Road, Tsi Snaihne). Project commenced September 2022. Due to protest of land on Kawehno:ke the project moved to Tsi Snaihne. As of March 31, 2023 - project is 55% complete – expensed \$1,314,684.

ISC - Major Renovations:

The DIHE Housing Sector received a Major Renovations Housing Allocation of \$200,000 of grant funding September 17, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, some projects were delayed. We allocated \$40,000 per home, acquired engineered plans, and requested quotes from contractors. As of March 31, 2023, two homes were 100% complete, one home 80% complete, one home 70 % complete, and one home needed more than double funding allocated.

ACFS Home Repair Program:

The DIHE Housing Sector has received a one-time \$1,000,000 funding from Akwesasne Child and Family Services (ACFS) to complete \$7,500 in home repairs to low-income families who have children under 18 years of age living in their home. As of March 31, 2023, 142 home repairs were completed utilizing \$915,538 in funds. Another \$400,000 was allocated to housing 27 families assisted total expenses of \$233,975.

Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust Fund:

The DIHE Housing Sector applied to and was approved from the Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust fund for:

- 1. SWEETGRASS MANOR MAJOR RENOVATION PROJECT - \$214,558** - Purchased new transfer switch generator, paved parking lot, installed security cameras, installed new signage, and installed handicap showers.
- 2. GENERATORS FOR ELDERS - \$105,000** - 12 auto transfer switch generators were installed for community members.
- 3. SEPTIC, SEWER, AND AIR QUALITY PROGRAM - \$105,000** - 17 families were assisted with septic pump outs, septic tank replacements, drainage issues and installation of HRV's for air quality. Many projects were not completed due to lack of contractors.

Housing Loans:

The DIHE Housing Sector recommended approval for four new construction projects for 2022/2023 fiscal year. The Housing Sector currently has approximately \$7.5 million dollars in housing loans and upgrade loans. Payments received for the new construction program were \$556,201 for fiscal year 2022/202315 New Construction Loans paid in full.

Upgrade Program:

The Upgrade Program is a Mohawk Council of Akwesasne initiative that was started by using community dollars to create a revolving loan fund for repair and renovation to homes. If this loan program does not get payback from the homeowners who borrowed money, it will cease to exist for future homeowners. Indigenous Services Canada does not provide any type of funding for these types of programs. The DIHE Housing Sector currently offers three types of Upgrade Loans.

UPGRADE LOAN PROGRAM

	QUANTITY	AMOUNT	SUBTOTAL
MAINTENANCE	1	\$3,000	\$3,000
REPAIR	5	\$8,000	\$40,000
RENOVATION	7	\$12,000	\$84,000
TOTAL	13		\$127,000

Overall payments received for the Upgrade Program were approximately \$238,372 for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. There were 42 Upgrade Loans paid in full.

Bank of Montreal – On-Reserve Housing Loan Program:

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne provides financial guarantees for community members who choose to use the Bank of Montreal on Reserve Housing Loan Program. These mortgages are for new home construction, purchase of existing homes, and major renovations. The maximum loan amount is currently set at \$150,000. As of March 31, 2023:

BMO ON-RESERVE HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM

	PRINCIPLE BAL.	ARREARS	NUMBER OF LOANS
REGULAR PAYMENTS	\$3,861,437	\$0.00	63
1 MONTH IN ARREARS			0
TOTAL	\$3,861,437	\$0.00	63
CAP	\$7,000,000		
AVAIL. FOR LOANS	\$3,138,563	\$150,000	21

Summary of Housing Loans Outstanding:

The following table shows the amounts and various housing loans the Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment – Housing Sector are responsible for in 2022-2023.

LOAN TYPE	AMOUNT
CMHC	\$4,040,628.00
BMO	\$3,861,437.00
HOUSING & UPGRADE LOANS	\$7,527,161.00
TOTAL	\$15,429,226.00

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC):

CMHC - Housing Internship Initiative for First Nations and Inuit Youth - the DIHE Housing Sector applied for and received a grant of \$27,650 to continue with one youth internships for the Housing Maintenance Program.



142 Home Repairs Completed for Low-Income Families with Funding from ACFS



Sweetgrass Manor major updates include new signage, paved parking lot new transfer switch generator, security cameras and handicap shows part of the renovation project.



12 Auto Transfer Switch Generators Installed for Community Elders



Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP):

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) RRAP assistance per residential home is \$60,000 for low-income families. The DIHE Housing Sector fronts the funding for all RRAP projects and is reimbursed, after the project is complete. Recommendation made to have all RRAP approvals sign over CP to MCA and have our tenant and maintenance manager oversee all projects to ensure they are completed. Needed to finish up prior year RRAP project before approval of another one.

Emergency Repair Program (ERP):

The DIHE Housing Sector administers this Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) initiative, which provides a maximum of \$30,000 for emergency repairs to their home. The Housing Sector received approvals for four Emergency Repair Program with a total of \$78,451 for the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

Home Adaptation for Senior Independence (HASI):

The DIHE Housing Sector administers this Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) program which provides a maximum of \$10,000 to make modifications to homes for Seniors. The Housing Sector did not receive any approvals for HASI for the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

Elders Emergency Fund:

The DIHE Housing Sector receives annual funding of \$100,000 from Mohawk Council of Akwesasne to provide emergency repairs to elder's home. A request to Council to provide an extra \$30,000 to Elders Emergency fund in January 2023. The fund provides a one-time amount of \$5,000 per home. The Department of Housing assisted 73 elders with emergency repairs to their home totaling \$129,974.48.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) – Rent-to-Own Housing:

The DIHE Housing Sector applies for loans under Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Section 95 program for the Rent-to-Own Housing. The DIHE Housing Sector currently has the following Rent-to-Own units throughout Akwesasne:

RENT-TO-OWN UNITS PER DISTRICT	
DISTRICT	NUMBER OF RENT-TO-OWN UNITS
KANA:TAKON	0
TSI SNAIHNE	50
KAWEHNO:KE	21
TOTAL	71

Each of the projects that Rent-to-Own Homes were constructed in were under a separate 25-year operating agreement. These agreements spell out the responsibilities of MCA, and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The rent collected pays the mortgage, and subsidies received assist with the operating expenses, along with a replacement reserve fund, to help cover any major repairs needed for each unit. The total amount of payments made to CMHC from MCA was \$484,249. The principle was 11 and interest payments of \$87,500 for fiscal year 2022/2023.

Home Inspection Services:

The DIHE Housing Sector had a full-time home inspector for nine months. The number of inspections completed for the fiscal year 2022-2023 was 82.

Housing Rental Services:

MCA Rental Units

The DIHE Housing Sector has several apartment rentals within all three districts of Akwesasne. These include:

DIHE HOUSING SECTOR RENTAL UNITS		
	LOCATION	NUMBER OF RENTALS
KANA:TAKON	Sweetgrass Manor	20
	Bayview	5
	Third Street Circle Duplex	2
	Hilltop Drive Duplex	2
TSI SNAIHNE	Chapman Road Duplexes	4
	Whoville Road Duplexes	6
	Whoville Road Quads	8
	Whoville Road Triplexes	6
KAWEHNO:KE	Kawehno:ke Riverview Apartments	34
	Island Road Quad	4
	KRA Fiveplex	5
	KRA Triplex	3
TOTAL NUMBER OF RENTAL UNITS		99

Problem Areas

Issues that are predominant within the DIHE Housing Sector are:

- Need Council to obtain more land for construction.
- Waitlists – For apartment rentals, new construction.
- RRAP - Increased amount per home reduced number of approved applicants annually.
- Increased cost of rehabilitation of apartment units.



During the 2022/2023 fiscal year, the apartment rentals were at 99% capacity, with 70 families on the waitlist for apartment rentals.



ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

Programs & Accomplishments

CONSERVATION

Our Conservation team has continued their work in dispersing rabies vaccinations across the three Districts. There has been an abundance of fox and raccoon calls in 2023. Conservation is creating a plan to manage coyote dens on Kawehno:ke as they are also on the rise. We are tracking this via GIS and monitoring programs. Conservation continues to work with various agencies and partners to uphold environmental protections, attend training sessions and provide insight into various species management plans. Conservation will continue to work towards updating the Wildlife and Conservation By-law, which has been put forth to be picked up by legislative process, though it did not win popular vote to be reviewed and MCR'd for the 2022-2023 season. Grants have been applied to and partnerships started to begin seeking additional funding, to hire Conservation Officers to provide relief and support for the Conservation Program.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Environmental Assessments:

One additional Environmental Assessment Officer (EAO) has been hired to assist in bridging the gap between the number of Tree Inspections, Environmental Assessments and working groups which our current EAO handles. This will lessen the workplace stress and allow for the EAO's to share the load, hopefully resulting in catching up on the 2-year backlog created by COVID-19. At this current time, the EAO's have met their (12) Environmental Assessment annual goal and will continue to work to exceed this goal and close the gap. To date, the Environmental Assessment Team has located two archeological sites which have been turned over to ARRO for assessment and further inspection. These sites add to our rich cultural heritage and provide a launch point for digging into the past. The Environmental Assessment Officer has also assisted Compliance and Conservation on patrols of islands, assisting in documenting and mediating complaints and breaches of the Wildlife and Conservation Regulations.

A plan to educate the public on the importance of Environmental Assessments is under development and is planned to roll out across various media beginning Winter 2023.

GIS Technician:

Our Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Technician has responded to numerous calls to locate PINS. The technician has also begun spreading awareness about the legalities of removing PINS, and the importance of knowing your land boundaries before you build. This reduces the number of complaints, issues and disputes while saving time and money in the long run for MCA and the community. The GIS Technician is available on site 5 days a week to respond to internal and external requests.





### Canadian Coast Guard:

The MCA Canadian Coast Guard Marine Liaison Officer (MLO) has been successfully onboarded and has many projects underway. The Canadian Coast Guard is looking forward to a Cultural Sensitivity Presentation prepared by the MLO to provide to the CCG staff, worldwide on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The MLO is currently working on a No Wake Zone project which seeks to protect recreators, lessen the impacts of erosion and enhance safety on our waterways. Our pilot project location is the Tsi Snaihne channel, circling Yellow Island. The work to clean up Aid to Navigation Batteries continues with the Coast Guard and various volunteer agencies, and an AtoN pick up is planned for Fall 2023.

### Waste Coordination:

The goal for waste coordination in 2023 was to get the composting program developed and deployed. This initiative should divert up to 30% of waste from landfills back to the local environment. The goal of this initiative closely follows the Composting plan developed in Kahnawake. Additionally, the Waste Coordinator seeks to understand the Ontario Blue Box Transition, how it may affect the community, and what our future steps could be. We are currently seeking an energetic and qualified individual to fill this role. In 2023 we were able to secure funding for a series of shoreline, community and roadside clean ups which removed over 2.8 tons of waste from our community.

### Environmental Sciences Officer:

The ESO continues to meet with various stakeholders and agencies to further develop programs, services and opportunities in the community. To date, they have provided feedback on large projects such as: GFL Landfill Expansion Project, Parc Jean-Drapeau CDDMP; smaller projects led by local scientists, environmental consulting firms, as well as, assisted Federal agencies in the designation of species to the Species at Risk List.

### Environmental Project Teams:

#### FORESTRY – LAND BASED

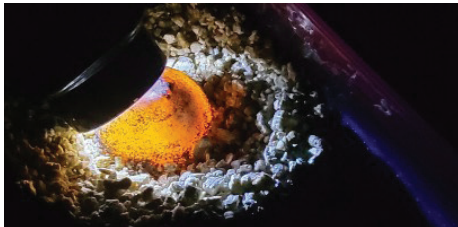
Our Forestry Technician has been trained to assist in tree assessments, which relieves some workload from the Environmental Assessment Officer. They are currently working to develop a propagation plan for Black Ash, and various fruiting or nut trees in preparation for next year's Tree and Seed Giveaway. The directive to have fruit and nut trees was received from both Council and the community. The Forestry Technician has worked hard to establish and maintain working relationships with Parks Canada, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, and various other agencies. They obtained Invasive Species Training through the Ontario Woodlot Association and represented Akwesasne at the annual Eastern Ontario Model Forests gathering. The Forestry Technician will continue to monitor forest plots, assist community members in species identification and stewardship initiatives and provide workshops/learning opportunities for all ages. Test plots are being developed to monitor new growth of ash species in the Tsi Snaihne Marsh, various islands and locations on Kawehno:ke.

### Parks Canada (Environmental Education):

Our Environmental Educator has taken the partnership with Parks Canada a step further this year through our Guardian and Me event dates. Over the 2023 season, our Educator has held three events which aim to teach outdoor skills and reconnect our community members to our historical land base currently occupied by Parks Canada. These opportunities were open to AMBE schools, Akwesasne Freedom School and the public.

