

# **Leonard Lazore**

## **Grand Chief**

### **FEBRUARY 2025**

### **MONTHLY REPORT**

[www.akwesasne.ca](http://www.akwesasne.ca)



## February 3-7

- Council Meeting
- Governance Orientation w/ Carol Hopkins
  - Carol visited the reservation to conduct a three-day governance training session for the Grand Chief and District Chiefs.
- Meeting with **Tim Coldwell** President & CEO Enska Advisors
- Seaway Claim Internal Prep Meeting
  - Nathan Richards prepped the Seaway Claim Team for the upcoming Seaway Claim Meeting with transport Canada
- Meeting with **Mark Carney** in Quebec City
  - Met a candidate **for Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada Mark Carney**
  - Met The **Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos** Minister of Public Services and Procurement



Grand Chief Lazore and District Chief Peters with Mark Carney



Grand Chief Lazore with Mark Carney



Grand Chief Lazore and District Chief Peters with The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos

# February 10-14

- Council Meeting
- Executive Committee Meeting
  - Discussed the ED Job posting
  - Had a zoom call with potential ED job search consultant Pathways Executive Search
- St Lawrence Seaway Claim Meeting with Transport Canada
  - Met **Heather carrier** Director General (wants to move toll)
  - To proceed to trial, plaintiffs must requisition a pre-trial conference, complete examinations for discovery, submit necessary documents and expert reports, and estimate 120-240 trial days.
- Meeting with **Grand Chief Cody Diabo** Kahnawake
- Meeting with John Bay CBSA Liason
- Finance Committee Meeting on 2025 budget
  - The group agreed to revisit the proposal with more detailed criteria and policy regarding the allocation of funds and services.
  - A follow-up meeting will be set to finalize details and ensure the budget is properly allocated and used in compliance with ISC and OLG guidelines.
- Trip to Toronto for a Progressive Conservative Private Event
  - Met The **Honorable Stan Cho** Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming
  - Met The **Honorable Kinga Surma** Minister of Infrastructure
- NYS Land Claim Update Meeting W/Legal
- Governance Committee Meeting



Seaway Claim meeting with Transport Canada



Grand Chief Lazore and The Honourable Stan Cho



Grand Chief Lazore and The Honourable Kinga Surma



## February 17-21

- Council Meeting
- AFN National Housing and Infrastructure Conference in Calgary
  - The AFN National Housing and Infrastructure Conference took place at the Westin Downtown Calgary.
  - The theme was "Mind the Gap: Advancing First Nations Housing, Infrastructure, and Drinking Water."
  - The event brought together industry professionals, experts, and First Nations leaders to address socio-economic gaps.
  - Workshops and presentations covered key issues in housing and infrastructure.
  - Topics discussed included:  
Closing the First Nations infrastructure gap
    - Asset management planning and software
    - Climate change risks and adaptation strategies
    - Enhanced-Asset Condition Reporting System (E-ACRS)
    - Data gathering technologies and best practices
    - Operations, maintenance costs, and risk management
  - The conference emphasized First Nations-led solutions to improve housing and infrastructure across Canada.



AFN National Housing and Infrastructure Conference in Calgary



Regional Chief Abram Benedict



AFN Conference



## February 24-28

- Council Meeting
- CIRNAC Presentation in Toronto
  - The engagement ensured Indigenous voices played a central role in shaping new consultation and accommodation guidelines.
  - This was Phase 2 of the process, building on lessons from Phase 1 in 2024.
  - An “Interim What We Learned Report” was set to be released soon.
- IFN Quarterly Meeting
- COO - Ontario Final Agreement and Trilateral Agreement
- General Meeting
- Meeting with Gurratan Singh Vice President Crestview Strategy



CIRNAC Presentation



IFN Quarterly Meeting



Gurratan Singh Vice President of Crestview Strategy



# Chief JoAnn Swamp

## Monthly Report

### Enniska/February 2025



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**PORTFOLIO:** DCSS (Dept. of Community & Social Services), DIHE (Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment), Government Secretariat, Nation Building (Entewatatawi)

**Committees:** OVS (Office of Vital Statistics), YECL (Youth, Elders, Culture, Language), Hydro QC POM (Partnership with OPG and MCA), Executive Committee, PAT team, Green Team/Beautification/Waterways,

## Monthly Notables:

### TsiSnaihne District Meeting

A district meeting was held on February 20/25. 14 people were in attendance.

#### **Topics of concern:**

Cornwall Community Hospital treating our people unfairly: not being seen for hours, other people taken in ahead of them, do we have a patient navigator at CCH.

**Action Item from the people is to meet with the CCH Board and discuss these issues.**

Sharing of records between Quebec and Ontario: bloodwork etc. The need for a triage nurse in Akwesasne. Noninsured issues.

**Action Item: The people want DOH and Noninsured at one of the district mtgs.**

Sign for Economic Development Office needs to be done because you can't seem to find it when you go to Peacetree Mall.

FNCFS and the changes in Jordans Principle

**Action Item: Presentation in each district on the FNCFS, Child in Care Claim, Jordans Principle changes.**

Terms of Reference for the PAT Team: Is there one?

Education: What is Council doing about the funding on the American side and our Canadian born students who apply. It is asking for a Green Card. What is the JBTA doing about this. This change was the result of the US Administration and Homeland Security.

Was there a final report from Abram Benedict on the JBTA.

Housing Law: Why is it still on the website if we don't follow it?

Elders panicking about the border and the changes that are coming. What is Council doing about this, is there meetings taking place? Chiefs stated there are meetings taking place on this issue.

Snowstorm, plowing, shoveling entrances at our buildings.

### **Executive Committee**

A meeting on Feb 10/25 took place with Pathways. A firm that will seek out what we are looking for in an Executive Director. Action Item: Edit the job description and send back.

### **Housing Authority Meeting**

### **DIHE Monthly Meetings**

### **YECL Committee**

### **Department of Community and Social Service (DCSS)**

### **Government Secretariat**

Updates were given by Quebec Liaison Officer, Government Support Manager, CBSA Coordinator and Portfolio Chief. Portfolio chief chaired the meeting.

### **Council Meetings for the Month.**

Council meetings are held every Monday to review MCRs and for discussions to take place. Presentations: DCSS Privacy Training, Environment, ACCESS, AFNQL candidates running for Chief.

### **Other Meetings**

Governance Orientation:

This orientation was given by Carol Hopkins and was held at the Kawehnoke Recreation on February 4,5,6/25. All Chiefs were present along with Management Staff.

The orientation captured Governance Purpose, Critical Elements for Effective Governance structure, Tools for Governance, Decision Making Part A and B. This was a really good training.

Truth and Reconciliation: Zoom Conference – Respect, Restore, Relearn

Topics for the first day: Ancestral Wisdom in the Stars, Seven Fires Prophecy for Humanity, Adoption of Canada, Walking together with the Two Row Wampum, Reconciling History: A story of Canada.

### **Works in Progress:**

1. Quebec Protocol Agreement: Renegotiating agreement with Quebec.
2. YECL (Youth Elders Culture Language): working on terms of reference and reviewing the Charter.
3. Executive Director position: reviewing job description for posting.

### **Collaborative Opportunities**





# Scott Peters

## Tsi Snaihne District Chief

### February 2025 Monthly Report

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#### Portfolios:

##### Economic Development

- Gathering information in regard to Seaway International Bridge Corporation toll increase by \$1.00 and impacts to Akwesasne.
- Fiber Project: ongoing with Ontario East connecting homes and taking calls from people who have signed up and still require connections. Contact info is:
  - **Email:** [info@oenetworks.ca](mailto:info@oenetworks.ca)
  - **Phone call & text:** 613-936-6173
  - **Website:** [www.oenetworks.ca](http://www.oenetworks.ca)
- Working on hosting a trade show at Anowarakowa arena for this summer to highlight local businesses and to help promote them beyond the area.
- Anowarakowa arena ice will be out March 13 and will be ready for lacrosse in April.

##### Justice

- Reviewed the Fire Safety Law and meetings with working group started with the Legislative Oversight Committee.
- Portfolio meetings were postponed.

##### Akwesasne Rights and Research Office

- Seaway Claim proceedings are moving forward with Canada. MCA staff met with Canadian Reps to discuss moving forward with settlement claim.
- The New York State Land Claim Settlement is ongoing, and the next steps are being discussed.
- The Nutfield Tract Survey Claim was received by Canada on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 which begins the 3-year review process for Canada.
- An Enbridge natural gas line expansion within Akwesasne territory in the Glendale area is being discussed and meetings are being arranged.

##### Public Safety

- Updated on current and future expectations of potential people heading to Canada from the United States.
- Attended Police Commission meeting.
- Attended AMPS Community Strategic Plan presentation.

##### Nation Building

- Updated on the current plans for public education.
- The program is also looking for a youth representative to sit on the working task group.

- Updated on the Akwesasne-Canada Entewatathawi Self-Government Agreement.

## **Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment**

- Work on Black Ash (*Acer negundo*) and Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) recovery plans is being planned for local areas.
- Erosion on Yellow Island is being studied again with future work being planned.
- Guided residents with to the Housing Program to potentially receive help with home renovation needs.

## **Committees:**

### **Port Divestiture**

- Planning next meeting and steps for the Port lands.

### **Oversight**

- Began work on updating the Fire Safety Law.

### **Governance**

- Meetings have been held to discuss making council meetings public on camera. Logistics are being worked on.

### **Iroquois Caucus**

- Met with the IC to discuss harvesting issues encountered with several Kahnawakeronon.

### **Hydro Quebec**

- Hydro Quebec is donating several small battery packs to help community members when power outages occur. How to distribute the packs is being discussed.

## **Monthly Notables:**

- Helped several community members with obtaining proper services from various MCA programs including radon removal from homes.
- Gave opening words for several community events.
- Working with Environment Program to develop a work plan to harvest trees negatively impacted by Emerald Ash Borer.
- I attended a Governance Training workshop with Ruth Hopkins. The training was very informative and resourceful.
- Grand Chief and I travelled to Quebec City on February 7-8 to meet with Mark Carney. Mr. Carney is running for leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada, and potentially the next Prime Minister of Canada. Mr. Carney met with us and spoke with us on issues related to Akwesasne. He was very receptive and would like to meet with us again. At this meeting we also met with Jean-Yves Duclos, Member of Parliament and Minister of Public Service

and Procurement. Mr. Duclos is also willing to come to Akwesasne to discuss ways we can potentially form partnerships between Quebec and Akwesasne.