Moving into Fall 2023 our Educator has planned additional events like: Sturgeon Fingerling Release, baby turtle release and an overnight tree planting event complete with "glamping" and its accoutrements.

Our biggest accomplishment to date in 2023 has been the success of our turtle hatchling program. Through Parks Canada's Multispecies Action Plan, we were able to borrow an incubator to hatch baby turtles, improving survival rates by over 60% (in the wild it is expected that between 2-10% of eggs laid will hatch). This programming aims to only incubate turtle nests which would otherwise be in danger (ex. A turtle nest below



a mailbox might get run over frequently by postal workers or the homeowner), & tips are provided by the community through citizen science. This initiative has gained speed each year, and we now have a dedicated volunteer base who seek to protect turtles, monitor nesting sites, and share information about proper handling/protection of these sensitive species.

Through 2023, Environment and Parks Canada will seek to review and develop the Guardians Program. Through the Guardians Initiative, we hope to secure long-term funding for monitoring, preservation and protection initiatives which support the community and local environment.

The Environmental Educator and Environmental Assessment Officer are also working in partnership with the International Secretariat of Water to develop programming which will seek to support 10 Akwesasronon to develop and facilitate projects which will lead activities to promote Climate Change Resilience. The youth involved will have a chance to promote their projects at the Adaptation Futures Conference series, which is the premier international conference devoted entirely to climate change adaptation in October 2023.

### Aquatics Programming:

#### REMEDIATION ACTION PLAN

We are currently in the process of redesignating BUI #10 Beach Closings from impaired to unimpaired based on positive sampling results/low levels of E. coli. Our Area of Concern (AOC) will also be formally referred to as the Cornwall/Akwesasne Area of Concern going forward, as opposed to the previous name, which was the Cornwall Area of Concern.

Cultural Delisting Criteria are currently being developed to ensure a more holistic and complete overview of our 14 Beneficial Use Impairments (BUI's) which were established in the late 80's and only included Western scientific criteria.

The results of a 2-year contaminant study for mercury and PCB's has been received. The data for over 300 fish samples is being analyzed to help inform fish consumption guidelines. Lake Sturgeon and American eel are presently being sampled and will be sent to the lab for the contaminant testing to provide a more comprehensive study that is inclusive of our values and culturally significant species. Eels will also be necropsied to determine if

they were from stocked or native populations which will help determine the effectiveness of stocking programs and provide further insight into the health of native populations.

Community Workshops for both Lake Sturgeon and American eel will take place this year and focus on traditional uses and practices involving these species. Some examples include food preparation, medicinal uses, and textiles.

We are presently conducting a 2-year study to assess nitrogen, phosphorus, and fecal coliform levels, as these nutrients will result in harmful algal blooms if they are found to be in excess of healthy levels. Monitoring for any current algal blooms is also being completed in addition to benthic invertebrate sampling for further analysis of water quality. Point sources for contamination will be identified in the event test results determine unhealthy levels of these nutrients.

**Fish Tumors:** A report for the studies/efforts completed to date in relation to BUI #4 Fish Tumors or Other Deformities has just been received and will be reviewed to determine if further actions are required.

### Funky Fish Guide

A water-resistant, tacklebox sized resource is being developed which outlines fish abnormalities, diseases, and parasites. This will help provide the community with a better understanding of the health of local fish and guidelines for consumption. Many abnormalities can look unappealing; however, this does not mean the fish is unfit for consumption. Additionally, the guide will help anglers determine whether or not a diseased fish should be released back into the environment or not, to limit the spread of disease to other fish.

### Osprey Monitoring

We are now in our second year of osprey monitoring to inform the Remedial Action Plan for BUI #13 Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations. The criteria requirements of this BUI include the presence of successfully reproducing osprey in the Area of Concern for a minimum 5 years. For 2023 we have observed three nests which have been successful, with chicks reaching fledgling status, and many nests which were either bare or had unsuccessful reproduction.





Fish Identification Nearshore Survey (FINS)

We have secured funding for 2023-2027 to conduct an MCA-led Akwesasne Chapter of this project. This initiative focuses on assessing nearshore fish populations (minnows and young of the year fish), macrophytes, and water quality parameters to help determine future restoration projects and provide data to help inform our knowledge in relation to the current health of our shoreline communities. This project is one of the most extensive and comprehensive studies of its kind and has resulted in one of the largest datasets in existence for the upper St. Lawrence River. A strong focus for this year has been capacity building through training such as aerial drone certifications and environmental-DNA analysis. This allows us to lessen our impact on the ecosystem while still assessing its health.



This year, we had the privilege of presenting our FINS and eel research initiatives for the first time at the International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) which were very well received by attendees as well as our peers and colleagues.

Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk (AFSAR) – Lake Sturgeon

This initiative involves monitoring, surveys, and implementation of activities to restore Lake Sturgeon populations, such as the installation of spawning beds. We are continuing to meet with partners to discuss best approaches to collaboration and collective impact, purchasing supplies (new predator boat, underwater drone, and personal protective equipment), completing research on methodologies and recovery strategies.



Environment Program staff tagging sturgeon.

As a result of our partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Federation, we have been provided with \$140,000 worth of telemetry equipment. Planning for deployment is underway with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and others who currently have arrays in the river. The goal is to better understand spatial movements of Lake Sturgeon in our area to help inform restoration and management efforts for this species going forward.

Our team has tagged approximately 20-30 sturgeon thus far, through work with Traditional Practitioners. We have completed training with the SRMT for acoustic incisions and training with U.S Fish and Wildlife for egg collection, and fertilization methods to aid in aquaculture efforts of the future. Our telemetry-based efforts will help close gaps for arrays between the Moses Saunders and Beauharnois dams and identify critical habitat for remediation or restoration.

We are planning for telemetry deployment with U.S. Fish and Wildlife at the end of August or beginning of September. This will provide great benefit to us as we will be able to access all data received for all fish species (not only Lake Sturgeon) tagged by other organizations as well as ours.



PROBLEM AREAS - ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

The issues that are predominant within the DIHE Environment Program are:

- Need Council to obtain more land for:
  - Traditional hunting/land use practices, including areas where one can safely discharge firearms or archery equipment. Encouraging safe areas for practices will create opportunity for better shooting, to lessen waste and wounding of animals, increasing capacity for families to provide healthy and nutritious meat, mushrooms, other foraged medicines, and foods.
- Staffing – Attraction and retention of students, new hires, and industry professionals.
- To create space for field work (propagation, plantings, habitat restoration).
- Acquire lands to designate specific areas for SAR protections, community recreation and conservation initiatives.
  - » Separating recreation from key habitat areas enhances recreational opportunities to support good mental health in community.

Contact Information

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT (DIHE)



INFRASTRUCTURE/CAPITAL

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Akwesasne, ON, K6H 0G5  
613-575-2250 ext. 1005  
Leslie Papineau  
Director, Dept. Infrastructure,  
Housing & Environment



ROADS PROGRAM

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Akwesasne, ON, K6H 0G5  
613-551-1290  
613-938-5476  
Stanley Jacobs  
Roads Program Manager



HOUSING SECTOR

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101 Tewesateni Road, Kawehno:ke  
Akwesasne, ON, K6H 0G5  
613-575-2250 ext. 1053  
Charmaine Caldwell  
Associate Director, Housing



WATER/WASTEWATER PROGRAM

Island Road, Kawehno:ke  
Akwesasne, ON, K6H 0G5  
613-551-7411  
518-404-2252 (Pager)  
John Adams  
Water & Wastewater Program Manager



ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

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613-575-2250 ext. 1038  
Kayla Sunday  
A/Environment Program Manager



Leslie Papineau  
Director of Department of Infrastructure,  
Housing & Environment (DIHE)



Stanley Jacobs  
Roads Program Manager



Charmaine Caldwell  
Associate Director of DIHE



John Adams  
Water and Wastewater Program Manager



Kayla Sunday  
Environmental Services Manager





# Akwesasne Justice Department

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Akwesasne Justice Department strives to provide a comprehensive Justice System for the people of Akwesasne, utilizing principles of natural justice to empower the community to safeguard collective rights, primarily, and individual rights for Akwesasronon, while remaining respectful of the community’s heritage and culture.

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS:**

- » Justice Administration and Legislative Services
- » Akwesasne Community Justice Program
- » Akwesasne Court
- » Akwesasne Representative and Advocacy Program

**ADMINISTRATION**

The fiscal year 2022/2023 saw several changes in Justice; namely, a higher rate of staff turnover than in years past, as well as work toward internal reorganization.

The Akwesasne Community Needs Survey is a task issued to the Akwesasne Justice Department (AJD) and the Department of Community and Social Services by the Executive Director. Survey questions were developed using the Canadian and United States official census and was finalized in December of 2021. Planning, survey conducting policy development, and finalization of the survey will continue into the 2023/2024 fiscal year, with delivery to occur hopefully before the end of 2023 or early 2024.

The Director of the AJD implemented a requirement for the compilation of standardized Employee Manuals for each program in the department. The manuals were required to ensure continuity of operations for departure and intake of employees, leaves and in the cases of temporary or replacement of supervisors. Manuals include the program's and the AJD's approved organizational chart, all job descriptions, Funding Agreements/ Finances, Quick Fact Sheets, Daily Tasks, Reporting Requirements, Affiliations/Boards/ Committees, Delegated/Legal Requirements, Projects, and Trainings.

The Family Support Court Worker Program is a new funding opportunity offered through the Ministry of the Attorney General Ontario's Tri-Partite Working Group on the Indigenous Court work Program toward the development of a framework, trainings and collaboration within First Nations. The AJD worked closely with the Ministry toward applying for and receiving approval to fund this new position. An Indigenous Family Court worker serves as an advocate who speak on a person's behalf if the person is unable or unwilling to speak for themselves while involved in the Justice system. When approved, the funding will allow the position of Akwesasne Family Support Court worker, overseen by the Akwesasne Justice Department, to develop protocol and procedures, a Resource Kit of services for families, self-help groups based on the overall needs of clients, and to assist in determining suitable situations where preventative measures can be utilized.



**Akwesasne Justice Department Director Goals**

- Restart negotiations toward Federal and provincial recognition of the Akwesasne Court.
- Complete Seaway Claim Referendum.
- Complete Akwesasne Community Survey.
- Contract Legal Counsel for assisting community members in wills, estates and powers of attorney and contract agreement services.

**Boat and All-Terrain Vehicle Registrations**

Akwesasne Justice Department assists community members with obtaining Boat and All-Terrain Vehicle registrations. In 2022-2023, the Justice Department Administrative Assistant updated and organized both electronic and hard copy files of issued Boat and ATV Registrations.







LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES


Legislative Development Services has worked to complete legislative development for laws identified in the areas of new, law in draft form, and amendment of law. The program has seen growth in the past year in staff with the addition of a Legislative Drafter and Researcher Analyst to assist the program manager. The program manager was also able to secure funding by submitting a proposal to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to develop a Childs Rights & Responsibility Law.


The Legislative Enactment Procedural Regulations (LEPR) and the Law Development Template were both presented to Council and approved by Mohawk Council Resolution as the procedural regulations and development template to follow as we development laws. This provides the program with consistency in application as we continue to develop and amend laws. The LEPR consists of five phases: Phase I Law Development, Phase II Acceptance of Law, Phase III Community Consultation, Phase IV Enactment of Law, and Phase V Ratification/Rejection.


The following are the laws and what phase each law has been completed to:


- 

**CANNABIS LAW** – This law is in **Phase V Ratification/Rejection**; Council has approved the Final Draft and indicates a referendum to be held.
- 

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LAW** - This law is in **Phase V Ratification/Rejection**; Council has approved the Final Draft and indicates a referendum to be held.
- 

**ELECTION LAW AMENDMENTS** – **Phase III Community Consultation** – This phase requires a post consultation legal review and Council Review. We are currently in the post consultation legal review.
- 

**CHILD'S RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITY LAW** – This law is in **Phase I Law Development**.
- 

**RESIDENCY LAW** - This law is in **Phase I Law Development**, reviewing the law for proposed amendments.
- 

**FIRE SAFETY LAW** - The LEPR has not yet begun on this law. As the work comes to completion on two laws the legislative development team can begin the LEPR on this law.