*February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting with Mark Carney.*



*February 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting with Jean-Yves Duclos.*



- Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell and I attended the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL-APNQL) in Quebec City to vote for a new Regional Chief. The current Regional Chief, Ghislain Picard, will be stepping away from the position after holding it for 33 years (11 terms).



- The new Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL-APNQL) is Francis Verreault-Paul.





# Chief Sarah Lee Diabo

District of Tsi Sanihne

## Enniska/February 2025 Monthly Report

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**Portfolio:** Department of Health, Ahkwesahsne Board of Education, Public Safety and Government Secretariat

*This monthly report is provided as part of Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios, and Monthly Activities.*

### Here's a recap of notable events:

- **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025:** Participated in the Performance Evaluation for the Iroquois Caucus Coordinator. As the only remaining member of the original hiring committee, I facilitated the recruitment of other Caucus members to assist in the evaluation process. Amy Lickers continues to serve as the full-time coordinator.
- **February 4-6, 2025:** Council participated in Governance Orientation Training with Carol Hopkins at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Center. The training focused on governance processes, fostering positive relationships, and improving communication through agreements, policies, and procedures. Team-building exercises were also included to strengthen collaboration and effectiveness.
- **February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025:** Participated via Zoom in the inaugural Jay Treaty Border Alliance – Safety and Security Technical Table meeting. This table provides support to the governance table on key border-related issues, including Right of Entry, Entry of Goods, Border Crossing Experience, and Identification & Travel Documents. Current members include representatives from SRMT Police, AMPS, CBSA, Public Safety Canada, Global Affairs Canada, and Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada, with additional agencies to be included as needed.

### Portfolio Meetings

#### Public Safety Portfolio

#### Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission Meeting

- Attended the Public Safety Monthly meeting, it discussed the community concerns and issues that were raised by the community.

**Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education:**

- **February 7<sup>th</sup>:** Attended AMBE portfolio meeting, where discussions focused on capital funding, new business, border issues, and a walkthrough of the AMBE facilities.
- **February 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>:** Attended the Chiefs of Ontario Education Forum in Toronto, themed "Reigniting the Flames of Our Ancestors." Keynote speaker Cadmus Delorme discussed the challenges of living in two worldviews—seeking funding, striving to fit in, and maintaining identity and culture. He emphasized that decolonization is about empowering our youth to thrive in both worlds, not reverting to the past. A presentation on the James Smith Cree Nation tragedy highlighted the importance of trauma-informed schools and systems, focusing on the 3 E's of Trauma—Event, Experience, and Effect—while addressing the emotional, relational, and academic impacts of traumatic stress.

**Government Secretariat Portfolio Meeting:**

- Due to medical procedure, I was unable to attend our scheduled meeting.

**Department of Health**

- The February monthly portfolio was canceled due to unforeseen circumstances.



# TESHA ROURKE TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF WEEKLY REPORT

**JANUARY 27-31, 2025**

## WEEKLY SNAPSHOT

### Council Meeting:

- Political Protocol Presentation
- Debrief on MCA/SRMT meeting

### MCRs

- Nursing Compensation
- AMBE Organizational Chart
- Communications Working Group
- Housing Upgrade
- Elders Emergency Fund

### Mental Wellness & Substance Use Conference

- January 28-30th Blue Mountain, ON

### Debrief Session on General Meeting

- Discussed proactive measures for the safety and wellbeing of the community and MCA employees



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## MENTAL WELLNESS & SUBSTANCE USE CONFERENCE

Attended the Chiefs of Ontario Mental Wellness and Substance Abuse Conference, where I connected with youth and learned about land-based healing initiatives. The conference featured insightful panels from youth and individuals with lived experience, offering a very eye-opening perspective. A more detailed travel report is provided on the following page.



# TESHA ROURKE TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF WEEKLY REPORT

**FEBRUARY 3-7, 2025**

## WEEKLY SNAPSHOT

### Council Meeting:

- DCSS Privacy Training Presentation
- Environment Presentation
  - **Discussion Topics**- General meeting, Pow wow, Council meeting on Tuesday, Chiefs of Ontario Directory

### MCRs

- Special Needs Policy Updated
- Finance Committee- Chair & Co-Chair
- AARO Authorization

### Governance Orientation

- February 4-6, 2025, Kawehnoke Rec.
- Council participated in a three-day Governance Training focused on strengthening our leadership and decision-making processes. The training covered key topics such as a policy governance overview, the purpose of governance, reflections on governance challenges, and the roles and responsibilities of Council members. Throughout the sessions, we engaged in case scenario exercises to apply governance principles in real-world situations and conducted a policy review to ensure alignment with best practices. Additionally, we participated in team-building exercises to enhance collaboration and strengthen our working relationships as a governing body. This training was an important opportunity to reflect on our governance structure, identify areas for improvement, and reinforce our commitment to serving the community with transparency and accountability.

### FNCFS Update

- The Chiefs of Ontario and Nishnawbe Aski Nation are currently negotiating with the Government of Canada to develop an Ontario-specific agreement for the Long-Term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services program. Key negotiation points focus on securing sustainable investments to prevent child removals, ensuring children in care remain connected to their families and communities, and providing better support for young adults transitioning into independence. These efforts aim to create a more culturally appropriate, community-driven approach to child and family services for First Nations in Ontario.

## LONG TERM REFORM- FNCFS COMMUNITY NOTICE

The Chiefs of Ontario and Nishnawbe Aski Nation are hosting information sessions on the Final Agreement for Long-Term Reform of the FNCFS Program in Ontario. Open to Chiefs, Proxies, Elders, and community members, these sessions provide a chance to learn, ask questions, and engage in discussions. **Registration is required for virtual attendance. Registration:** <https://coo.smudging.ca:8443/Meeting/Register/36f09c56-5877-4ade-9ec0-74df6a288923>

# TESHA ROURKE TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF WEEKLY REPORT

**FEBRUARY 10-14, 2025**

## WEEKLY SNAPSHOT

### Council Meeting:

- ACCESS Presentation
- Environment Presentation
  - **Discussion Topics**- FNCFS update, Emergency Management Curriculum Development, AFNQL nomination, JTBA Technical Table update, Toll increase, General Meeting, U.S. Customs, Grand Chief meeting Prime Minister Candidate, COO Elder, I.C. Letter

### MCRs

- Upgrade Application- Housing
- Council Meeting Minutes- 1/20/25
- Dr. Contract Renewal-25/26
- Dr. Contract Renewal-25/26

Tsi Snaihne District Meeting Postponed due to two district members passing, Our sincere condolences to all families.

[New District Meeting date: February 20th Tsi Snaihne Rec](#)

### Healing Fund Application Overview

We are currently reviewing the Akwesasne Community Healing Fund application, which will soon be open for community members to apply. This fund is designed to support healing and wellness initiatives within the community. Stay tuned for the official announcement!



## CONNECT WITH ME:

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## LONG TERM REFORM- FNCFS COMMUNITY NOTICE

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# TESHA ROURKE TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF WEEKLY REPORT

## JANUARY 20-24, 2025



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## WEEKLY SNAPSHOT

### District Meeting

- January 20th- Tsi Snaihne Rec.
  - Topics discussed- Health, Economic Development, communication protocol, Youth involvement

### MCA & SRMT Leadership Meeting

- Held our first quarterly meeting this January. The meeting focused on collaboration and key issues Akwesasne as a whole including waterline interconnectivity, beaver mitigation efforts, language and cultural revitalization, and lateral kindness.
- Next meeting with Leadership is in April

### YECL Committee Meeting

- The Youth, Elders, Culture, and Language (YECL) Committee met to discuss funding, upcoming initiatives, and key issues related to language, culture, and youth programs. The Youth Council is moving forward with important updates, the swearing-in ceremony needs to be scheduled as soon as possible to officially welcome new members.
- Additionally, there are two vacancies, and a callout will be posted soon to fill these positions, to ensure full participation, meetings should include a virtual option so that all members can attend, regardless of location.

### Tsikaristisere Trust Signing

- I attended the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's signing ceremony for the Tsikaristisere Trust on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center. This event marked the formal establishment of the trust, with Trustees and Council members officially signing the documents in the presence of community members. The creation of the Tsikaristisere Trust is a significant milestone, demonstrating a commitment to responsibly managing the settlement's resources. The Trustees are entrusted with holding, managing, and investing the Trust Property in accordance with the agreement, ensuring it benefits the community and its beneficiaries.

### DCSS Portfolio

- Updating the Special Needs Policy
- Partnership with Traveling College and Anowarakowa Arena for Children's Pow wow

### First Nation Womens Committee (Chiefs of Ontario)

I attended my first Chiefs of Ontario Women's Council meeting, where I currently sit alongside Chief Lisa Francis-Benedict. During the meeting, we introduced ourselves and discussed important issues, including MMIWG2S+ and human trafficking. I also raised awareness about the potential rise in human trafficking due to Trump being in office and the rollback of DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) initiatives. As an example, I highlighted how Amazon has removed policies that protected African Americans and Two-Spirit individuals.

# WEEKLY SNAPSHOT PAGE 2

## JSST (Joint Social Services Table) Meeting

- On February 12th, I met with Dan Bruyere to go over the purpose of the Joint Social Services Table (JSST). The JSST works to improve social services for First Nations by identifying key priorities, strengthening communication with communities, and advocating for better funding and support. It also focuses on ensuring fair service delivery, updating governance structures, and working closely with provincial and federal partners to address community needs.

## Tour of Iahkiisotha

- On February 12th, I visited Iahkiisotha alongside Chief JoAnn, Chief Cindy, and Chief Teresa. Chelsea Swamp, the Associate Director for Continuing Care, gave us a tour of the facility, highlighting the upcoming upgrades. We were also joined by Mae, Shaelene, and Cindy, who answered any questions we had. I'm looking forward to visiting more and spending time with our totas. A big thank you to the wonderful staff for all that you do, your hard work and dedication are truly appreciated!

## Finance Committee

- On February 12, we held a Finance Meeting to review the budget. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Finance Committee recommended that the budget be presented to Council for further review and approval. Once it is reviewed and approved by Council, it will be presented to the community for transparency and discussion.

## FNCFS Update from Chiefs of Ontario and NAN

- We as Chiefs of Ontario and Nishnawbe Aski Nation are engaging in productive and positive discussions with Canada on moving towards a reformed system for our children and families. We have been mandated by our Chiefs, who have the right to make their own informed decisions about their children, and child and family services, without being required to consult with other parties on these decisions. This agreement seeks to shift control and authority over child and family services funding from child welfare agencies to First Nations where it rightfully belongs. While we are disappointed that the Caring Society has brought a motion claiming that Canada must consult with them about our regional agreement, we will not allow this to derail our process and distract us from the work that needs to be done. The Caring Society has opposed this agreement from day one, and we do not want their latest procedural interruption to disrupt our progress towards a regional agreement they have already deemed to be "deeply flawed". Our Chiefs have rejected the status quo and given us a strong mandate to reach an agreement to reform what continues to operate as a broken system for our children and families. We expect that the jurisdiction and authority of our Chiefs as rightsholders will be respected throughout any process and ask outside parties to respectfully allow us to move forward, as is our right, and we have been mandated by our leadership

- For more information- <https://fncfsreform.ca/executive-summary/>

## Winter Carnival

During the weekend of February 13-16, Kanatakon Recreation hosted the Winter Carnival, and I was happy to lend a hand with decorating and cleaning. My family attended a few events, which were wonderful and truly brought the community together. ❄️ Despite the weather, it was a spectacular weekend, and a huge congratulations to everyone who helped make it happen, as well as to all who braved the storm to attend. Great job, everyone, p.s. Laura you do such an amazing job! 🌟🌟

Department of Health (DOH) Portfolio

Cancelled- will be rescheduled

Meeting with Kawehnoke Businesses

Rescheduled due to weather

# TESHA ROURKE TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF WEEKLY REPORT

**FEBRUARY 17-21, 2025**

## WEEKLY SNAPSHOT

Emergency Council Meeting- Tuesday February 18th due to Family Day holiday on Monday

### Economic Development

- The Economic Development Portfolio is actively addressing several key initiatives: SIBC Toll Booth Strategy: In response to the Seaway International Bridge Corporation (SIBC) recent toll increase announcement, effective April 1, 2025, the council is formulating a comprehensive strategy to mitigate the impact on our community.
- **Arena Enhancements**: The arena is undergoing significant improvements, with ice removal scheduled for March 14th and turf installation planned for April. These upgrades aim to diversify activities and enhance the facility for community use. Public safety remains a top priority, ensuring a secure environment for all.
- **Chiefs of Ontario (COO) Initiatives & Reverse Trade Show**: Efforts are underway to launch the COO Business Directory online, creating better procurement opportunities for businesses. Additionally, a Reverse Trade Show is being planned for June, providing a platform to connect funders and business support services with First Nations entrepreneurs. Stay tuned for more details
- **Food Sovereignty Conference**: Plans are in place to attend the upcoming Chiefs of Ontario (COO) conference focused on Food Sovereignty, emphasizing our commitment to sustainable practices and community well-being.

### Tsi Snaihne District Meeting

- Our District Meeting brought together community members to discuss important topics, including Health, Social Services, Education, the Jay Treaty, Community Planning, Public Safety, and Housing. This meeting provided an opportunity to share updates, address concerns, and work towards solutions for the well-being of our community.

### First Nations Women's Council

- I recently attended a meeting via Zoom with other women leaders. We discussed health and wellness, including land-based healing programs, MMIWG2S+ advocacy, police-related deaths, and the Red Dress Alert system. We are also ensuring that Missing and Murdered Indigenous Men and Boys (MMIMB) are included in these discussions. Other key topics included education and awareness, pushing for more prevention work in schools around safety, rights, and policing, as well as supporting Indigenous women, 2SLGBTQ+ communities, and family healing initiatives.

# TESHA ROURKE TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF WEEKLY REPORT

**FEBRUARY 17-21, 2025**

## WEEKLY SNAPSHOT PAGE 2

### Youth Council Announcement

On Friday, February 21, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne held a swearing-in ceremony to welcome the newest members of the Akwesasne Youth Council (AYC). This was a significant moment for our community as we officially welcomed Cayde Lazore, Starlyn Mason, Iiokonhahes King, and Taylor Day to the council.

The new AYC representatives took their oaths before Justice of the Peace Alexandra David at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Center, surrounded by family, friends, Council chiefs, and community members.

Congratulations to our newly sworn-in Youth Council members! The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne looks forward to seeing the positive impact these young leaders will have in our community. We are still looking for two more Youth Council members, if you're interested, please reach out!

As someone who began on the Youth Council and now serves on Council and the YECL committee, I know firsthand how empowering this experience can be. The work we do today helps shape the future of our community, and I'm excited to work together with these young leaders to make a difference. Welcome aboard!

### For Your Information

If you are looking to hook up with Ontario East the contact information:

Email: [info@oenetworks.ca](mailto:info@oenetworks.ca)

Phone: 613-936-6173 They are available for both calls and text messages

I will be attending the First Nations Food Sovereignty Forum on March 6th, hosted by the Chiefs of Ontario. This event brings together leaders and experts to discuss food security and sovereignty for First Nations. I look forward to learning and bringing back insights to support Akwesasne. Let's continue working toward sustainable food systems for our future! 🍎🌱

**I would like to inform you that I will be away on vacation from March 10th to March 14th.**

I will be attending the Gathering of Elected Women of the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador, taking place on March 18-20, 2025, in Quebec City. This event brings together Indigenous women leaders to discuss key issues, share knowledge, and strengthen our voices in governance.

I will be attending the AFNQL Special Chiefs Assembly on the Quebec First Nations Health and Wellness Governance Process on March 26-27, 2025, in Montreal QC.





**Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell**

**Kanatakon District Chief**

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**Monthly Report February 2025**

**Portfolio(s): Justice, ARRO, Nation Bldg. & Govt Secretariate,**

**Committees: CBSA, Executive, Finance, Governance, Green Team, Beautification, Waterways & Hydro Quebec.**

**Monthly Notables:** Attend all Council, District, General Meetings

- Attend the Governance Workshop with All Council & Support Staff, Feb4-6/25 @ Kawehnoke Rec 9am -4pm each day: Presenter Carol Hopkins.
- Attended Iakhihsohta for the Elders Valentines Day Celebration, crowning of the King & Queen, Esther & Jack, delicious meal and entertainment was provided.
- Attend the Akwesasne Winter Carnival hosted by the St. Regis Recreation on February 12-16/25. fun was had by all, I assisted with many events, decorating the hall, working in the kitchen, helping with kids crafts and most of all enjoying the events with the community and the amazing Winter Carnival Team. Congratulations Laura & Blue Thompson on King & Queen of Carnival. Great Job to the organizers and everyone that stepped up to make it the success it was and of course mother nature for her force in reminding us that Winter is here!
- Trying my absolute best to stay up to date with the Kanienkeha class that I have been on for the last year, we are getting down to the end and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to continue to learn our language and culture. Nia:wen
- Attend the AFNQL Regional Chief Elections in Quebec City Feb 25 - Congratulation to new Chief Francis Verreault-Paul, and to all the candidates that presented today they truly had the best interest of all First Nations at heart.

**February 3, 2025:** All Council Meeting: Admin 1, 9am-4pm

**Eneithithswanon:na Working Task Group – Admin 1 4-6pm –**

Agenda: Ongoing review and discussion English version of Kanienkeha words, section 18.1, Boards & Committees,

**February 4, 5, & 6/25 – Governance Workshop All Council , Kahwenoke Recreation 9am-4pm with Carol Hopkins:**

**Agenda:** Leadership – the What & Why, Management is the How & When Questions. Expectation of Training, Policy, Purpose, Roles & Responsibilities, Governance Results, Monitoring, Decision Making, Governance Committee, Core Competencies, Assessment, workplans, Reflections & Evaluations.

**February 6/25: Seaway Claim Internal Prep Meeting /Cheyenne Lazore/PM ARRO 10am**

To prepare the team for meeting with Canada, concerns, review of documents, questions to ask, open dialogue to start the initial discussion for future negotiations.

**February 10/25 :** All Council Meeting- Admin 1 9am

**Executive Committee Meeting: 2pm – Admin 1:**

**Agenda:** Review of job description with team members, discussion around areas of concerns.

**Pathways Executive Search: 3:15pm Admin 1:**

**Agenda:** Team member met with Pathways consultant to Review the Requirements and expectations for the Executive Director position.

**February 11/25- MCA/Canada- St. Lawrence Seaway Claim Review: 10am – 3:00. Anowarakowa Arena:**

Overview of litigation and Seaway issues a file claimed in 1976 against Canada for the expropriation of lands and damage by the construction and operation of the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project, Elements of Canada 2018 offer, Seaway related issues of concern to MCA, Canadas initial response as per issue, next steps, next meetings, closing address. Nia:wen to Cheyenne & her staff from ARRO for providing the documents for discussion purposes.

**Oversight Committee: 4pm – Justice Office-Kanatakon- Alyson Thompson- in person/zoom**

**Agenda:** Review of Oversight Committee terms of reference, Law survey discussion, LEPR review and its process.

**February 12/25: Tour of Iakhihsohta Home for the Aged: 1:30pm**

Sector 5 -Elderly Care- gave an overview of budget, concerns, areas of improvement, greeting residents, work projects that are ongoing.

**Finance Committee Meeting: 4pm -6:15pm Admin 1**

**Agenda:** 2025/26 Draft Budget Presentation by DFA -Heather Phillips, Elders Care Proposal- Sector 5 discussion.

**February 13/25: Justice Portfolio:** Cactus Cook-Sunday -Director of Justice meeting postponed until Feb 19/25.

**Oversight Committee: Residency Law Amendments@ 4pm = Justice Office**

**Agenda:** Review of where we left off with proposed amendments on the law.

**Kanatakon District Meeting: 6pm – St. Regis Recreation**

**Agenda:** Open discussion with community on the winter carnival, governance information provided

**February 14/25: NYS Claim Update: Cheyenne Lazore/ARRO Manager:**

Review of current status of land claim proceedings with legal.