AKWESASNE COURT

The Akwesasne Court, in collaboration with Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice, were busy training 14 community members in Justice Training. In conclusion, four new Justices were appointed to the Akwesasne Court on April 28, 2022, a monumental occasion for Akwesasne. The Akwesasne Court also incorporated a one-year Pilot Project: the Akwesasne Legal Aid Clinic to assist community members that are victims of crime that includes sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking and offer preventive education. This project has ended and the Akwesasne Court is still wrapping up the funding final reports. In 2022, the Traffic Court Sessions were started in the District of Tsi Snaihne at Iohahi:io at the direction of the Akwesasne Review Commission. Traffic Court was unsuccessful as the thought was more people would attend since they would not have to cross the international border and the community would have greater access. Statistics showed there was less attendance, and it was confusing both to community members and police personnel when issuing tickets of the following month's traffic court venue, which was alternated on the trial basis.

Ontario Native Community Correction Worker

The position of the Native Community Correction Worker (NCCW) during the COVID-19 pandemic slowed quite a bit due to Ontario courts being closed and only processing serious crimes. In October 2022, Ontario courts began sessions by Zoom and video, bringing caseloads up 30%. During this time all training seminars were done by Zoom and Microsoft Teams. The NCCW has been involved in domestic violence training refresher, cultural diversity training and a keynote speaker for the Ministry approved Indigenous History Celebration Conference. The NCCW is part of the Diversity Indigenous Inclusion Action Committee (DIAC) and participates in the Six Nations Native Corrections Officer Team monthly meetings to compare the similarities and differences of their work.

Québec Probation Supervising Officer

This program allows community members who reside in Kana:takon, Tsi Snaihne and some who reside in the U.S., and have received a Québec court order for Probation, Parole and/or Conditional Sentence to be supervised from the Québec Probation Supervising Officer. Many Court orders require clients to perform community service as part of their conditions. This program also administers community service orders from the Akwesasne Court.



**Four new Justices were appointed to the Akwesasne Court**



AKWESASNE COURT STATISTICS		
Adult Traffic:	481 in total	(up from 405)
Y.O. Traffic:	25	(down from 33)
Compliance (Animal Control):	0	(down from 33)
CSW: 1 Status Checks on CSW:	1 in total	(down from 8)
Diversions:	0	(down from 1)
Residency:	5 in total	(up from 4)
Trespass on Indian Reserve:	7 in total	(down from 14)
Engage in Prohibited Activities:	3 in total	(down from 5)
Intoxicants By-Law/Public/Intoxication:	1 in total	(down from 15)
Couples Property Law:	3 in total	(down from 15)
Mediations:	5 in total	(up from 3)
Peace Bonds:	5 in total	(up from 1)
Commissioned Documents:	60 in total	(down from 61)
Curfew Law:	0	(down from 1)
Good Standing Checks Total:	333	(up from 283)
Tax Exempt Tobacco Product Permit/New Application:	1 new application (same as last year)	

STATISTICS FOR ONTARIO PROBATION		
Current Caseload	48 total clients	(up from 36)
Conditional Sentences	42 total clients	(up from 16)
House Arrest	18 total clients	(up from 3)
Probation	38 total clients	(up from 5)
Parole	10 total clients	(up from 8)

STATISTICS FOR QUÉBEC PROBATION		
Current Caseload	17 total clients	(down from 25)
Parole	1 total client	(down from 5)
Probation	13 total clients	
Community Service	3 in total	(down from 7)
House Arrest	0 in total	(down from 4)
Curfew	0 in total	(down from 4)





AKWESASNE COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROGRAM



MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure that all aboriginal people and especially Mohawks of Akwesasne (accused persons, victims and witnesses) who appear in the Akwesasne Court and the Criminal, Youth and Family Courts in Cornwall, ON and Valleyfield, QC, understand their rights, responsibilities and options under the law and obtain fair, just, equitable and culturally sensitive treatment from the courts.



ACJP Youth Cultural Camp Participant



The Akwesasne Community Justice Program staff has continuously provided support and services to community members who needed court assistance ACJP continues to receive support from Ministry of Attorney General, Justice Canada, Justice Québec, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

ACJP staff were invited to go to Ottawa and meet with the Honourable Michelle O'Bonsawin, who was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada in 2022. She is very familiar with the Gladue Reports and spoke to us about her appointment to Supreme Court Justice. She also participated via video at ACJP Gladue Conference in Montreal in March 2023.

In July 2022, the Youth Justice Worker and summer staff hosted the ACJP Annual Youth Cultural Camp on Thompson Island. The Cultural Camp was a 4-day/2-night event with a total of 15 youth participants. Youth learned about creation story teachings, made crafts, and went on a medicine walk. The Youth Justice Worker continues to participate in the Akwesasne Coalition for Community Empowerment (ACCE), which provides fun, creative and positive activities for youth and families of Akwesasne. ACJP received its first Gladue Report referral for a youth. The Youth Justice Worker supports youth who have charges in Cornwall and Valleyfield Courts, as well as youth on probation. The number of youths in court are very low.

The Program Manager was invited to Valleyfield, Québec for a press conference Québec Minister of Justice Simon Jolin-Barrette was announcing Specialized Courts for Domestic & Sexual Violence to start up in 2023. Statistics throughout the province increased, especially during COVID lockdowns. ACJP received funding for an additional Victim Support Worker, Indigenous Court worker and Victim Support Worker.

The Program Manager organized Indigenous Day event at Ottawa Carleton Detention Center. June 21, 2022, ACJP staff, Seven Dancers Coalition staff and others gathered to meet with Indigenous inmates. We had five rounds of talking circles, songs and everyone danced. Encouragement and support were given to the many Indigenous Men & Women who were incarcerated. We shared corn soup, strawberry drink, strawberry shortcake.



AKWESASNE COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROGRAM STATISTICS	
Indigenous Court Worker	105 Adult Males / 67 Adult Females
Diversion	21 Circles were held
Youth Justice	6 Youth Files / 2 Diversions
Gladue Writer	43 Gladue Reports Written
Gladue Aftercare	17 Active Files
Victim	37 Open Active Files
OPDO	8 Open Files - 7 Québec Compensatory

AKWESASNE REPRESENTATIVE AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM

On February 1, 2018, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal ordered the Government of Canada to fund Band Representative Services for Ontario Region First Nations, Tribal Councils, or First Nations Child and Family Service agencies. As a result, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) was given the funding to develop and implement the Akwesasne Representative and Advocacy Program (ARAP).

On June 7, 2021, the ARAP officially started. With a staff of three (3) Akwesasne (Band) Representatives and one (1) Program Manager, the ARAP originally worked out of the Angus Mitchell Memorial Building (Department of Justice) and CIA #3 offices. On December 15, 2021, the ARAP relocated to 55 Water Street West in Cornwall, Ontario to be more accessible to the families in need of ARAP's services.



The Band Representatives act on behalf of MCA when one or more Akwesasne members are involved with all Children's Aid Societies/child protection agencies within Canada.

Initially, before the implementation of the ARAP, ACFS had assumed the duties of the Band Representative; however, it became apparent that conflicts of interest could arise when the Band Representative's recommendations/opinions differed from the ACFS worker. The implementation of the ARAP resolves this issue by allowing the Band Representative to work separately from ACFS. With this separation from ACFS, the ARAP has established their own fiduciary relationship with the families in need of ARAP's services.

Part of the ARAP's role is to ensure that all

individuals who are eligible are given the opportunity to apply for membership with the Mohawks of Akwesasne. ARAP acts as a link for the families of Akwesasne who are not aware of all the services that MCA provides and to inform the families about the services they may be entitled to with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.

Additionally, ARAP are advocates for families when they become involved with an agency of the Canadian child welfare system. Once these agencies are made aware that an individual involved in an investigation is identified as a First Nations from the Mohawks of Akwesasne, ARAP is notified for that individual's band representation and consultation. ARAP will maintain their involvement with the family from the opening to the closing of the file. ARAP are strong believers that the extended family can be a source of

support when it becomes necessary that a safety plan needs to be established or that a child made need to be placed in temporary care until the time that any child protection concerns are addressed. As Band Representatives, the ARAP has the option of offering an alternative in lieu of a court proceeding; ARAP can utilize a Customary Care Agreement (CCA), which is an agreement between the child welfare agency, the parents, and caregiver for the child/children. The CCA outlines the expectations of the parties to ensure the safety of the child/children. There is no set timeline for the CCA in order to work with families and their needs on a case-by-case basis. ARAP has offered workshops to help families understand their connection to Akwesasne and the Mohawk culture. ARAP intends to continue to provide workshops to help connect client families with Akwesasne and traditional teachings.



AKWESASNE REPRESENTATIVE AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM STATISTICS	
Band Representative Open Files (with various Children's Aid Societies across Ontario)	40
Québec Youth Protection Court (2021/22)	2
Files Closed (Ontario)	55
Files Closed (Québec)	2
Customary Care Agreement offered for our Families (Instead of going to Child Protection Court)	16





# Department of Public Safety

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

To serve the community members on a personal level in the utmost professional manner, and by enhancing the community's safety and well-being.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAMS:**

- » Akwasasne Mohawk Police
- » Akwasasne Mohawk Ambulance
- » Emergency Measures
- » Compliance

**AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE**

The Policing Agreement funds twenty-eight (28) full-time sworn police officers, including the Chief of Police. The officers are responsible for delivering professional policing services to the community of Akwasasne as part of the Akwasasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS). As of December 31, 2022, there are approximately 14,000 people registered/affiliated with the Mohawks of Akwasasne. Due to the unique geographical area, AMPS officers are sworn in both provinces of Ontario and Québec and possess special designations to allow officers to transit through New York State to other parts of their jurisdiction.

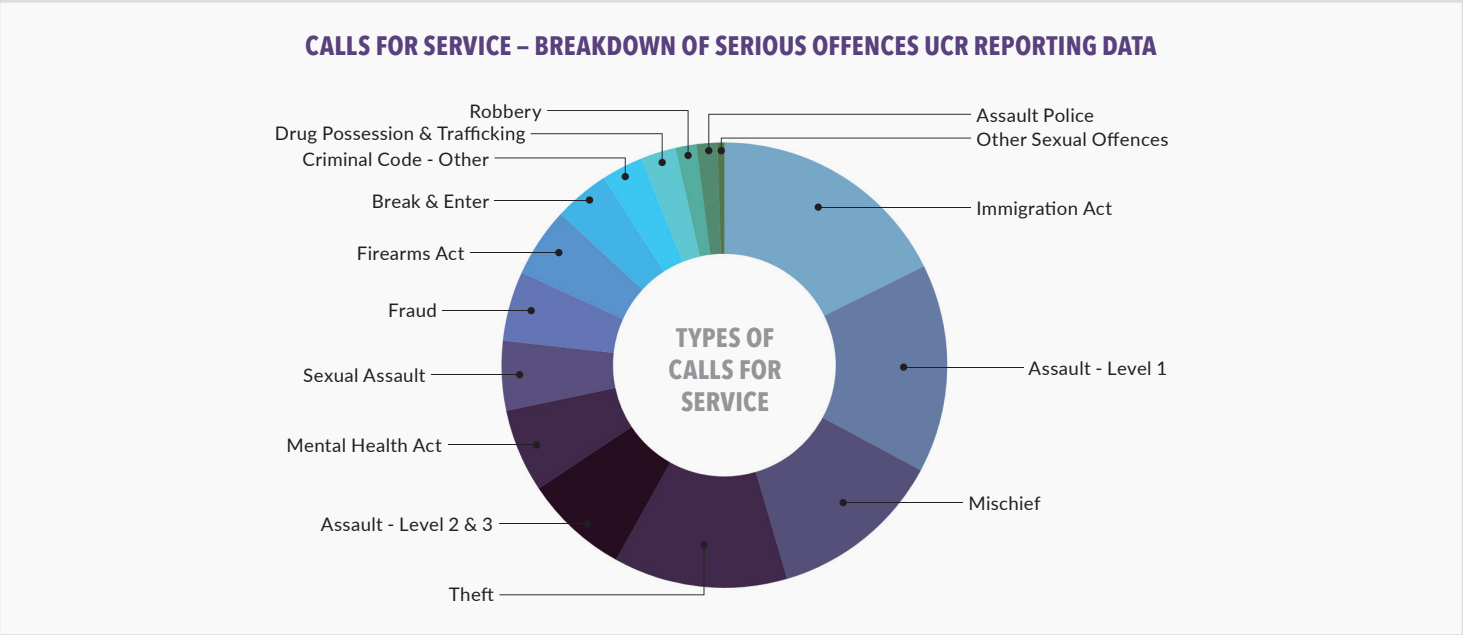
AMPS feature several specialized units, including:



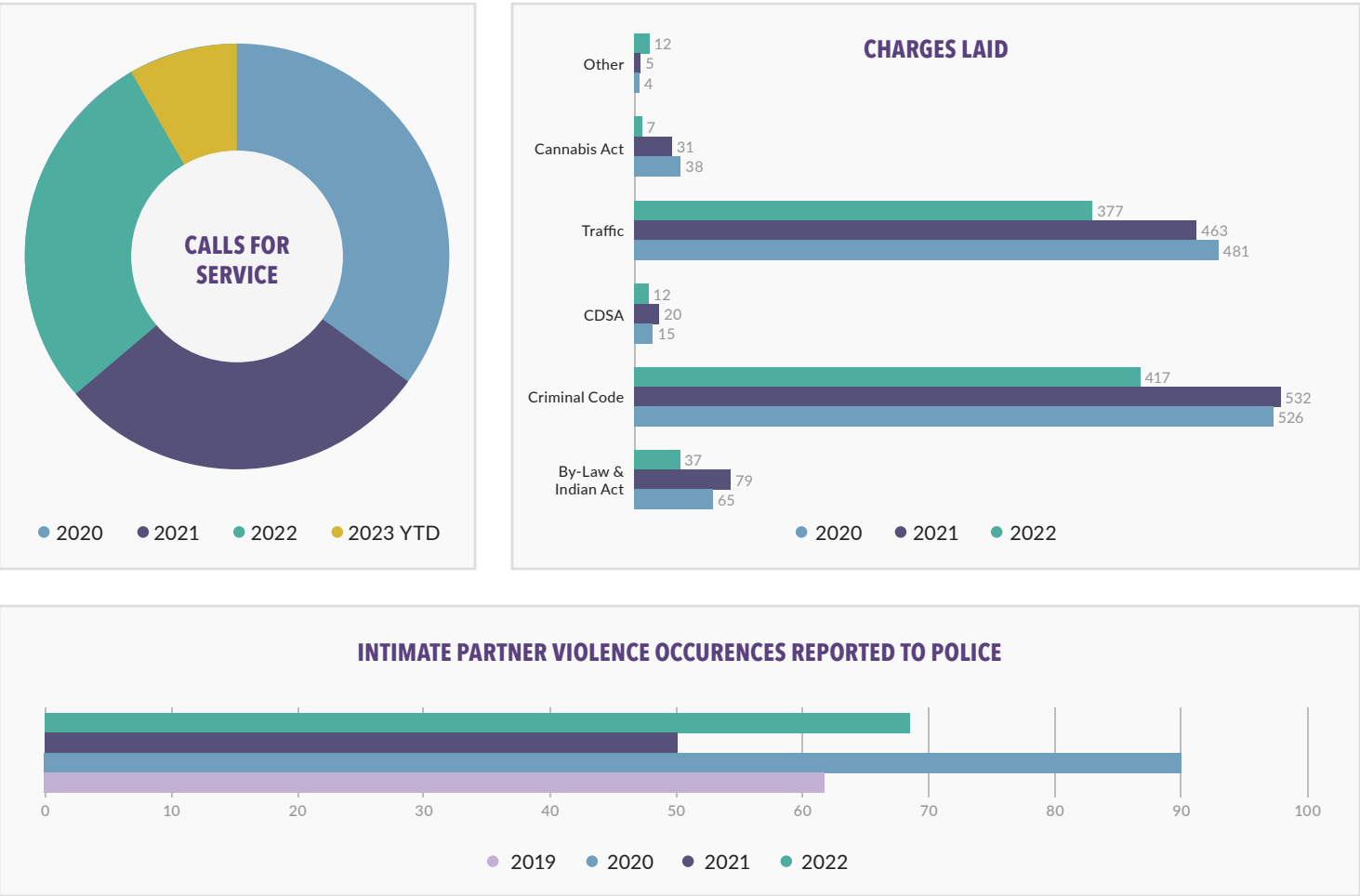
As a forward-thinking organization, the Akwasasne Mohawk Police Service is dedicated to continually enhancing and adapting our service delivery model. Our goal is to establish a sustainable and efficient strategy aimed at reducing crime and fostering a safer and healthier community.

**Calls for Service**

Officers responded to **3,707 calls for service** in the fiscal year, which are recorded on our records management system and then categorized for statistical and recording purposes.



**2022-23 Statistics**





S.A.V.E. Unit

The mandate of the S.A.V.E. Unit is to have a full-time presence on the St. Lawrence River within the territory of Akwesasne, to address organized criminal activity within the territory, border enforcement security and the interdiction of smuggling activities.

The geographical makeup of the Territory of Akwesasne is notably intricate, stretching across the international divide between Canada and the United States, as well as encompassing regions of Ontario, Québec, and the State of New York. This complexity is further underscored by our proximity to 37 kilometers of waterway and 57 islands along the St. Lawrence River, along with the convergence of four additional rivers: the St. Regis River, Racquette River, Grass River, and Salmon River, all flowing from the United States into the St. Lawrence River. These geographical features provide ample opportunities for criminal organizations to conduct illicit activities, including the smuggling of tobacco, drugs, humans, and weapons across the Canadian and U.S. border.



The S.A.V.E. Unit works closely with other local law enforcement agencies including:



S.A.V.E. Unit members also assist in community emergency response support that has enhanced police service and response to remote locations regardless of the season or the location. This response includes retrieving lost boaters, deter/locate impaired snowmobilers/boaters, search and rescue and emergency response to areas that are inaccessible by other road patrol vehicles.

During 2022-23, the S.A.V.E. Unit received additional funding from the Québec Provincial Government, which provided funding for the purchase of a new marine unit. Specifically designed with the safety and security needs of the S.A.V.E. team. This new marine unit is fully equipped with advanced technology to conduct night time surveillance and interdictions safely. The S.A.V.E. Unit currently has three operational vessels that will increase the safety for officers, enhanced productivity and allow for the team to coordinate enhanced police operations.

The Boat House/Police Substation is in full operation. Work continues to be done to upgrade and enhance building operations and security. S.A.V.E. Unit also utilizes advanced police surveillance equipment like drones, night vision devices and thermal imaging devices.

Due to the pandemic state of emergency travel restriction being lifted, S.A.V.E. Unit Marine Patrol was enforcing the restriction of non-members entering the Akwesasne waterways. With the Canadian Border being opened later in the year to United States Citizens, the S.A.V.E. Team continues to monitor and patrol the Canadian Border as illegal passage through the international border has increased. It should be noted that AMPS has observed that human smuggling has been on a rapid increase.

The S.A.V.E. Unit participated in yearly border security training operation with Canadian Coast Guard and RCMP. As with all the new equipment that is added to the unit, members need to continue being updated and trained. Due to the complex areas of concern with larger drug seizure cases, S.A.V.E. team members are enhancing their certification and advanced training with more investigative tools such as drafting search warrants and strengthen their investigative and interviewing skills. These skills will intensify their ability and potential to fortify their case work and increase prosecution success.

SIGNIFICANT SEIZURES	
Tobacco Products	4 Cases of Cigarettes
Cannabis Dry	17 lbs. = \$262,500 USD
Shatter	60 Packs at \$40 = \$2,400
Vessels	9
Vehicles	5

Organized Crime Initiative

The Akwesasne Organized Crime Initiative provides resources for the operations of the Joint Investigation Team (JIT). This investigative unit is led by the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS). The mandate of this unit is to identify, investigate and disrupt border related crimes as well as various levels of organized crime.

The JIT is currently comprised of two (2) AMPS officers holding the rank of Detective Constable. In addition to this unit, the JIT is also complimented with members from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Sûreté du Québec and the Ontario Provincial Police.

The Joint Investigation Team specialize in developing intelligence, which is subsequently moved into the investigative phase. Members of the Joint Investigation Team are trained in specialized areas such as search warrant drafting, drug and organized crime investigations, surveillance and interviewing techniques.

In addition to conducting and leading investigations in the jurisdiction of Akwesasne, the JIT is also involved in many joint initiatives in both Canada and the United States and have developed strong partnerships with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) as well as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

During this reporting period, investigators became aware of a **significant increase in fentanyl smuggling and trafficking**. This type of drug is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service also noticed an increase in drug overdoses in Akwesasne as well as surrounding communities.

Due to the increased fatal overdoses, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service prioritized an investigation into the fentanyl trafficking.



INVESTIGATION HIGHLIGHT

The Joint Investigation Team initiated an investigation, which subsequently identified a fentanyl supplier from Ottawa, Ontario and a smuggling facilitator/trafficker from Akwesasne. After approximately four months, the investigation concluded with the arrest of three subjects, one being the supplier and a seizure of fentanyl, currency and one motor vehicle.

During this term, the Joint Investigation Team were conducting surveillance of the St. Lawrence River and observed suspicious activity. Further investigation identified that two non-local males exited a vessel that appeared to have travelled from the United States. Subsequently, the two males were identified as Canadian citizens who recently returned from New York City. The investigation determined that the two males were in possession of hand guns, which had been purchased in the United States. JIT requested assistance from NYPD, and were able to identify the source of the firearms and as result, an investigation into firearms trafficking was initiated by American law enforcement.

The Joint Investigation Team provided assistance into a firearm trafficking file led by the Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit, that resulted in **40 firearms being seized**. The investigation and seizure led to a search warrant execution and an arrest in the Akwesasne jurisdiction.

Human Smuggling

On March 30, 2023, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police received a report of a missing person which commenced a search of the Akwesasne waterways, as the last point of contact was just prior to the victim departing into a vessel. An extensive search with air support, sonar video and dive team and marine units were conducted, which resulted in eight deceased victims being found. Investigation determined that the eight victims were southbound migrants, destined for the United States. A joint investigation commenced with assistance from partner agencies in both Canada and the United States. The missing person had not been located in this reporting period. An investigation into eight counts of criminal negligence causing death is remains open.



**Detained Foreign Nationals (attempting illegal crossing in 2022): 115**



Organized Crime Initiative Con't.

Outreach Activity

Due to the fentanyl overdoses, JIT investigators were involved in outreach activities such as education forums with community members as well as political leadership. JIT members conducted education and awareness seminars in relation to potential lethal consequences of fentanyl. These presentations were delivered at community schools and community focus meetings.

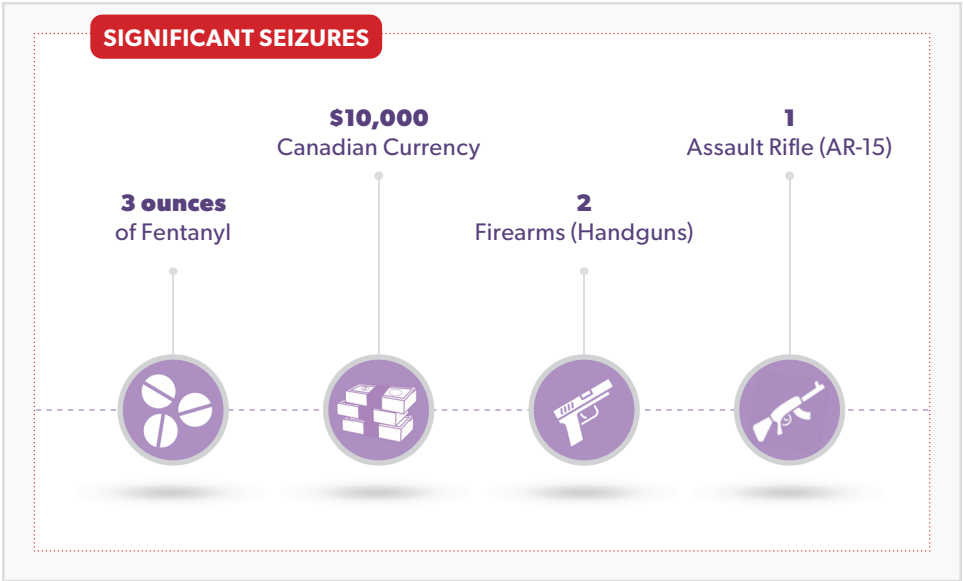
Four members of the JIT were involved in minor sports as volunteer coaches, in which promoting drug awareness, is mandated by the National Coaches Committee Policy.

Joint Initiative

The JIT continue to develop and share intelligence related to organized crime with both Canadian and United States partner agencies. The unit participates in weekly intelligence meetings with law enforcement agencies in identifying criminal organizations that continue to exploit the community of Akwesasne. Investigators are assigned to attend weekly law enforcement meetings in both Canada and the United States.

This endeavor has led to successful joint investigations by law enforcement partner agencies relating to firearms trafficking, human smuggling and drug trafficking.

JUDICIAL AUTHORIZATIONS (WARRANTS) OBTAINED	
Criminal Code	3
Production Order	14
Controlled Drug and Substance Act	3
General Warrant	1 (Anticipatory Warrant)
DNA	1
Other	3



Community Service

The AMPS have one officer assigned to community service. This officer is tasked with scheduling community events with partners and schools. In 2022-23, the AMPS generated **309 occurrence reports** related to Community Service events attended by officers within the community.