**February 14 /25: Governance Committee: Admin 1 -10am**

**Agenda:** Review of public forum for upcoming meetings, discussions of meeting expectations, dates, Governance Policies, HR, IT Finance, differences in working tasks group in place of committees, announcements that need to go out to community, strategies, reviewing of comprehensive community plan, strategic initiatives. Next meeting dates and action items follow up.

**February 17/2025: Family Day Holiday MCA Closed**

**February 18, 2025: Emergency Council Meeting 9am: MCR'S only:**

**Chiefs of Ontario: Justice Committee; 1pm – via Teams**

**Agenda:** Overview of Draft Anti-Racism Campaign on Policing & Community Safety. Feedback from committee on areas discussed, including lack of funding in all areas, as well cultural competency initiatives, Missing Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls, Private Prosecution Pilot program update.

**Eneithiswanon:na -Child Rights Law @4pm Admin 1 – Alyson Thompson**

**Agenda:** Review the final changes to the draft law as agreed upon by legal and the team, document is ready to go to legal for review, it's been a long 3 year process and everyone appreciates the hard work and dedication that has been provided by all those involved, next meeting dates scheduled for March 4/25, implementation & community engagement plan needs to be prioritized.

**February 19/25: Justice Portfolio: Admin#1/Zoom 1:30 Cactus Cook-Sunday, Director of Justice: Meeting is cancelled until next month:**

**February 20/25: Emergency Council Meeting 10am.**

**Agenda:** Updates received by Acting Executive Director

**February 21/25: Governance Committee: 10am-Admin 1**

**Agenda:** Review of other council meetings in the public forum, discussion on the creation of terms of reference, discussion on previous areas

**February 24/25 –COUNCIL Meeting 9am-12noon**

**February 24, 25, 26/25 – Travel to Quebec City 12:30 – 5:45pm -AFNQL Chief Assembly and Election for Quebec Regional Chief:**

**February 25/ 1pm – 7: 30pm Election AFNQL** – Opening Prayer, Farwell from Regional Chief G Picard, Meet the Candidates Francis Verreault-Paul, Dr Cathy Martin, Constant & Monik Kistabish each had 20 minutes to tell us why they should be the Regional Chief. Voting rules and regulations were reviewed, Voting started at 5:38pm and a new Welcoming New Regional Chief happened a little after 7pm.

**February 26/25:** Welcoming, Introduction to new Quebec Regional Chief Francis Verreault-Paul, Political Direction from Chiefs on current issues, priorities of the year and operation of AFNQL Table, Taxation Update, Governance motion, Draft Act respecting Commissioner of Children's Well Being & Rights, Update on Special Chiefs Assembly on health & governance project, political relationships with prov & Fed govt. Left conference at lunch time to get back to Akwesasne . Nia:wen to Chief Scott for piloting and representing at the table , he did an awesome job.

**February 26/25: Travel back to Akwesasne from Quebec City – 3pm.**

**Upcoming meetings:**

General Meeting – TsiSnaihne District 6pm -8pm

February 28/25: Tour of Tsiionkwanonhsote Chronic Care Facility:





# Chief Teresa Oakes

## February 2025 Monthly Report



Kana:takon District

[chief.teresa.oakes@akwesasne.ca](mailto:chief.teresa.oakes@akwesasne.ca)

cell: 613-551-0270

**Portfolios:** Public Safety, DCSS, AMBE, Government Secretariat and Nation Building

**Committees:** Akwesko:wa/Port Divesture, Green Team/Beautification/Waterways, OVS, Hydro Quebec, and CBSA

**External Committees/Tables:** Iroquois Caucus

**January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Meetings:**

- **January 30<sup>th</sup>:** Emergency meeting to pass time sensitive MCR's. Discussion items included using AI, discussions regarding the continued threats of petitions.
- **January 30<sup>th</sup>:** Quebec Political Protocol Meeting was held to discuss who will be on the technical team moving forward.
- **January 30<sup>th</sup>:** General Meeting. Updates on Fiber to the Home (FTTH), NYS Land Claim, Public Council Meetings. Two (2) Petitions presented to Grand Chief Lazore from a disruptive community member, more to come according to this community member.
- **January 31<sup>st</sup>:** Emergency Council Meeting to debrief the General Meeting.
- **February 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Weekly Council Meeting. Three (3) MCR's passed. Department of Community and Social Services (DCSS) presented on Privacy Training. Environment presented on environmental current issues. A/Executive gave administration updates.
- **February 7<sup>th</sup>:** AMBE Portfolio Meeting. Topics discussed included shortage of staff, capitol projects, latchkey, border issues, and a playground update.
- **February 7<sup>th</sup>:** Met with a community member in regards to a pigeon infestation at her place of business.
- **February 10<sup>th</sup>:** Weekly Council Meeting. Four (4) MCR's passed. Presentation by Russell Roundpoint, Akwesasne Career and Employment Support Services (ACCESS) where he presented on the different programs and support they provide. Presentation by Britney Bourdages, Environment Part 2 of the RAP.
- **February 11<sup>th</sup>:** Public Safety Portfolio Meeting. Updates were given on the helicopter and drones being out.
- **February 11<sup>th</sup>:** Kana:takon District Meeting. A community member asked about a Facebook post floating around about treaty money. A community member asked about the Elder Generator Project. A community member invited everyone to hear a presentation by an individual on governance.
- **February 13<sup>th</sup>:** Akwesko:wa Committee Meeting. Legal representation went over documents that need to be signed.
- **February 18<sup>th</sup>:** Emergency Council Meeting. Two (2) MCR's passed. No presentations due to Council Travel.

- **February 24<sup>th</sup>:** Weekly Council Meeting. Three (3) MCR's passed. Discussions were held in regards to the AFNQL Regional Chief vote taking place on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> in Quebec City.
- **February 26<sup>th</sup>:** Nation Building Portfolio Meeting. Negotiations Preparations Meeting, discussed issues dealing with Canada in regards to the ESGA.

### **Monthly Notables:**

**February 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>:** Governance Orientation with Carol Hopkins. All Council and Government Support Staff attended. This training was insightful and should have been done at the very beginning of orientation. Knowing our roles and responsibilities, along with how we are supposed to support the decisions made at the table was the message in the training that I received.

**February 12<sup>th</sup>:** myself along with three (3) other District Chiefs were given a tour of Iakhihsohtha. The staff there are amazing and attentive to our Elders. We got there in time to see them playing Bingo, everyone looked very happy. The building is in need of many repairs, a lot of the building areas are still original from when it was first built. The Administration team is very dedicated to our Elders. They have great visions and dreams that are very admirable. They have a very hands-on and the Associate Director takes pride in trying to provide the best care possible for our Elders.

**February 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>:** Akwesasne Winter Carnival. Helped with the event that was held at the St. Regis Recreation. There were many great events that were put on including, craft day, karaoke, ice fishing, boot hockey, crowning of the King and Queen (Kanatakon's very own Queen of the Rec Laura Thompson and her husband Stacey, aka Blue were crowned King and Queen), a social was also held.

**February 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>:** AFN Education Forum held in Toronto. Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) was in attendance, they heard concerns during the breakout sessions. I was not impressed with the responses that ISC was telling us. They know that a lot of First Nation Schools depend on Jordan's Principle for the shortfalls in schools, however they are not even at the point of gathering the data needed to see where the gaps are and what can be done about it.



**Chief Report**  
**Chief Fallon David**  
**Kanatakon District**  
**Chief.fallon.david@akwesasne.ca**  
**613-577-5596**



**Portfolios:** Justice, Department of Community and Social Services, Public Safety, Health, Economic Development.

**Committees:** Special Needs, Beautification, Hydro Quebec, Youth Education. Language and Culture, CBSA, PAT, Dundee Port of Entry

**Monthly Notables**

- Attended Governance Training February 4-6 with Carol Hopkins at the Kawenoke Recreation. All the council took this. Governance training is essential for ensuring that individuals in leadership and decision-making positions understand their roles, responsibilities, and the broader implications of their organizational actions. It fosters transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct, helping leaders navigate complex legal and regulatory frameworks while aligning with organizational values. By equipping board members and executives with the tools to make informed, strategic decisions, governance training reduces risks, enhances organizational performance, and builds stakeholder trust. Moreover, it promotes a culture of continuous learning, enabling organizations to adapt to evolving challenges and governance best practices. Ultimately, effective governance training is crucial for sustaining long-term success and stability.
- YECL Meeting February 7, 2025
- Attended Police Commission February 10, 2025
- District Meeting was on February 11, 2025
- Attended Midwinter February 6 and 7<sup>th</sup> 2025

Attended the AFN Education Forum February 18-20, 2025, which took place in Toronto Ontario at the Westin Harbor Castle Hotel. I do not sit on the Education Portfolio however I attended in hopes of them speaking about special needs education. Unfortunately, this was not the case, and I was quite disappointed. A lot of the conference was a recap. However, one positive takeaway from the conference was the seminar on negotiation skills. Negotiation skills empower leaders and politicians to navigate complex situations, balance conflicting demands, and deliver results. that benefit everyone involved. Mastering these skills allows them to maintain authority, foster cooperation, and move toward their goals while managing diverse stakeholder interests.

Christina Orobets did an excellent job presenting. Topics were foundations of interest-based negotiations, strategic preparation, and negotiation tips and tricks.

**Public Safety-** I have had conversations with the acting Chief of Police regarding the blue envelope initiative for those community members who have autism to see if this is something that AMPS can do. The blue envelope can be kept in a person's home or carried with them, so in case of an emergency or police interaction, officers can quickly understand the needs of the individual with autism, potentially preventing misunderstandings or escalated situations. This initiative helps raise awareness among law enforcement agencies and fosters a more understanding, patient approach when dealing with individuals on the autism spectrum. It is part of broader efforts to improve how police respond to individuals with various mental health or developmental conditions. The acting Chief of Police said that this is something that they are willing to incorporate into their strategic plan for our vulnerable community population. Currently, the Chief of Police Job Description is being worked on an exact date for the job posting has not been released. The acting Chief of Police updated us on the frequency of helicopters in our area due to border initiatives. This is happening across the Canadian and American border and is not centered just on Akwesasne.

**Justice-** Our February portfolio meeting was canceled due to the director being out on medical. More information will be provided to the community on the Legislative Enactment Procedural Regulations so that the community can have a better understanding of the proper Processes that need to be taken in law amendment and development. We have taken a look at the oversight committee's terms of reference and some minor changes will be made. We will be doing a line-by-line reading at our next Oversight Committee meeting.

**Economic Development-** The Economic Development portfolio along with the Economic Development Director had a meeting with Public Service and Procurement Canada this was an informative meeting to discuss upcoming opportunities. **Public Services and Procurement Canada** has made efforts to engage and promote the inclusion of **Indigenous populations** in government procurement processes. These efforts are aimed at improving economic opportunities for Indigenous businesses and communities, fostering partnerships, and ensuring that procurement practices contribute to reconciliation. Rising toll costs remain to be an issue, and a meeting is in the works for Cornwall Island businesses with portfolios.

**Department of Community and Social Services-** Our February portfolio meeting was canceled as the director was on vacation.

The First Nations Child and Family Services Jordans Principle settlement will officially open for claims on March 10, 2025. The Federal Court approved the First Nations Child and Family



Services and Jordan's Principle Settlement Agreement on October 24, 2023. This agreement aims to provide compensation to individuals harmed by the discriminatory underfunding of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and those impacted by the federal government's restrictive interpretation of Jordan's Principle. The \$23.34 billion settlement follows compensation directives from the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal in 2019, which investigated systemic discrimination against First Nations children and families.

There has also been much concern about some of our homeless community members in the City of Cornwall. Community Support has reached out to them and provided backpacks with supplies as well as options were given on how community support can assist with shelter. There is also the Persian Manner in Cornwall where there are several rooms designated to Akwesasne residents.

**Health-** There have been some recent changes to the Jordan's Principle funding they will no longer be funding home renovations, sporting events, international travel, non-medical supports, or school-related requests unless required to ensure equality with kids who are not First Nations.

Blood Work Clinics are now available in all districts, The locations are Tsi Snaihne Medical Clinic at Iakhihsohtha Lodge, Akwesasne Medical Clinic, and Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic. Jordan's Principles office will also have a Satellite office at the Snye Medical Clinic. Some changes have been made to the Special Need Policy Fund and now include members of Akwesasne who reside in the Cornwall area. Blood Work Clinics are now available in all three districts as well, this is also a huge step forward for our community's health needs.

**Youth Elders Language and Culture:** All youth council members have been accepted, and a swearing-in ceremony took place at the Kawenoke Recreation on February 21, 2025. I was attending this event. Currently, looking at the process for an elders committee. We will be developing a charter and policies and procedures for this committee. We also spoke of some requests that have been brought forward for language programs and a Request for Proposal will be going out to the community and the next couple of weeks.



# Chief Lisa Francis-Benedict



## Kawehno:ke District

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### **PORTFOLIOS**

Ahkwasasne Mohawk Board of Education  
(AMBE)  
Department of Infrastructure, Housing and  
Environment (DIHE)  
Akwesasne Justice Department (AJD)  
Entewatathá:wi Nation Building (NB)

### **COMMITTEES**

**Internal:** Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA),  
Governance, Iroquois Caucus (IC), Youth, Elders,  
Culture and Language (YECL)

#### ***External:***

Chiefs of Ontario First Nations Women's Council  
Chiefs of Ontario Chiefs & Technical Committee on  
Languages and Learning

### **MONTHLY REPORT**

#### **As per the Council Meeting Procedural Regulations | 3/11/2021**

- **General Meeting** is a meeting held routinely between members and Portfolio Chiefs and may include MCA departmental personnel or other presenters (as needed) in order to provide community information, consult, and/or provide updates on specific subject matter.
- **Council Meetings** is a meeting held routinely between Council and the Executive Director to communicate information, consult, provide updates and consider community, administrative and issues of business concerning the Council, the community and/or the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.
- **District Meetings** is a meeting held in a District at a minimum quarterly basis, between Members of the District and the District Chiefs to communicate information, consult, and/or provide updates on issues concerning the District or the community.

Attended the **General Meeting** held on Tsiiothohrhkó:wa/January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Centre starting at 6pm. Updates were provided on Fiber to the Home, NYS Land Claim and Public Council Meetings.

Attended the weekly **Council Meetings**. Meetings were held on Enniska/February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Meetings normally are held in the Admin. #1 Boardroom. Agendas includes review and approval of Mohawk Council Resolutions (MCR), presentations as requested, other topics of discussion that arise. Council Meetings will be going live for community members. Details will be announced shortly.

Attended the **Kawehno:ke District Meeting** held on Enniska/February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Centre from 6 pm – 8:15 pm. There were four (4) community members in attendance. There was discussion on the Akwesasne Election Law, Akwesasne Law Enactment Procedural Regulations. District Meeting reports are prepared and shared at the District Meeting.

### **Portfolio Updates**

**Donna Lahache, Director | Ahkwasasne Mohawk Board of Education**

**Mission:** *Ie thi ha hon:nien ~ We make the road for them.*

AMBE consists of the three District Schools ~ Ahkwesasne Mohawk School, Tsi Snaihne School and Kana:takon School, Akwesasne Zero to Six, Akwesasne Child Care and Iohahi:io. Check out the Facebook page for more information on events and activities.

**Board of Trustees include:** Kawehno:ke District: Kathleen Papineau ~ Chair, Kuy Chaussi ~ Co-Chair, Kana:takon District: Cecelia King, Elizabeth Sawatis, Tsi Snaihne District: Josephine Herne, Mary Terrance.

- **AMBE holds monthly Public Meetings.** The first part of the meeting is reserved for parents, community members, Totas to participate. Meeting was held on Enniska/February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at Kana:takon School.
- Attended the monthly **Portfolio Meeting** held on Enniska/February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Updates were provided by the Director of Education and Portfolio Chiefs.
- Every Monday, the **Mohawk Language & Culture Program** shares part of the Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwén to give thanks. Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwén can be heard and read aloud on <http://imohawk.ambe.ca>. You can isolate the words you need to hear again and even choose the speed of sound that suits you best. There are two (2) levels. Password to imohawk website: skah123. Check it out.

Kaienthóhsera ~ Akwé:kon énska entitewahwe'nón:ni ne onkwa'nikón:ra tánon' teiethinonkwerá:ton ne kaienthóhsera. Eh káti' niionhtónha'k ne onkwa'nikónra. Tho.

**AMBE presently has a Fuel Tender Notice for AMBE Transportation. For any further questions speak to Darren Cook at the AMBE Office 613-933-0409. Deadline to submit is Enniska/February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

### **Rachel Lazare, Project Manager | Nation Building ~ Entewatathá:wi “We Will Govern”**

**Mission:** To negotiate a self-government agreement with Canada that recognizes expanded jurisdiction and authority and protect the Aboriginal rights and title for the Mohawk of Akwesasnes.

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

### **What is the purpose of the Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement (ESGA)?**

The purpose of ESGA is to achieve legal recognition by the Government of Canada of the jurisdiction, authority, and institutions of the Mohawks of Akwesasne. Once the ESGA is ratified, Parliament will adopt legislation that will give ESGA the force of law. The legislation will be binding on the Government of Canada and the provinces. The legislation will terminate the application of many of the provisions of the Indian Act which represents a colonialist vision of limited self-government that is inconsistent with the inherent jurisdiction of the Mohawks of Akwesasne. They will be conducting community engagement sessions starting in Onerahtókha/April 2025.



Scan for  
Facebook!



Scan for  
Website!

***Like and follow the Facebook page for key updates about the process.***



**CONFIDENTIALITY CLAUSE** The Mohawks of Akwesasne and Canada acknowledge that the draft Akwesasne-Canada Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement is still under negotiation and therefore, is of a confidential nature. This information is shared by Mohawk Council of Akwesasne for the sole purpose of allowing Akwesasne members to participate meaningfully in community consultations and shall not be disclosed outside of the membership.

- Attended **Portfolio Meeting** scheduled for Enniska/February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Many meetings are held throughout the month that support the continued work of the process of ESGA.
- **Congratulations to Cody David as the winner for the Staying Informed Contest.** He won a Gas & Grocery Package valued at \$250. The community is invited to stay informed and follow the Facebook page. There are key updates about the process and to have your voice heard.



The project is presently seeking one **youth community member to join the Entewatathá:wi Communications Working Group.** This group supports the development of the Akwesasne-Canada ESGA by advising on negotiations, communication plan, and publications. Check out the MCA Facebook page for further information or contact Rachel Lazare, Project Manager at 613-575-2250.

## Cactus Cook Sunday, Director | Akwesasne Justice Department

**Mission:** *Equity, fairness and respectfulness. AJD employs the principle of natural justice to empower the community to safeguard collective rights, primarily, and individual rights for Akwesasró:non, while remaining respectful of the community's heritage and culture.*

The **Akwesasne Justice Department (AJD)** is recognized as a first in Canada as a justice system that is based on customary laws which incorporate traditional restorative principles in the three (3) main responsibilities of government: Law Making, Adjudication and Enforcement.

- **Portfolio Meetings** were held once monthly. Updates and discussion take place on the political needs of the Department and programs.
- Portfolio Chiefs also attend meetings of the **Oversight Committee on Legislative Development** on a monthly basis. Community members who sit on the Committee include: Gary Cole | Kawehno:ke District, Doris Cook | Kana:takon District and Connie Lazore | Tsi Snaihne District. The present laws that are being worked on include: Child's Rights ~ Eniethihwwanón:na / We Will Protect, Surround Them / Watch Their Back Law, Fire Law and Residency Law. For any further information on law development, enactment, amendment, contact Alyson Thompson, Legislative Services Coordinator at 613-575-5000.

The Committee meets with the Legislative Services Manager and its sole responsibility includes review of community laws. Each year the OSC comes together to identify which existing laws need amending, further progress of a law in draft and the need for a new law. Akwesasne Laws reflect the values, customs and aspirations of Akwesasronon, as well as keeping with the principles of the AJD.