Community partnerships are vital in policing and the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service has built a strong relationship with the following community programs:

- Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police
  - Royal Canadian Mounted Police
  - Canada Border Service Agency
  - Cornwall Police Service
  - Akwesasne Coalition for Community Empowerment
  - Seven Dancers Coalition
  - Akwesasne Family Wellness Program
- Akwesasne Child and Family Services
  - Akwesasne Community Justice Program
  - Wholistic Health and Wellness Program
  - SRMT Senior Center/Office for the Aging
  - Tri-District Elders Lodge
  - SRMT Alcohol Chemical and Dependency Program

Social media is a resource utilized by the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service. While social media can't replace face-to-face interactions, it has a wider reach. With such platforms as Facebook and Instagram, police utilize social media to provide the community with media releases, local updates, educational messages, alerts (frauds/scams), and to promote a positive interaction with the community.

**POSITIVE TICKET**

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service has developed the Positive Ticket Program for youths attending Kana:takon School, Tsi Snaihne School, and the Akwesasne Mohawk School. The program is designed to build a strong relationship between our youth, law enforcement, teachers, and elders in our community.

Youth who are witnessed by AMPS officers displaying positive behaviors will receive a positive ticket. This program is based on the simple philosophy that recognizing good behavior will inspire and motivate better behavior.

**Examples of How to Earn a Positive Ticket:**

- Be positive
- Helping a fellow student, teacher, elder, police officer, etc.
- Respect the space and the environment of peers
- Demonstrate positive character traits
- Good grades

**The program is a proactive, positive initiative that can transform our youth, and shift mindsets and attitudes.**

- Empower and value young people
- Build positive relationships
- Create positive change and behavior

Monthly draws took place and prizes were awarded to positive ticket holders.

Over the years, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service focused on improving relationships with the seniors and elders in the community of Akwesasne. Over the winter months, police held a five-week program at three different facilities providing educational awareness to the seniors and elders on the following topics; elders abuse, scams, home safety awareness, vaping, and cannabis. The presentations were held in partnership with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, and Elders Abuse Ontario. Police also attended the Iakhihsohtha Lodge and Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility to serve breakfast and lunch on special occasions.



Partnership with MCA & SRMT for annual National Overdose Awareness Day event.



AMPS officers serving breakfast at Iakhihsohtha.



Youth receives Positive Ticket and a free ice cream token to Sweet Treats.



Professional Development

In May 2022, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police hosted training for both AMPS officers and Akwesasne Child and Family Services workers regarding our Protocol Agreement for investigating offences against children.

TRAINING FOR AMPS MEMBERS (APRIL 1, 2022 - MARCH 31, 2023)		
» Administrative Professionals Course (Sept. 12, 2022) 1 member attended	» First Responder Dementia Training (May 30, 2022) 18 members attended	» Remotely Piloted Aircraft (Dec. 19, 2022) 7 members attended
» Active Threat Response Training (Nov. 21, 2022) 7 members attended	» Human Trafficking - online (April/May 2022) 6 members attended	» Search Manager Canada (Mar. 21, 2022) 7 members attended
» Advanced CPIC Training (Nov. 11-12, 2022) 2 members attended	» Human Trafficking - online (Sept. 12, 2022) 3 members attended	» Search Warrant Course (Feb. 28, 2022 & Nov. 21, 2022) 2 members attended
» Basic Constable Training (May 18, 2022) 3 members attended	» IAWP Conference (Sept. 12, 2022) 2 members attended	» Situational Table Learnings Modules (Jan. 12, 2023) 5 members attended
» Basic Fire Extinguisher Training (May 4, 2022) 2 members attended	» Incident Command 100 (April 2022) 18 members attended	» Intervention in Conjugal Interfamily Sexual Violence 7 members attended
» Coaching Professionals (Nov. 28, 2022) 3 members attended	» Introduction to Human Trafficking (Mar. 8, 2022) 19 members attended	» Applied Suicide Intervention Skills (Jan. 19, 2023) 1 member attended
» CPIC Terminal Operator (Oct. 3, 2022) 1 member attended	» Introduction to Incident Management Self Study 11 members attended	» Basic Constable Training (Jan. 5, 2023) 4 members attended
» CIT Training (Aug. 22, 2022 & Nov. 21, 2022) 3 members attended training	» Investigative Interviewing (Sept. 12, 2022) 2 members attended	» Basic Incident Mangement (Mar. 1, 2023) 1 member attended
» Crisis Negotiator Training (Nov. 21, 2022) 1 member attended	» Investigative Phased Interviewing (June 6, 2022) 2 members attended	» Confidential Informer Foundations Course (Mar. 28, 2023) 1 member attended
» Death Investigation Training (Sept. 19, 2022) 1 member attended	» Multi-Jurisdictional Major Case Management 1 member attended	» CPIC Maintenance Course (Feb. 28, 2023) 1 member attended
» Drafting Information to Obtain Course (May 10, 2022) 2 members attended	» Police Leadership Program – Rotman University 1 member attended	» ERT Training (Mar. 8, 2023) 5 members attended
» Federal Policy (May 2, 2022) 2 members attended	» Professional Standards Investigator Training (Oct. 17, 2022) 1 member attended	» Human Trafficking Sexual Exploitation on Men/Boys 3 members attended
» Firearms Requalification (Dec. 15 & 22, 2022) 24 members attended	» Protocol Training ACFS (April 6, 2022) 17 members attended	» Situational Table Learning (Mar. 2023) 3 members attended
» First Aid/CPR Training (Aug. 30, 2022) 5 members attended.	» Québec Equivalency 5 members attended	

Human Resources Update

New Hires

In 2022, the AMPS enlisted and appointed ten (10) officers. Among them, seven (7) are individuals with Indigenous Status, officially recognized by the Mohawks of Akwesasne. AMPS recruits must successfully complete basic training at the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, Ontario and then receive their equivalence at the École National Du Québec in Nicolet, QC.



Inspection

From May 9-13, 2022, under the direction of the Québec Minister of Public Security, an inspection was conducted. Inspectors Frederick Giroux and Eric La Penna completed the inspection of the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service relative to, but not exclusive to, the following areas:

- Administration
  - Human Resource Management
  - Complaints Procedure\*
  - Operational and Administrative Controls
  - Response to Calls\*
- Training & Requalification
  - Management of Investigations
  - Policy
  - Reporting Requirements
  - Management of Exhibits\*

The inspection yielded **18 recommendations** outlining measures to enhance operational and administrative practices. Management has successfully implemented 56% of these recommendations, with progress ongoing for the remaining 44%, which are nearing completion.

**PUBLIC COMPLAINTS**

In 2022, the Chief's office received one (1) public complaint against a patrol constable dated November 17, 2022. The complaint was minor in nature, investigated by a Patrol Sergeant and deemed to be closed. No formal disciplinary action required.



Organizational Chart 2022-23



Organizational Structure/Infrastructure Update

The existing primary police headquarters in St. Regis, QC is antiquated and requires renovation. Not only does it require renovation, but with the expansion of the police force, both in personnel and spatial requirements, the existing facility is becoming inadequate and parking is an issue.



AMPS WEAPONS INVENTORY		
GLOCKS Serial Number	Model	Assigned to Badge #
ABFV476/ADGB968	G26 Gen 4/G43	1804
ACXD260	G17 M (GEN 5)	9930
ACXD262	G17 M (GEN 5)	502
ACXD263	G17 M (GEN 5)	9975
ACXD264	G17 M (GEN 5)	1201
ACXD265	G17 M (GEN 5)	1402
ACXD266	G17 M (GEN 5)	9456
ACXD267	G17 M (GEN 5)	602
ACXD268	G17 M (GEN 5)	1601
ACXD269	G17 M (GEN 5)	904
ACXD270	G17 M (GEN 5)	1202
ACXD271	G17 M (GEN 5)	1603
ACXD272	G17 M (GEN 5)	9455
ACXD273	G17 M (GEN 5)	1604
ACXD274	G17 M (GEN 5)	1602
ACXD275	G17 M (GEN 5)	802
ACXD276	G17 M (GEN 5)	1204
ACXD277	G17 M (GEN 5)	9946
ACXD278	G17 M (GEN 5)	2101
ACXD279	G17 M (GEN 5)	603
ACXD280	G17 M (GEN 5)	9921
ACXD282	G17 M (GEN 5)	9601
AGFP900	G43	506
ACXD284	G17 M (GEN 5)	1804
ACXD285	G17 M (GEN 5)	9602
ACXD286	G26 (Gen 4)	9970
ACXD287	G17 M (GEN 5)	2203
AEDG560	G26 (Gen 4)	1701
ACXD289	G17 M (GEN 5)	1703
ACXD290	G17 M (GEN 5)	1806
ACXD291	G17 M (GEN 5)	2201
ACXD292	G17 M (GEN 5)	2202
ACXD293	G17 M (GEN 5)	2104
ACXD294	G17 M (GEN 5)	1808
ACXD295	G17 M (GEN 5)	2102
ACZD471	G17 M (GEN 5)	1901
ACZD472	G17 M (GEN 5)	2103
ACXD296	G17 M (GEN 5)	
ACXD283	G17 M (GEN 5)	
ACZD473	G17 M (GEN 5)	
ACZD474	G17 M (GEN 5)	
ACZD475	G17 M (GEN 5)	
ACXD288	G17 M (GEN 5)	
ADGS982	G26 (Gen 4)	
RIFLES		
1409720DS	COLT C8 CQB	
1409724DS	COLT C8 CQB	
1409721DS	COLT C8 CQB	
0803593DS	COLT C8 CQB	
0803579DS	COLT C8 CQB	
0803472DS	COLT C8 CQB	
0803519DS	COLT C8 CQB	
0803598DS	COLT C8 CQB	
ERT WEAPONS		
L12669	ARWEN L1-37	Less Lethal
2014109DS	COLT C8 CQB	
2014037DS	COLT C8 CQB	
2014057DS	COLT C8 CQB	
2014060DS	COLT C8 CQB	
2014065DS	COLT C8 CQB	
2014067DS	COLT C8 CQB	
2014069DS	COLT C8 CQB	
VO42774V	Remington 12g Shotgun	Less Lethal

AMPS WEAPONS INVENTORY			
CEW'S Serial Number	Model		
X290071PY	X2		
X290071PX	X2		
X290071PW	X2		
X290071PM	X2		
X290071PN	X2		
X290071RA	X2		
X290071RY	X2		
X290071RV	X2		
X290071RE	X2		
X290071R5	X2		
IN-SERVICE TRAINING			
55B007504	SIG SAUER P229 R	40	
55B007516	SIG SAUER P229 R	40	
AH20187	SIG SAUER P229	40	

AMPS VEHICLE INVENTORY			
2022	VEHICLE	KIA	TELLURIDE
2022	VEHICLE	DODGE	DURANGO
2022	VEHICLE	DODGE	RAM
2021	VEHICLE	GMC	SIERRA
2021	VEHICLE	CHEVY	TAHOE
2021	VEHICLE	CHEVY	TAHOE
2021	VEHICLE	JEEP	GRAND CHER.
2020	VEHICLE	CHEVY	TAHOE
2020	VEHICLE	DODGE	CARAVAN
2019	VEHICLE	CHEVY	TAHOE
2019	VEHICLE	CHEVY	TAHOE
2019	VEHICLE	FORD	F-350
2019	VEHICLE	KIA	SORENTO
2019	VEHICLE	CHEVY	TAHOE
2018	VEHICLE	FORD	F-250
2017	VEHICLE	JEEP	COMPASS
2017	VEHICLE	CHEVY	EXPRESS VAN
2011	ATV	HONDA	FOREMAN
2011	ATV	HONDA	FOREMAN
2018	ATV	POLARIS	MDL
2020	BOAT TRAILER	BOAT MASTER	FOR SAVE BOAT
2020	BOAT TRAILER	BOAT MASTER	FOR SAVE BOAT
2018	BOAT TRAILER	WRIGHT	FOR SAVE BOAT
2022	ENCLOSED TRAILER	UNIVERSAL TRAILER	EVENTS TRAILER
2017	OPEN SNO TRAILER	MISSION	OPEN SNOW TRAILER
2020	BOAT TRAILER	EZ-LOADER	COMPLIANCE TRAILER
2021	ENCLOSED TRAILER	HAULER	IN-SERVICE TRAINING
2018	SNO TRAILER	MISSION	ENCLOSED SNO TRAILER
2019	BOAT	INTERCEPTOR 8 M	SAVE BOAT
2019	BOAT	INTERCEPTOR 8 M	SAVE BOAT
2019	BOAT	BOLTON	COMPLIANCE BOAT
2018	SNOWMOBILE	POLARIS	SAVE SNOWMOBILE
2018	SNOWMOBILE	POLARIS	SAVE SNOWMOBILE

Marked and unmarked units are replaced when the mileage reaches 150,000 kms.