*This monthly report is provided as part of the Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios and Monthly Activities.*



**Leslie Papineau, Director | Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment**  
**Charmaine Caldwell, Associate Director | Housing Sector**  
**Clair McFaul, A/Manager | Environment Sector**




**Portfolio Meeting ~ Environment Sector** took place on Enniska/February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Claire McFaul A/Manager provided updates on the following: Request for Proposals, St. Lawrence Regional Impact Assessment, Environment Program Operating Plan. Submission deadline is Enniskó:wa/March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 4pm.

**Learn to Trap | Are you interested in learning the traditional art of trapping? The MCA Environment Program is looking for experienced trappers to share their knowledge — and 10 Akwesasronon eager to learn!**

- Throughout March, selected participants will work alongside skilled mentors to learn trapping basics, safety, and skinning.
- Sign up by March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at <https://forms.office.com/r/JBytkgJuG7> or scan the QR code on our flyer.
- Activities are expected to begin by March 25, 2025.
- Open to all ages! (Participants under 18 require parental permission and adult supervision.) Honoraria available for both mentors and participants.

**Portfolio Meeting ~ Infrastructure** was held on Enniska/February 25, 2025. Updates were provided on status of capital projects. There are many projects in different phases of construction. The Department is working with the Department of Economic Development on a Anowarako:wa Arena expansion project. The Departments are working together at seeking additional funds for the project. Periodic updates can be provided.

**Roads Maintenance | Notice a road issue? We've got you covered!**

- Help keep the community safe by reporting potholes or road concerns to the Roads Program.
- Main roads are cleared first during winter storms, followed by secondary roads.
- Services Include: Road Maintenance & Repairs, Snow & Ice Removal, Pothole Patching, Signage & Road Markings, Drainage Improvements.
-  Regular Work Hours: 8 AM – 5 PM |  Contact: Roads Program Manager at 613-938-5476
-  After-Hours Emergency? Call Central Dispatch at 613-575-2340

*The mission at the DIHE Roads Program is dedicated to maintaining safe roads for our community. Through ongoing maintenance, repairs, and improvements, we work to ensure smooth and secure travel for all.*

**Portfolio Meeting ~ Housing** was held on Enniska/February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. I was unable to attend.

- Do you know the process to apply for a housing loan? Are you building a new home, buying a home, please contact 613-575-2250, ext. 1052 to get started.

### **Committee's Updates**

• **Governance Committee** (consists of myself, Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell, Chief Theresa Jacobs, Chief Scott Peters) The Committee was tasked with the review of public meetings for Council Meetings. The Committee continues to discuss what is needed for public meetings. The proposed implementation for public meetings is scheduled for Onerahtókha/April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. More details are forthcoming and will be announced.

• **Youth, Elders, Culture and Language** (consists of myself, Chief Fallon David, Chief Lacey Pierce, Chief Tesha Rourke, Chief JoAnn Swamp, Chief Vince Thompson) Meeting to be scheduled. The Committee will be working on the Terms of Reference/Charter and will be reviewing and finalizing the budget. The Committee will also be working with the members of the Youth Council.

*This monthly report is provided as part of the Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios and Monthly Activities.*



## MCA Welcomes New Youth Council Representatives

On Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne held a swearing-in ceremony to welcome the newest members of the Akwesasne Youth Council. This event marked a significant moment for the community as Cayde Lazore, Starlyn Mason, Iikonhahes King, and Taylor Day officially joined the council. The new representatives took their oaths before Justice of the Peace Alexandra David at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Center, surrounded by family, friends, Council chiefs and community members.

**Congratulations to the newly sworn-in Youth Council members! The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne looks forward to seeing the positive impact these young leaders will have in our community.**

- **Chiefs of Ontario First Nations Women's Council** (consists of myself and Chief Tesha Rourke) Attended a meeting on Enniska/February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025. The Committee meetings are held monthly. Topics for updates and discussion were as follows: MMIWG2S+ (missing and murdered Indigenous women), anti-racism campaign, request for a youth & knowledge keeps tri-council meeting.

*The mandate of the Council is to ensure that a gender lens is applied to all the work and initiatives undertaken by the Chiefs of Ontario (COO). Meetings are held on a consistent basis and coordinated by COO staff.*

## Monthly Notables

- As previously noted, I continue to adjust to the role of **District Chief for Kawehno:ke**. I am learning something new all the time. My schedule is filling up with meetings and/or travel. I look forward to working with the community.
- I have been trying to stop by a visit with the **Tri-District Elders group**. They gather every Wednesday starting at 11am for some food, bingo and visits. I stopped by for a quick visit on Enniska/February 5, 2025. I plan to stop by at least once a month.

## Works in Progress

- **Kawehno:ke District Chiefs Office** ~ This continues to be finalized. As noted, I would like to be available for community members in the district.

## Events Attended / Upcoming Events, Travel

- **Governance Orientation** took place on Enniska/February 4-6, 2025 at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Centre and facilitated by Carol Hopkins. Carol provided an overview of policy governance, purpose of governance, governance roles and responsibilities, governance monitoring, governance workplan. One point that I took away was that culture should be valued as a foundation or for its role in the delivery or services of the Council and organization. A Council Lobbying Session is being coordinated.
- Attended some events of the **31<sup>st</sup> Akwesasne Winter Carnival** held from Enniska/February 13-16, 2025. Although the snowstorm put a damper on the schedule, it still was a success and some fun was held. Niawenkó:wa to all involved in making this event a success. *It has been heard that District of Kawehno:ke will be host to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Akwesasne Winter Carnival. This still remains to be confirmed.*



- Attended the **Nation National Circle for Indigenous Agriculture and Food (NCIAFO) | WOININA 2025** on Enniska/February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Ottawa. The event focused on the future of Indigenous food sovereignty and brought together Indigenous communities, leaders, advocates and stakeholders from across Canada to celebrate, reflect on and advance in Indigenous food systems.

- **Truth Into Reconciliation ~ Respect, Restore, Relearn** held on Enniska/February 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. I participated virtually. Topics included: Ancestral Wisdom in the Stars, Seven Fires: A Prophecy for Humanity, Adoption of Canada, Walking Together with the Two Row Wampum. There was Special Event with Jody Wilson-Raybould ~ Reconciling History: A Story of Canada. I was unable to attend as I was attending virtually.
- **Stop Human Trafficking Conference** scheduled for Enniskó:wa/March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Cornwall.
- **Nation to Nation Food Sustainability Conference** scheduled for Enniskó:wa/March 8-9, 2025 at the Mohawk Nation Longhouse, Akwesasne.
- **Cairn Island Interpretation** scheduled for Enniskó:wa/March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at SRMT Seniors Center. Another session is scheduled for Enniskó:wa/February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at Kana:takon Recreation Center. Both sessions start at 5pm.
- **AFN National Virtual Forum on Advancing the MMIWG2S+ Calls for Justice | Human Trafficking and Sexual Trafficking Prevention** scheduled for Enniskó:wa/March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**\*\*Check out the MCA Facebook for many different community events, information sessions, etc.\*\***

## **I would like to hear from you.**

Is the information being shared of relevance to you?

If not, then what information would you like to be updated on?

I look forward to your comments.



# VANESSA ADAMS

Kawehno:ke District Chief

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF  
AKWESASNE



## Weekly Council Meeting

### Political Protocol Presentation

- Debrief on MCA/SRMT meeting
- FNCFS info shared via email for community information.
- YECL youth representatives.
  - Updates on budget, charter, terms of reference, JTBA technical table, and Executive Committee. Proposed increase in SIBC tolls discussed.
- MCRS
  - Nursing Compensation
  - AMBE Organizational Chart
  - Communications Working Group
  - Housing Upgrades/New Construction
  - Elders Emergency Fund

## Portfolio

### Economic Development

Meeting with Public Services and Procurement Canada  
Key Programs and Initiatives

Procurement Modernization, Green Procurement, Canadian Collaborative Procurement Initiative (CCPI), Engagement with Indigenous Communities, Mandatory Minimum 5% Indigenous Procurement Target, Indigenous Benefits Plan, Strategies for Improvement, Verification Processes, Accountability Measures, Capacity Building and Support, Akwesasne has 400 registered businesses between MCA and SRMT jurisdiction, with approximately 400+ more unregistered; micro-businesses, artisans, etc. We have one of the largest Indigenous entrepreneurship in Canada. MCA and Akwesasne entrepreneurs should be engaged more regularly.

Economic Development to present FTTH updates to Community at General Meeting January 30, 2025

## WEEKLY REPORT JANUARY 25TH - 31ST 2025

### Elder Services

Elder Services is a newly established program designed to support Akwesasne Elders aged 60 and above, enabling them to live independently and safely in their own homes. The program focuses on delivering a variety of services, including social activities, assistance with minor household chores, safety services, and coordination of additional services and activities. please contact Chelsea Swamp, Associate Director of the Continuing Care Department of Health.



#### Inquiries

US Customs use of Tribal/Status Card that is expired? Change to border mobility concerns, being detained?

SIBC Toll increase request for Meetings - local businesses and Council request to Board of Directors



#### Solutions

US Customs accepts expired cards belonging to members US Customs will notify MCA/SRMT of changes

Scheduling and updates will be communicated once dates are confirmed

MCA/CBSA  
January 30, 2025

MCA & President of CBSA  
RDG introductory meeting

JANUARY  
31, 2025

Public Safety Portfolio  
Meeting

## MENTAL WELLNESS & ADDICTIONS

On January 28-30th, 2025 attended the COO Mental Wellness & Substance Use Conference

**Portfolio Connections:** Department of Health, Department of Community & Social Services.

Agenda Highlights - Two Eyed Seeing: Transforming Autism and Mental Health Services Through Collaboration, Crisis response, intervention, Supporting the Well-Being of the First Nations Mental Wellness Workforce, Understanding and Addressing First Nations Homelessness and Mental Wellness, Responding to the Toxic Drug Crisis in Communities: Community Framework for the Implementation of Wrap Around Safer Supply Initiatives, Confronting Anti Indigenous Racism and Building Safe and Comprehensive Mental Health Systems Dr. Carol Hopkins and Dr. Brenda Restoule





# VANESSA ADAMS

Kawehno:ke District Chief

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF  
AKWESASNE



WEEKLY REPORT  
FEBRUARY 3RD - 7TH 2025

## Weekly Council Meeting

DCSS Training Presentation, Environment Presentations de-listing  
Council Roundtable Updates, Executive Director Updates

- General Meeting, Pow Wow, COO Directory, Tuesday Council Meeting, AFS Request, Letter from MCK, Protocol for passing chief, Request for Exemption, Fuel Assistance, Transport Canada Nautical Station, Police Commission Charter
- MCRS
  - Special Needs Policy
  - Finance Committee Appointments,
  - ARRO Authorization

## Border Partners MCA SRMT CBSA USCBP

- February 4, 2025

The monthly meeting convened to address community concerns regarding the Federal Governments of the United States and Canada.

Key topics discussed included:

- Tariffs and their impact on border mobility
- Identification requirements
- Effects on economic development
- Potential repercussions for residents, businesses, organizations, and non-profits
- The proposal for a 30-day pause on certain initiatives
- Emphasis was placed on the importance of effective communication and timely reporting of all changes from CBSA and USCBP to both the MCA and SRMT.
- This proactive collaboration is essential to advocate for the best interests of the Akwesasne community.

ARRO Internal Meeting- unable to attend Friday February 7, 2025

Public Safety Portfolio - rescheduled due to council debrief meeting

AMPC Requested participation on WTG for AMPC Charter I have accepted and confirmed with AMPC Chair Jennine Hall

## FNCFS Update

The Chiefs of Ontario and Nishnawbe Aski Nation are negotiating with the Government of Canada to create an Ontario-specific agreement for the Long-Term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program. This initiative aims to prioritize the welfare of First Nations children and empower communities to offer culturally appropriate services. Key negotiation points include sustainable investments to prevent child removals, support connections for children in care, and aid young adults transitioning to independence.



### Inquiries

EC Dev MCA meeting  
with Akwesasne  
Businesses

Receiving inquiries  
community member  
concerning Laws and  
LEPR



### Solutions

Proposed dates sent  
to Council

Forwarded inquiries  
to Justice Portfolio  
and Akwesasne  
Justice Program

**FEBRUARY**  
25-26th, 2025

IFN EAC/ FNCFS Committee  
Toronto

**FEBRUARY**  
27-28, 2025

unavailable - Family  
weekend

## GOVERNANCE TRAINING - COUNCIL

On February 3rd-6th, 2025 council and MG Staff to participate in Governance Training with Dr. Carol Hopkins

**Portfolio Connections:** District Chief Role & Responsibilities

Governance is the management of an organization and how it operates. More specifically, the concept of governance refers to the mechanisms, processes and strategies used so that an organization can achieve its objectives in a climate of sound management, transparency and respect for all stakeholders. Effective governance is a concept that focuses on the achievement of collective goals, and effects and results. Regulation, Legitimacy, Involvement, Self-determination, For First Nations governance means: Recognizing their traditional knowledge. Confirming their authority related to the administration and management of services within their communities. Being masters of their own governance.





# VANESSA ADAMS

Kawehno:ke District Chief

**MOHAWK COUNCIL OF  
AKWESASNE**



**TRAVEL REPORT**  
**JAN 27TH-31ST, 2025**

## **Mental Wellness & Addictions**

On January 28-30th, 2025 attended the COO Mental Wellness & Substance Use Conference Blue Mountains, ON

### **Portfolio & Committee Connections:**

Department of Health  
Department of Community & Social Services  
Special Needs Committee  
Special Needs Fund Committee.

**The OFNYPC Youth Perspectives Panel focused on intergenerational healing and mental health for First Nations youth, highlighting:**

- The need for early prevention programs
- Land-based treatment and language immersion
- Initiatives for workshops to help youth with anxiety and substance use through self-expression
- The role of youth in reducing stigma and promoting healing, advocating for inclusive environments and supportive community policies.

**The Addiction Management Information System (AMIS) used by 50 data centers showed a 31% client increase from 2016-2017 to 2019-2020, a 46% decrease in the first pandemic year.**

**The Native Wellness Assessment indicated notable improvements in hope, belonging, meaning, and purpose after cultural interventions. The First Nations Opioid and Methamphetamine Survey, involving over 1,700 adults and 301 youth, provided national data on substance use and wellness.**

## **Mental Wellness & Addictions Capacity Building**

To advocate for increased funding and resources for mental health and addiction services in First Nations communities:

- Engage with community members, including elders, to identify their needs.
- Collaborate with local organizations to create comprehensive proposals.
- Build relationships with government representatives to educate them on the challenges faced by these communities.
- Explore partnership opportunities with other organizations, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous

### **Neurodiversity and Cultural Healing**

Neurodivergence and Cultural Context  
Barriers to Access and Support  
Cultural /Diagnostic Challenges Adaptable Frameworks and Traditional Healing

### **The Lived Experience Advisory Panel**

focused on the opioid crisis, stigma, and harm reduction.

### **The Autism and Mental Health Workshop**

proposed expanding two-eyed seeing approach to address community needs beyond mental health services.

**FEBRUARY**  
25-27th, 2025

18th Annual Health Forum

**DOWNLOAD  
HERE**

Mental Wellness and Substance Use Conference Booklet

## **INDIGENOUS HEALTHCARE RACISM**

Dr. Brenda Restoule and Dr. Carol Hopkins addressed anti-Indigenous racism in healthcare, stressing the need for systemic change.

Key points include:

- Mandatory anti-racism education
- Self-determination and accountability
- Challenging biases and power dynamics
- Building reciprocal relationships
- Centering Indigenous knowledge and practices

Ongoing accountability with Indigenous oversight to assess training effectiveness.



# VANESSA ADAMS

Kawehno:ke District Chief

**MOHAWK COUNCIL OF  
AKWESASNE**



## Weekly Council Meeting

February 10, 2025 council meeting presentations from ACCESS Akwesasne Career Employment Support Services, and MCA Environment Dept RAP.

Discussions included FNCFS, Emergency Management Curriculum Development, AFNQL, JTBA Technical Tables, Toll Increase at SIBC, General Meeting, Executive Director Updates, US Customs, Update from Leadership Meeting with Mark Carney, COO Elder, Iroquois Caucus Letter.

### MCRS;

CMM, DIHE Housing, Doctor contract renewals, DIHE Roads Dept.

### 28 Days of Positivity Campaign

As we reach mid-month I hope you have all enjoyed the posts and positivity shared by our entire community. Niawen:kowa to Ashley Tarbell and Communications Team Great Job!!!

### Executive Committee

Meeting February 10, 2025, Introductory Meeting with Pathways Executive Services to begin search for our Executive Director. For clarity Pathways has been contacted due to a 1 year guarantee of services

### Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission

Meeting Monday February 10, 2025 Discussion topics include community specific safety issues, discussion on the AMPC charter update committee and I have agreed to participate in the process. Questions about RIA at CBSA will bring to Border Partners Meeting

IFN EAC Meeting 6pm - 6:45pm February 12, 2025

### The COO FNCFS Leadership

Meeting on February 14, 2025, discussed an Ontario NAN regional agreement, focusing on implementation, dispute resolution, and a long-term \$8.5 billion funding commitment over nine years. Key topics included the funding outlook for 2025-2026, pending ratification votes, capital funding, First Nations services, prevention funding, and housing. The session encouraged questions for clarity and emphasized the importance of the reform implementation committee and program assessment in executing the agreement. <https://fncfsreform.ca/executive-summary/> for information and MCR in package for consideration at Monday February 17, 2025 CM

## WEEKLY REPORT FEBRUARY 10-14TH, 2025

The ARRO meeting addressed the St. Lawrence Seaway Claim MCA and Canada Representatives February 11, 2025, 9am-4pm

Key points included:

- Historical context presented by Nathan Richards.
- Focus on land return terminology rather than ATR.
- Emphasis on a faster return of land process.
- Discussions on inflation, funding issues, and SIBC location and toll impacts on the community.
- Need for a joint expert study on erosion and fisheries.

Participants stressed the importance of community engagement, and a comprehensive settlement offer, including financial compensation and land return. Next steps involve further discussions and community engagement sessions. next meeting June 2025

### ARRO Portfolio Update Internal Meeting

#### NY Land Claim

February 14, 2025.

MCA/SRMT signed the agreement MNCC has pulled out from claim without prejudice and will not sign the settlement agreement an amendment MCR to follow Decisions from council needed on next steps concerning Internal Agreement. Meeting will be scheduled with MCA SRMT MNCC and Legal Counterparts

### GM AI January 30, 2025 \$79 million

First Nations Child and Family Services Reform FNCFS restrictions - no capital projects no buildings and this is for children - prevention dollars.

- cannot build a new Recreation center building, -could be used for the creation of a Parks and Recreation Department this could be implemented with community approval and with the three recreations being in agreement to this direction into a funded program.

**FEBRUARY**  
25-27th, 2025

18th Annual Health Forum,  
IFN, COO FNCFS

**DISTRICT  
MEETING**

Rescheduled to  
February 17, 2025

## FIRST NATIONS CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES FNCFS

Virtual information session February 13, 2025

Chiefs of Ontario Social Sector and OKT Law representatives, discussing the \$8.5 billion agreement for reforming the First Nations Child and Family Services Program over nine years. Key elements include:

stabilizing funding, improving child welfare services, establishing a regional implementation committee, and explanation of dispute resolution process. It also emphasizes evidence-based remoteness adjustments, off-reserve funding, and cultural humility training. Funding will be available only after tribunal approval, targeted for March 31, 2026. The session featured presentations and Q&A to address community concerns. <https://fncfsreform.ca/executive-summary/>



# VANESSA ADAMS

Kawehno:ke District Chief

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF  
AKWESASNE



WEEKLY REPORT  
FEBRUARY 17-21, 2025

## ARRO Seaway Claim, Cairn Island, NY State Land Claim Updates

Key points included:

- NY State Land Claims Next steps
- Focus on land return terminology rather than ATR.
- Emphasis on a faster return of land process.
- Discussions on inflation,
- funding issues,
- SIBC location and toll impacts on the community.
- Need for a joint expert study on erosion and fisheries.
- Next steps involve further discussions and community engagement sessions.