# Financial Overview

## 2022-2023

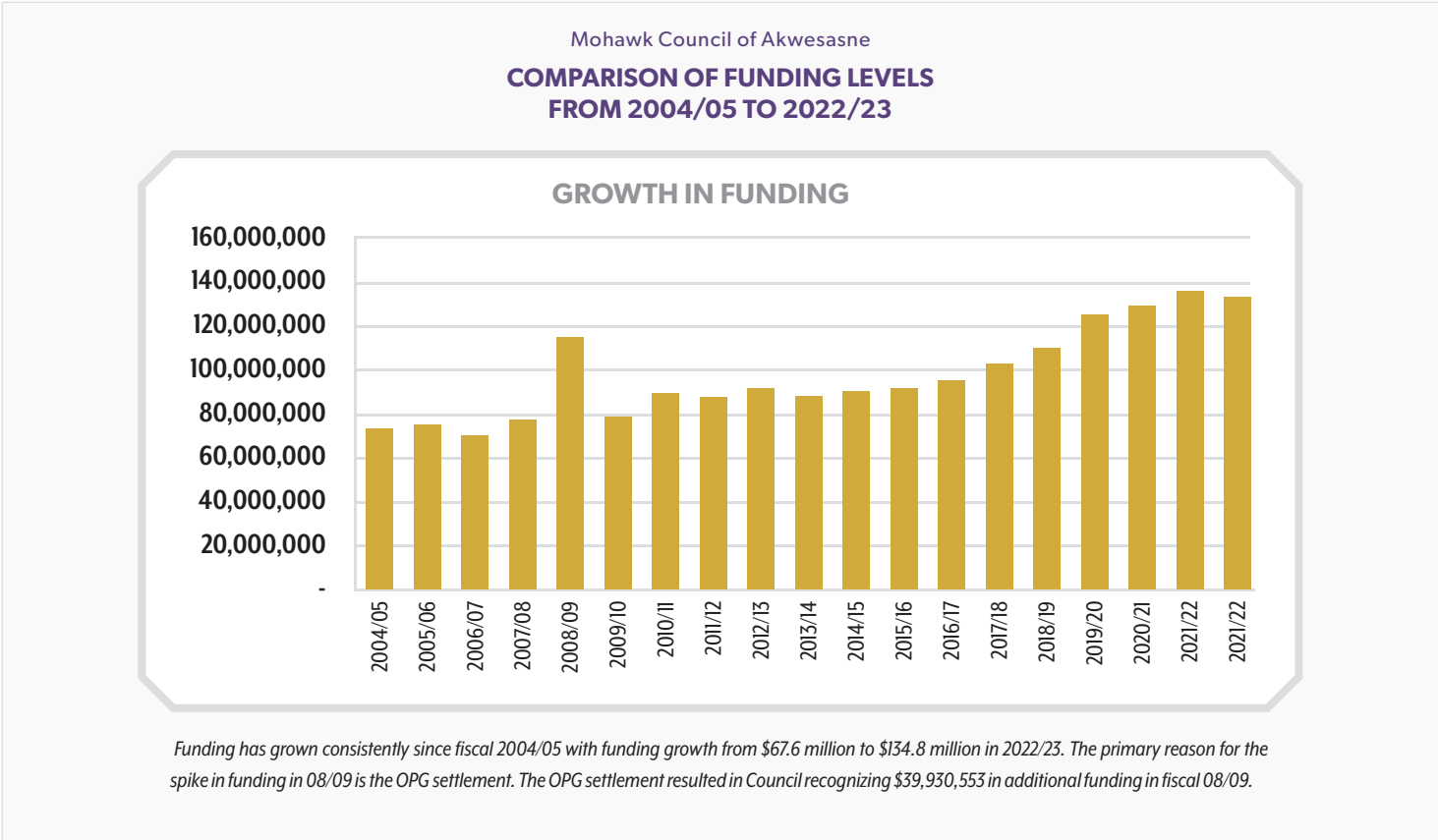
### OUR CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

Council opened the 22-23 fiscal year with an unrestricted accumulated operating surplus of \$1,759,989. Council has continued to reduce its reliance on the OLG annual revenue to offset annual operating costs. Council was able to generate a surplus without allocating any OLG revenue to offset global Council operations. We have included a schedule summarizing the use of OLG funding in fiscal 22-23.

While the accumulated deficit has been eliminated, deficits that are program specific continue to be generated as Council, in response to community needs, continues its support of unfunded programs. It must be acknowledged that many vital programs and services remain unfunded or funded at levels that do not reflect community needs. Our goal of setting a break even budget each year when faced with the understanding that some programs will operate at a deficit is an ongoing challenge. Council and its management team continue to work with our funders to identify new funding sources.

We have included departmental summaries of actual costs incurred by program compared to the initial approved budget and have provided a brief description of the primary sources of funding for each department.

The following graph highlights our growth:



**MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE**  
Application of OLG Funds (formerly Casino Rama Funds)  
For the year ended March 31, 2023

OLG/Casino Rama revenue has been applied to the following:

	2023	2022
Allocation for Thompson Island Youth Camp	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00
Allocation for Iroquois Caucus	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Allocation for MCA Discretionary		\$13,475.00
Basketball Equipment - Discretionary	\$7,252.33	
Turkey Giveaways	\$63,386.02	
Allocate to AMBE for Bus Purchase	\$230,000.00	\$230,000.00
Community Call Out - Iakwa'shatste Youth Fitness (MCR#058)	\$95,278.50	
Community Call Out - Onkwehonwe Midwives Collective (MCR#058)	\$33,384.50	
Community Call Out - St. Regis Mission Church (MCR#058)	\$17,369.50	
Community Call Out - Haudenosaunee Everlasting Academy (MCR#058)	\$103,967.50	
Allocation for Fuel Assistance Program	\$468,000.00	\$468,000.00
Allocate for Seaway Claim	\$341,777.00	
Allocate for Church Insurance	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Allocation for Mohawk Gov't Support Staff	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Allocate to Communications Unit	\$95,000.00	\$95,000.00
Allocate Ex. Service Donations	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
Allocate for Funeral Donations	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Housing Rent Assistance	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Allocate for Elders Emergency Repairs	\$130,000.00	\$100,000.00
Allocation for Mohawk Language	\$100,000.00	
Snye Recreation	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
St. Regis Recreation	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Kawehno:ke Recreation	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Tri-District Elders	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Snye Homemakers	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Powwow	\$5,000.00	
Carnival	\$0.00	
Museum	\$0.00	
Total OLG Expenses	\$2,327,415.35	\$1,543,475.00

The Summary of Operations forms the basis of the "Statement of Financial Activities" which is an integral part of our 2023 audited financial statements. The Summary of Operations provides an overview of the revenues administered and expenses incurred by each department. The Statement of Operations (page 5 of the audit) discloses total revenue of \$156 million and total expenses of \$118 million.

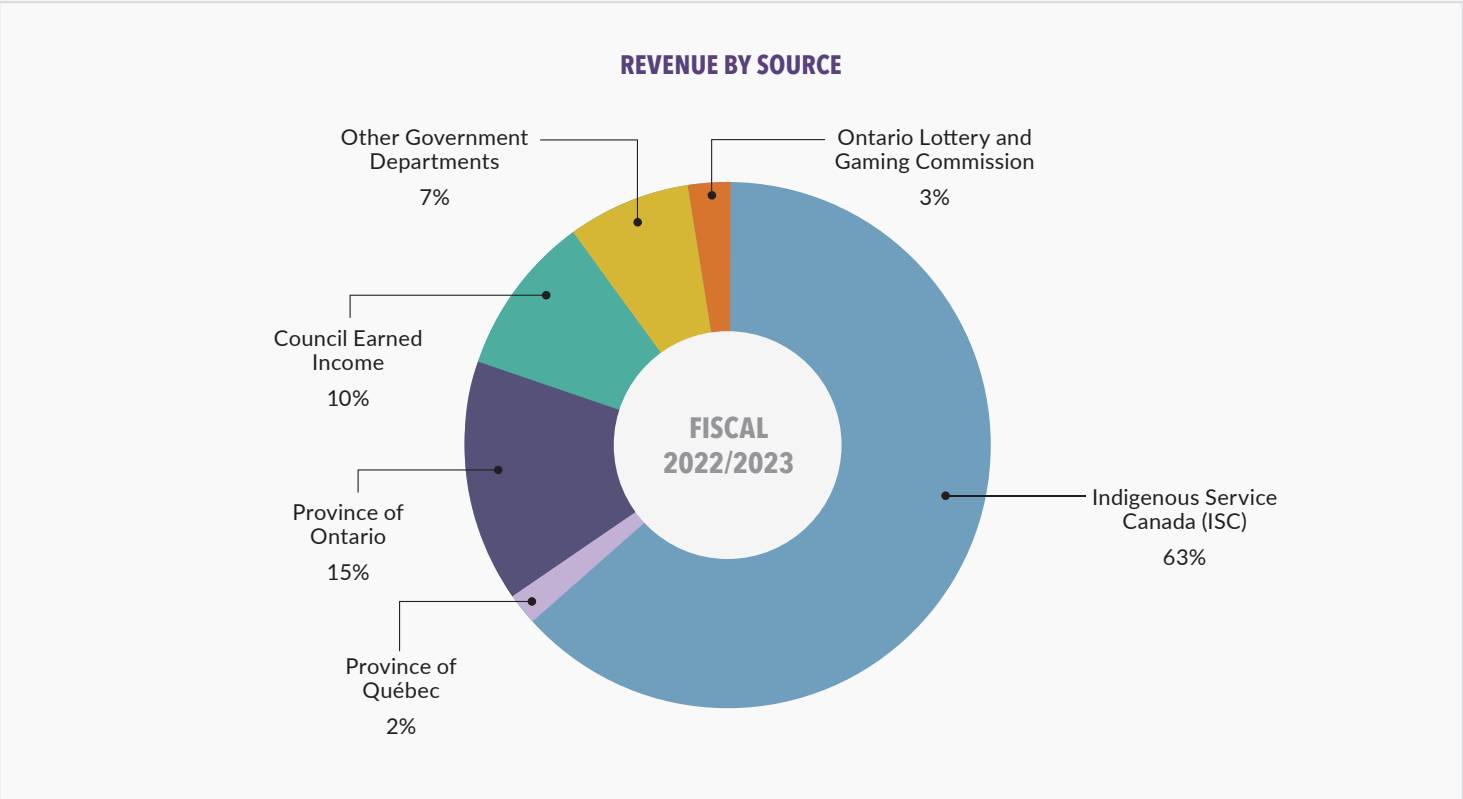


Sources of Income

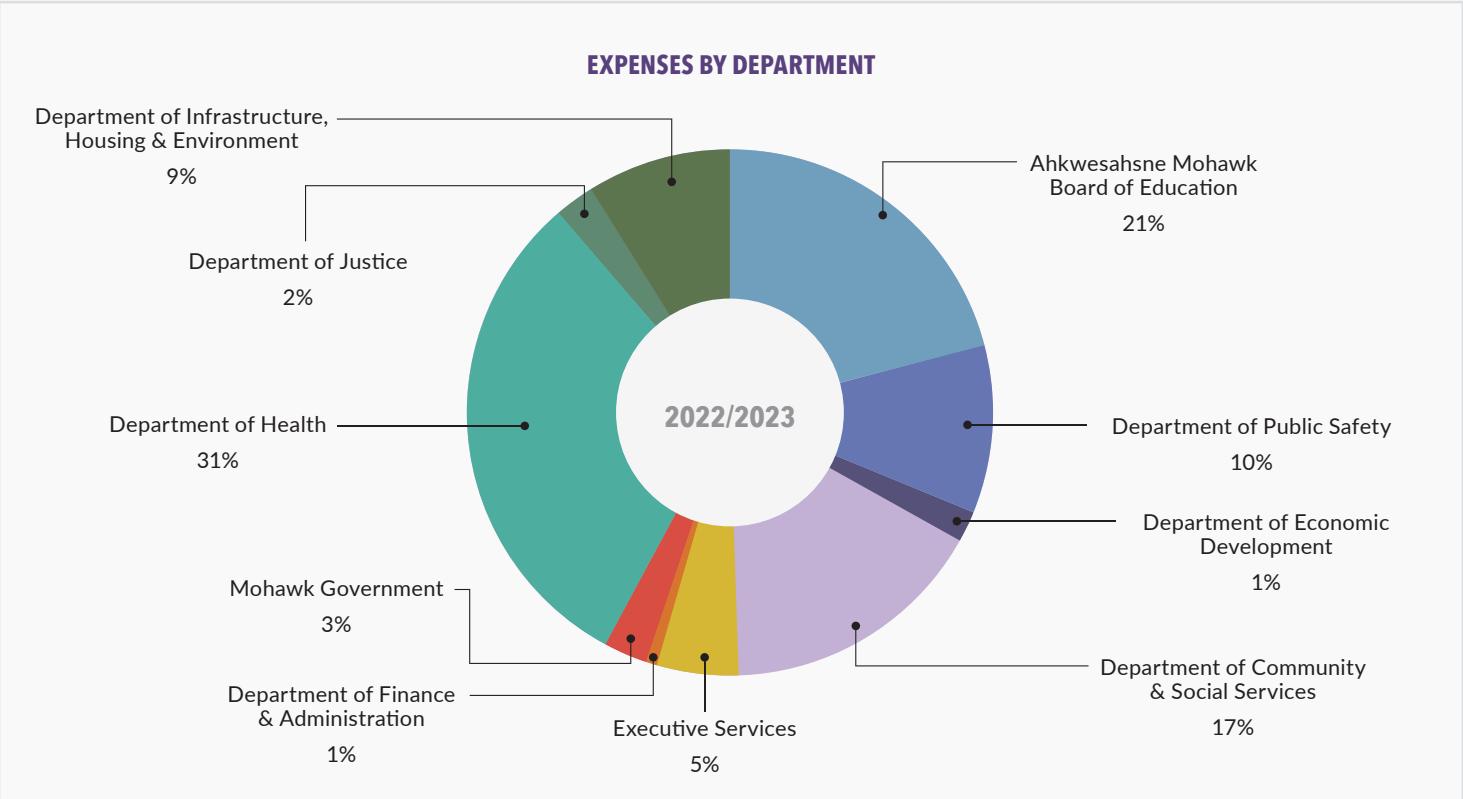
MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE  
Summary of Revenue by Source  
for the Year Ended March 31, 2023

	FISCAL 2022/2023		FISCAL 2021/2022	
	Total Revenue	% of Total Revenue	Total Revenue	% of Total Revenue
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	\$		\$	
Government of Canada				
Indigenous Services Canada	99,686,964	63.50	81,895,414	64.38
Human Resources Development Canada	420,916	0.27	394,039	0.31
Canada Mortgage & Housing	1,856,266	1.18	886,701	0.70
Canada Border Services Agency	-	-	-	-
Emergency Preparedness Canada	4,186,364	2.67	4,198,339	3.30
Other Federal	2,959,284	1.89	4,256,905	3.35
Total Government of Canada	109,109,794	69.51	91,631,398	72.03
Ontario Lottery & Gaming Commission	4,061,033	2.59	2,892,453	2.27
Province of Ontario	23,182,518	14.77	24,300,586	19.10
Province of Québec	3,014,189	1.92	3,279,537	2.58
Other	2,276,801	1.45	1,450,885	1.14
	32,534,541	20.73	31,923,461	25.09
Total Grants and Contributions	141,644,335	90.23	123,554,859	97.12
COUNCIL EARNED INCOME				
Administration Fees and User Charges	462,385	0.29	743,543	0.58
Government Business Entities	123,402	0.08	69,091	0.05
Land Leases	773,739	0.49	712,323	0.56
Interest Income (Includes Dundee)	11,036,052	7.03	3,509,399	2.76
Earned Income	1,753,976	1.12	(2,280,518)	(1.79)
Rentals	1,181,937	0.75	905,614	0.71
Total Earned Income	15,331,491	9.77	3,659,452	2.88
Total Revenue	156,975,826	100.00	127,214,311	100.00

This graph indicates the percentage of revenues received by income source.



The following graph provides an overview of the percentage of expenditure in comparison to the entire budget in each operating Department.





MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE  
Operating Expenditures by Category  
March 31, 2023

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FISCAL 2022/2023		FISCAL 2021/2022	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Salaries, Benefits, and Honoraria	\$ 54,932,089	46.21%	\$ 51,108,552	48.85%
Travel and Training	2,129,092	1.79%	1,040,797	0.99%
Program Supplies	16,404,843	13.80%	13,443,652	12.85%
Office	1,179,248	0.99%	2,081,845	1.99%
Facility Costs	4,421,778	3.72%	3,066,483	2.93%
Student Tuition and Allowances	6,003,619	5.05%	6,705,721	6.41%
Equipment Repairs, Lease and Small Purchases	3,512,573	2.95%	2,748,933	2.63%
Community Support	6,423,697	5.40%	4,277,860	4.09%
Minor Capital	4,686,226	3.94%	4,345,353	4.15%
Professional Fees	6,825,122	5.74%	4,926,012	4.71%
Non-Insured Health Benefits	12,365,068	10.40%	10,880,726	10.40%
	\$ 118,883,355	100%	\$ 104,625,934	100%

Please refer to Note 21 of the 22/23 Annual Consolidated Audited Financial Statements.

Our employees are our most valuable resource. Salary, benefit and honoraria account for 48% of our annual operating costs. Our basic staffing complement is 850 employees. Our annual total employee population is about 1,100 employees and includes full-time, part-time, term, casual, and seasonal employees.

Professional fees include: legal; audit; consulting and professional services; and Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) medical and dental professional services.

Community Owned Assets

Acquisitions of tangible capital assets are not expenses and as a result these amounts are not included in the expenses summarized above.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE  
Listing Community Assets and Equipment  
as at March 31, 2023

	Cost of Acquisition \$	Additions	Work in Process	Disposals	Accumulated Amortization \$	Net \$	2022 Net \$
Land	830,302	4,252				834,554	830,302
Buildings & Major Infrastructures	163,947,775	135,537	1,542,413	118,050	63,030,698	102,476,977	103,464,977
Computer Hardware & Software	4,204,166				4,012,824	191,342	239,178
Equipment	9,393,735	756,065	415,865	152,354	7,871,434	2,541,877	1,948,023
Equipment Under Capital Lease	504,822				497,293	7,529	9,412
Furniture & Fixtures	2,021,354				1,727,060	294,294	326,994
Roads	7,899,627				5,393,912	2,505,715	2,784,191
Vehicles	12,470,237	3,218,351		485,074	9,931,878	5,271,636	3,378,064
TOTAL COMMUNITY ASSETS	201,272,018	4,114,205	1,958,278	755,478	92,465,099	114,123,924	112,981,141
Property Plant & Equipment Under Construction	17,900,763					17,900,763	
	219,172,781	4,114,205	1,958,278	755,478	92,465,099	132,024,687	112,981,141

Notes:  
These assets are insured at their replacement value not the amortized value. All community owned assets are insured.  
  
The replacement value of community assets at April 1, 2023 = \$206,589,023  
  
For additional detail please refer to Note 1 (i) on page 11 and Note 6 on page 17 and Note 7 on page 18 of the 22-23 Annual Consolidated Audited Financial Statements.

For the most part, facility construction is fully funded via government contributions. On occasion, Council has to finance the unfunded portions of these projects through mortgages or long-term debt. The following schedule summarizes Councils debt position at March 31, 2023.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE  
Long-Term Debt  
March 31, 2023

Council has mortgages on a number of community properties.

	Balance of Mortgage at March 31, 2023	Balance of Mortgage at March 31, 2022
Total Mortgages Outstanding	\$ 4,934,251	\$ 5,377,868

These mortgage loans are guaranteed by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) provides subsidy funding for a portion of the interest and annual operating costs.

Please refer to note 14 on page 20 & 21 of the 22/23 Annual Consolidated Audited Financial Statements.



Salaries, Honoraria and Travel Expenses Paid to Chiefs

Canada has a requirement that salaries, honoraria and travel expenses be published for Council. Please see the schedule posted at [www.akwesasne.ca](http://www.akwesasne.ca). The schedule has been reviewed by our auditors and forwarded to Indigenous Services Canada. Please note that a review does not constitute an audit. The schedule has been prepared by finance staff and complies with Canada's reporting requirements.

Detailed Summary of Revenue and Expenses by Department

The information provided for each department will include:

- A summary of the sources of funding.
- A schedule that compares the approved budget and actual expenses incurred by each program.
- The information provided is department specific and reflects the organizational structure on March 31, 2023. We have also provided the 2022 comparative figures for both the budgets and actual expenses.

We had several goals in providing this level of detail in a community financial report.

1. To provide the reader with an overview of the types of programs and services provided by MCA, together with the sources of funding and total costs related to the delivery of individual programs and services.
2. To enable the reader to match the financial report with the written Annual Report provided on both the departmental and program level.
3. To increase accountability and transparency of financial reporting and to set a baseline for performance reporting that can be enhanced in future reports.

The departmental Summaries of Operations should be read in conjunction with the departmental and program service delivery reports.

AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

The Indigenous Services Canada 10-Year Grant New Relationship Fund is the primary revenue source for AMBE operations. AMBE has been very successful at securing additional federal funding in a number of program areas.

AMBE applied it's resources to the following programs & services:

	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
AMBE and School Support	\$ 5,072,695	\$ 3,032,669	\$ 5,072,695	\$ 5,138,797
School Instruction	4,913,074	5,550,926	5,845,562	5,525,272
High School Tuition	2,908,503	3,183,781	2,725,408	2,805,567
Post-Secondary Education	4,196,115	3,670,299	4,196,115	4,232,032
School Transportation	1,804,684	1,565,636	1,804,684	1,250,352
Headstart	502,134	521,598	502,134	415,898
After School Programs	186,924	65,093	186,924	113,400
High Costs Special Education	2,793,167	1,513,995	2,793,167	1,001,947
Structural Readiness (Projects)	723,446	796,125	723,446	562,658
Mohawk Language & Culture	1,215,933	237,344	1,207,897	754,379
Daycare	3,072,379	2,612,011	2,570,243	2,121,600
Hot Lunch Program	522,395	35,759	522,395	343,913
Iohahi:io	1,936,426	2,679,139	1,935,229	2,019,844
Total Expenses	29,847,875	25,464,375	30,085,899	26,285,659
Allocation to Fixed Assets		(958,175)		(396,570)
Depreciation Expense		388,938		264,853
Net Operating Expenses	\$ 29,847,875	\$ 24,895,138	\$ 30,085,899	\$ 26,153,942



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

AMPS is funded by the following sources:

Funders	2022-2023	2021-2022
Federal Solicitor General	\$ 4,186,364	\$ 4,398,339
Ontario	4,442,627	3,013,783
Québec	1,856,984	1,246,060
Other	1,570,455	1,057,182
Appropriations	(411,326)	(129,828)
Total Revenue	\$ 11,645,104	\$ 9,585,536

AMPS applied its resources to the following programs & services:

FISCAL 2022-2023			FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Police Services	\$ 5,102,002	\$ 5,293,886	\$ 5,102,002	\$ 4,835,400
Joint Investigation Task Force	1,815,938	1,945,849	1,815,938	1,913,424
SAVE - Marine Unit	1,560,115	2,206,709	1,560,115	1,444,080
Compliance Office	94,527	80,037	94,527	48,891
IFJS Human Trafficking	114,900	200,325	114,900	141,568
MMIW	470,941	315,271	470,941	118,452
Ambulance	2,152,285	2,919,503	2,152,285	1,814,331
Emergency Measures		165,421		
Total Expenses	11,310,708	13,127,001	11,310,708	10,316,146
Allocated to Fixed Assets	-	(1,310,846)	-	(6662,004)
Depreciation Expense		411,326		327,157
Net Operating Expenses	\$ 11,310,708	\$ 12,227,481	\$ 11,310,708	\$ 9,981,299

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES  
Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

The Department of Community & Social Services receives the bulk of its operating revenue from ISC and the Province of Ontario.

Community Service programs incurred the following total costs in delivering their services:

FISCAL 2022-2023			FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Social Administration	\$ 206,057	\$ 77,278	\$ 206,057	\$ 26,250
Community Support - Administration	624,976	765,831	976,279	481,597
Basic, Special Needs & Ontario Works	3,404,707	4,413,264	3,070,704	3,047,890
Child & Family Services	8,637,982	14,420,214	8,381,429	7,450,219
Treatment Centre			308,419	224,768
Akwesasne Family Wellness Program	1,074,628	1,183,565	1,077,828	902,339
Family Well Being	537,066	370,084	360,530	400,642
Transitional House-Shelter	426,301	797,425	430,101	743,652
Total Expenses	\$ 14,911,717	22,027,661	\$ 14,811,347	13,277,357
Allocation to Fixed Assets		(2,010,051)		(110,241)
Depreciation Expense		151,641		107,396
Net Operating Expenses	\$ 14,911,717	\$ 20,169,251	\$ 14,811,347	\$ 13,274,512



MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

Summary of Operations

For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

Mohawk Government and its programs are substantially unfunded. Special projects are not usually part of the initial budgeting process and are initiated on a needs basis. These projects are generally funded by an external government or by Own Source Revenue (OSR) such as Ontario Lotto and Gaming funds.

Mohawk Government incurred costs as follows in delivering its services:

	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Mohawk Government - Council Salaries	\$ 1,122,345	\$ 1,173,858	\$ 1,122,345	\$ 1,319,080
- Less Allocation of Costs to Programs	(731,500)	(798,000)	(731,500)	(726,000)
Council Chiefs Travel	204,392	189,648	204,392	52,595
North Shore & Cairn Island Claims		1,088		1,927
Legal - US Claim	-	210,196		102,503
Church Insurance - OLG	7,000	10,904	7,000	10,093
Elders Home Repairs - OLG	100,000	130,000	100,000	116,986
Fuel Assistance Program - OLG	468,000	1,308,250	468,000	830,600
Burseries BMO/Enbridge	9,000	10,000	9,000	11,306
MCA Discretionary Use of OLG @ Budget		70,638		
Trust Funded Flow Through		806,067		959,043
Trust Related Costs	-	7,876	-	4,402
Other Projects (Small)	-	97,392	-	142,573
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,179,237</b>	<b>\$ 3,217,917</b>	<b>\$ 1,179,237</b>	<b>\$ 2,825,108</b>
Allocation to Fixed Assets		(17,042)		(21,465)
Depreciation Expense		1,761		2,138
<b>Net Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,179,237</b>	<b>\$ 3,202,654</b>	<b>\$ 1,179,237</b>	<b>\$ 2,805,781</b>

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Summary of Operations

For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

Revenue from a number of divergent sources is reported within the framework of Executive Services including: Indigenous Services Canada Band Support Funding, Indexing and Employee Benefits Funding; Ontario Lotto and Gaming revenue; Island revenue and interest earned on investments. Executive Services is also the resting point of all Indigenous Services Canada New Relationship Fund Grant funding.

Executive Services incurred the following costs in delivering its services:

	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Executive Director's Office	\$ 1,227,426	\$ 1,045,154	\$ 1,191,914	\$ 778,465
OLG and Various Funded Programs	2,941,000	698,805	2,941,000	255,897
OLG Special Needs				28,480
COVID-19 Related Expenses		1,417,745		1,074,616
Mohawk Gov't Admin. Offices	1,019,761	622,128	1,099,336	930,792
Nation Building	879,679	700,486	880,219	862,873
OVS	506,615	492,902	512,615	473,509
ARRO	187,233	160,908	189,023	159,466
Seaway Claim	241,295	347,558	244,095	249,169
Employment Programs	450,000		450,000	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,453,009</b>	<b>\$ 5,485,686</b>	<b>\$ 7,508,202</b>	<b>\$ 4,813,267</b>
Allocation to Fixed Assets		(659)		(43,128)
Depreciation Expense		252,279		144,488
<b>Net Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,453,009</b>	<b>\$ 5,737,306</b>	<b>\$ 7,508,202</b>	<b>\$ 4,914,627</b>

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

The Department of Health administered \$32 million in funding from Indigenous Services Canada 10 Year Grant and from the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Health programs incurred costs as follows in delivering their services:

Program Areas	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Health Administration	\$ 3,851,727	\$ 5,002,466	\$ 3,765,385	\$ 3,754,532
Non-Insured Health Benefits	13,262,670	13,971,108	13,262,670	13,075,592
Home & Community Care	2,477,682	2,023,688	3,093,169	2,030,014
Community Health Nurses	2,656,954	2,315,755	2,041,827	2,353,353
Health Access Centre	2,387,466	2,546,477	2,387,466	2,403,218
Community Support Fund	1,158,647	1,297,746	1,183,145	1,149,402
Wholistic Health	1,585,599	1,481,841	1,804,557	1,142,354
Tsiionkwanonhso:te	5,113,192	5,738,149	5,116,793	5,383,122
Iakhihsohtha	2,043,622	2,812,674	2,044,622	2,426,501
Total Expenses	\$ 34,537,559	\$ 37,189,904	\$ 34,699,634	\$ 33,718,088
Allocation to Fixed Assets		(151,437)		(299,281)
Intersegment Elimination		(691,050)		
Depreciation Expense		250,943		267,599
Net Operating Expenses	\$ 34,537,559	\$ 36,598,360	\$ 34,699,634	\$ 33,686,406

AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT  
Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

Funding for the Akwesasne Justice Department comes from a number of sources including fines imposed by the Akwesasne Court. Canada, Ontario & Quebec provide program specific funding rather than core funding to the department.

Justice programs incurred costs as follows in delivering their services:

Program Areas	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Administration	\$ 482,860	\$ 595,377	\$ 442,860	\$ 537,147
Akwesasne Representative	1,990,733	\$ 1,196,479	1,264,494	
Mohawk Court	374,552	342,097	368,381	401,878
Community Justice	741,942	896,615	724,851	588,409
Total Expenses	\$ 3,590,087	\$ 3,030,568	\$ 2,800,586	\$ 1,527,434
Allocation to Fixed Assets		(96,689)		
Depreciation Expense		13,250		1,422
Net Operating Expenses		\$ 2,947,129		\$1,528,856



DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

The Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment and its programs are underfunded. The primary funding sources are Indigenous Services Canada, and rental income charged to MCA programs that occupy Council owned offices.

	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
I & H Administration	\$ 694,373	\$ 506,042	\$ 694,373	\$ 1,064,285
Major Capital Plan	1,533,748	5,274,266	1,533,748	1,176,472
Fire Protection	473,000	720,302	473,000	391,480
Roads	1,110,389	1,058,611	1,110,389	797,416
Building & Infrastructure Administration	783,220		783,220	593,117
Garbage Collection & Dump Fees	645,378	905,842	645,378	375,562
Education Facilities	1,788,649	1,521,040	1,788,649	1,653,784
Administration Facilities	826,710	1,100,184	826,710	1,081,278
Social & Health Facilities	2,117,495	2,182,192	2,117,495	1,996,118
Conservation	74,666	104,062	74,666	369
Environment	653,817	757,436	653,817	904,791
Water & Wastewater Facilities	1,831,559	1,887,747	1,831,559	1,519,019
Total Expenses	\$ 12,533,004	\$ 16,017,724	\$ 12,533,004	\$ 11,553,691
Capital Project Appropriations		(5,828,478)		(1,454,610)
Inter-segment Eliminating Entries		(4,755,033)		(4,646,707)
Depreciation Expense		2,713,625		2,681,165
Net Operating Expenses - Infrastructure	\$ 12,533,004	\$ 8,147,838	\$ 12,533,004	\$ 8,133,539
Net Operating Expenses - Housing		\$ 2,333,650		\$ 2,198,469
Total Net Operating Expenses I&H	\$ 12,533,004	\$ 10,481,488	\$ 12,533,004	\$ 10,332,008

Notes:

The capital plan budget reflects major & minor capital projects. All projects are funded and deficits were not incurred in completing these projects.

Intersegment eliminations were reported for the first time for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010. Expenses generated to maintain MCA owned facilities for which rent has been charged to the programs occupying those facilities have been eliminated to avoid double counting the facility expenses.

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

Rental income, CMHC subsidies and loan repayments provide revenue for ongoing housing operations. The Housing Sector receives ISC funding and CMHC loans for new home construction. This type of funding results in the aquisition of assets which are not operating expenses.

Housing programs incurred costs as follows in delivering their services:

	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Administration	\$ 1,443,580	\$ 600,735	\$ 1,443,580	\$ 624,365
Increase in allowance for doubtful accounts				
Duplex, Triplex, Fourplex and 5-Plex Construction				
CMHC - RRAP Program				42,505
Elders Renovation (Sweetgrass Project)		197,846	100,000	
Operation of Rental Properties				
Council Owned Rental Units	66,370	21,712	66,370	19,032
Kawehno:ke Riverview Apartments	210,598	207,305	210,598	181,495
Sweetgrass Manor	110,551	267,936	110,551	173,970
CMHC Section 95 97/98 Project	62,001	90,319	62,001	49,367
CMHC Section 95 02/03 Project	70,983	72,066	70,983	57,051
CMHC Section 95 03/04 Project	56,820	46,159	56,820	54,829
CMHC Section 95 04/05 Project	54,334	70,203	54,334	52,142
CMHC Section 95 05/06 Project, 9 Units	61,697	82,914	61,697	63,710
CMHC Section 95 05/06 Project, 17 Units	97,996	129,784	97,996	88,517
CMHC Section 95 05/06 Project, 19 Units	110,010	105,276	110,010	96,346
CMHC Section 95 09/10 Project, 4 Units, Whoville	28,783	29,186	28,783	27,546
ISC Projects		1,393,895		234,217
CMHC Section 95, 4 Units, Oak Court	25,671	32,114	25,671	24,797
CMHC Section 95, Whoville, Quad P1	27, 675	44,946	27, 675	32,111
CMHC Section 95, Whoville, Quad P2	27,823	50,243	27,823	30,701
Adjustment to Allowance for Bad Debts				
Total Expenses	\$ 2,454,892	\$ 3,442,639	\$ 2,554,892	\$ 1,852, 701
Allocation to Fixed Assets		\$ (1,558,969)		\$ (77,462)
Depreciation Expense		\$ 449,980		\$ 423,230
Net Operating Expenses		\$ 2,333,650		\$ 2,198,469

The above budgets do not include costs related to new house construction. Funding for construction of homes is provided by a combination of ISC and CMHC mortgage funding.

	2022/2023	2021/2022
Housing Loans Outstanding March 31, 2022	\$ 7,293,994	\$ 7,997,980
Upgrading Loans Outstanding at March 31, 2022	\$ 425,011	\$ 456,231
Total Housing Loans Outstanding at March 31, 2021	7,719,006	8,454,211
Less: Allowance for Bad Debts Housing Loans	2,788,247	2,788,247
	\$ 4,930,758	\$ 5,665,964
In Addition:		
Cost of Housing Construction in Each Fiscal Year	\$ -	\$ 273,810
Cost of Upgrading Construction in Each Fiscal Year	\$ 190,008	\$ 146,369
Loan Repayments Made in Each Fiscal Year	\$ 731,182	\$ 722,319

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION  
Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

Revenue from a number of divergent sources is reported within the framework of Executive Services including: Service delivery fees and various other fees, such as Island revenue and interest earned on Council investments.

The Department of Finance & Administration incurred the following costs in delivering its services:

FISCAL 2022-2023			FISCAL 2021-2022	
Program Areas	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Director of Finance Office	\$ 286,300	\$ 279,763	\$ 215,585	\$ 294,002
Human Resources	1,612,908	844,628	1,536,005	883,939
Finance	1,455,958	1,574,077	1,614,529	1,652,165
Information Services	1,729,418	2,131,833	1,929,983	1,995,200
Communications Unit	353,903	250,002	353,903	103,072
Total Expenses	\$ 5,438,487	\$ 5,080,303	\$ 5,650,005	\$ 4,928,378
Allocation to Fixed Assets				
Inter-Segment Eliminating Entries		(4,327,843)		
Depreciation Expense		28,405		35,506
Net Operating Expenses	\$ 5,438,487	\$ 780,865	\$ 5,650,005	\$ 4,963,884

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Summary of Operations  
For the Year Ending March 31, 2023

Economic Development incurred the following costs in delivering its services:

Program Areas	FISCAL 2022-2023		FISCAL 2021-2022	
	Budget	Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Economic Development - AIF	\$ 4,217,208		\$ 4,289,997	
Economic Development - Administration	581,215	1,384,432	508,425	703,568
Economic Development - Fiber-to-the-Home	8,177,547	3,032,175	8,177,547	4,538,909
Economic Development Facilities	90,155	155,719	90,155	64,845
Arena	725,518	1,000,719	751,071	459,059
Thompson Island Cultural Camp	216,892	409,197	216,892	259,166
Tobacco/Cannabis	1,386,921	26,834	1,386,921	53,612
Total Expenses	\$ 15,395,456	\$ 6,009,076	\$ 15,421,008	\$ 6,079,159
Allocation to Fixed Assets		(4,102,040)		(4,644,594)
Inter-Segment Eliminating Entries		443		
Net Operating Expenses	\$ 15,395,456	\$ 1,907,479	\$ 15,421,008	\$ 1,434,565







**MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE**  
Communications Unit Publication

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