## Weekly Council Meeting

February 19, 2025, Emergency Meeting was held to address only MCR's and no discussion items due to chief's work travel

## MCRS;

Leasee agreement, FNCFS Statement of Support

## Economic Development Portfolio

Meeting February 19, 2025 Meeting Discussion included Economic Development and Travel Updates, Toll Booth and Economic Impact, Chamber of Commerce update, Education and International Students, Tri chamber allowance, Reverse Trade Show and Entrepreneurial Support, Chamber of Commerce and Business Development, Skate Park and Public Safety, Junior Hockey and Equipment Donations, World Juniors Event and Community Involvement, Indigenous Participation and Facility Collaboration, Infrastructure and Economic Development, Challenges and Opportunities in Community Development, Data Sovereignty and Infrastructure Protection, Community Needs and Future Planning, the cancellation of a tour of the Dev Center, involvement in the selection committee for the World Juniors event, highlighting their extensive participation and the benefits for their community, including 200 tickets donated to youth.

BCI MCA CBSA February 19, 2025,  
Governance Table Meeting Scheduled in conflict with Ec Dev and I was unable to attend and have yet to receive updates from Meeting.

MCA Meeting with Kawehno:ke Businesses Postponed

## Kawehno:ke District Meeting

February 17, 2025.

Community led discussions and questions concerning LEPR, Future Presentations, Harvesting and Fishing Rights, Tariff Implications, CBSA/USBP Matters, New Recreation Building, 2025-2026 Budget Allocations, GM of January 30, 2025 Petitions handed in by 1 community member for 2 District Chiefs followed by threats of removing all district chiefs. Prompting questions about **cost to community** for potential Bi-Elections

## GM AI January 30, 2025 \$79 million

First Nations Child and Family Services Reform FNCFS restrictions - no capital projects no buildings and this is for children - prevention dollars.  
- cannot build a new Recreation center building, -could be used for the creation of a Parks and Recreation Department this could be implemented with community approval and with the three recreations being in agreement to this direction into a funded program.

## FEBRUARY 25-27th, 2025

18th Annual Health Forum,  
IFN, COO FNCFS  
**Cancelled Travel**

## GENERAL MEETING

Personal Travel - attending  
Via Zoom

## GENERAL MEETING PETITION UPDATES

**General Meeting** January 30, 2025, As you may be aware a petition was delivered at the January 30th, 2025, meeting to remove two district chiefs without cause.

All inquiries about the LEPR, Election Law, cost of holding a bi-election have been referred to Akwesasne Department of Justice. I have continued to work each and every day.

I have appreciated all of the kind and encouraging words, solutions, humor and outrage expressed - Niawen:kowa for your support.

It is my honor to serve my community of Kawehno:ke and Akwesasne, on local and external tables on files including FNCFS, Health, Economic Development, Public Safety, Policing JTBA, Border Issues, IFN Executive, Leadership, IFN Social Rep. COO Chiefs Committee on Social.

Niawen:kowa to those who have served before me and to the MG staff for your unwavering support, knowledge and experience.





# VANESSA ADAMS

Kawehno:ke District Chief

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF  
AKWESASNE



## Weekly Council Meeting

February 24, 2025, Council Meeting presentations from AFNQL Regional Chief candidates; Constant Awashish, Francis Verreault Paul, Cathy Martin via zoom.

Discussion items included; Request for Financial Support, FNCFS Final Agreement and Trilateral Agreement, Hydro Quebec, Portable Batteries, Meeting with Kawehno:ke Businesses, Election Ontario Outreach, Executive Director Update, GM Agenda.

## MCRS;

Assignment of Lease, Acceptance of Flexible Contribution Agreement, Council Meeting Minutes

## Economic Development Portfolio

Meeting scheduled with Kawehno:ke Business Owners with Ec Dev Portfolio Chiefs concerning Tariffs, Border Matters, business concerns. March 3, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

## The COO FNCFS Leadership Special Chiefs Assembly

Meeting on February 26, 2025, Ratification of the Final Agreement on the Long-Term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Agreement in Respect of Reforming the 1965 Agreement. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is and has been part of this process and fully supports this Tri-Lateral Agreement. On February 17, 2025, the MCA unanimously passed an MCR statement of support for this historical agreement. Former Grand Chief Abram Benedict, District Chiefs who served on FNCFS Committee Tim Dooley Thompson, Julie Phillips Jacobs, and Vanessa Adams, as well as technical support from the MCA DCSS, ARAP and DOJ have been dedicated to this work to ensure Akwesasne's needs and concerns are reflected in this agreement. To Maggie, Jessie and the OKT Team, To the IFN & COO Committee members, Ruby and Finn Niawen:kowa for your guidance and patience to ensure understanding clarity and transparency in the entire process. Due to schedule conflicts, I had to attend SCA virtually on the Zoom Platform. This Ontario NAN regional agreement focuses on implementation, dispute resolution, and a long-term \$8.5 billion funding commitment over nine years. Key topics included the funding outlook for 2025-2026, FNCFS Program Funding in 2026-2027 For more information, please visit <https://fncfsreform.ca/executive-summary/>. Community Information Sessions are currently being scheduled, one per district; Beginning March 3, 2025 please watch for upcoming posts.

# WEEKLY REPORT FEBRUARY 24TH-28TH, 2025

## IFN Leadership Meeting

February 25, 2025

Key points included:

- Jordan's Principle and Long-Term Sustainability
- Changes to Jordan's Principle Guidelines
- Impact of Changes on Funding and Documentation
- Educational Funding and Support
- IFN EAC updates,
- Ontario Child Welfare Agreement Discussion,
- Indigenous Early Learning and childcare Initiative Update
- next steps scheduling of IFN quarterly meeting.
- Banking Initiative

## IFN EAC Meeting

February 25, 2025.

## IFN Leadership Meeting prep

As an EAC Member I participate with EAC Update for leadership, Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care, Ontario FNCFS Child Welfare Agreement, and schedule of next Meeting.

## Economic Development Portfolio Chiefs Meeting

scheduled with Kawehno:ke Business Owners with Ec Dev Portfolio Chiefs concerning Tariffs, Border Matters, business concerns. March 3, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

FEBRUARY  
27th-28th

Personal Family Weekend

GENERAL  
MEETING

Personal Travel - attending  
Via Zoom

## FNCFS - UNDERSTANDING FUNDING AS PER AGREEMENT

**Prevention** - To support community-based prevention services or activities.

**First Nation Representative Services** - To support children and families who are involved or at risk of involvement with CFS.

**Post-Majority Support Services** - To support youth aging out of care and young adults formerly in care up to the age of 26.

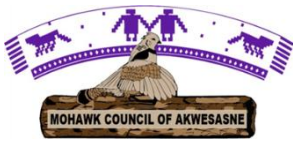
**Results Funding** - To support the implementation of new data collection and reporting requirements.

**Information Technology (IT)** - Funding to support IT needs related to the implementation of the reformed program.

**Emergency Funding** - To support responses to unanticipated events affecting FNCFS service delivery.

**Housing Supports** - To support basic needs for families.

**Remoteness Adjustment Funding** - To support delivery in remote communities.



# Monthly Report

**Chief Vince Thompson**



**Portfolio:** Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment, ARRO, Economic Development, Nation Building

**Selected Committees:** Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure, Iroquois Caucus Harvest Working Task Group (ICHWG), Property Acquisition Team (PAT), the Youth and Elders Cultural Committee, CBSA, Akwekskowa

During this period, I attended all the required MCA Council and Portfolio meetings, remaining actively engaged in discussions and decision-making. I would also like to extend my deepest condolences to the many families in our community who are grieving recent losses. My thoughts are with you, and I hope you find strength in the support of family, friends, and our community.

## **Beaver Population Control Initiative**

- The growing beaver population is impacting low-lying areas, particularly in the Snye wetlands, including the Hawthorne Road development and areas off Wade Lafrance Road. An initiative is being launched to trap and control the population, with the goal of restoring the land to its previous condition. Updates will be provided as the initiative progresses.

## **Waterline Connection with SRMT**

- Discussions continue regarding a potential waterline connection with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe for emergency purposes. This joint initiative requires further review to finalize details.

## **Toll Booth Increase**

- The Seaway International Bridge Corporation (SIBC) has informed MCA of an upcoming toll increase, scheduled for April 2025. This follows a previous increase last year.
- MCA is working on a strategic plan to address the potential impacts on local businesses and visitors.

## **Border Partners Meeting (CBSA, USCBP, SRMT, MCA)**

- Discussions focused on tariffs being considered by the U.S. Administration, which could impact Akwesasne residents' livelihoods.



- A \$1.3 billion border security plan (including CBSA, RCMP, and Health Canada) was reviewed.
- There was also discussion on combatting fentanyl at the borders and a potential increase in RCMP's Black Hawk helicopter use – AMPS shared a media release on this initiative, in which the RCMP will assist in patrolling the border as a part of broader security efforts. MCA emphasized the need for Akwesasne's involvement in these security initiatives, as decisions affecting our territory must include consultation with our leadership.
- Pre-clearance discussions must continue to ensure exemptions and increased flexibility in border relations.

### **Environmental Program Presentation**

- The Environment Program presented during a weekly Council meeting, covering species at risk and ongoing fish studies. A question was raised regarding potential area restrictions for fishing certain species at specific times of the year. Further discussions will take place regarding feasibility and enforcement. The program is collaborating with the St. Lawrence River Institute for fish monitoring.
- Additionally, Claire McFaul will serve as the Acting Environment Program Manager during Kayla Sunday's maternity leave.

### **Follow-up Border Partners Meeting**

- Further discussions were held with U.S. Customs supervisors and CBSA delegates regarding tariffs. It was confirmed that, at this time, no tariffs will be collected on U.S. goods brought into Canada by Akwesasronon.
- The Remission Order remains unchanged, and commercial deliveries will continue as usual.
- MCA will be given advance notice of any future changes affecting our local Ports of Entry.

### **Seaway Claim Meeting**

- Attended a meeting to determine next steps for the Seaway Claim following its rejection by referendum.

### **YECL Committee Meeting**

- Discussions centered on prioritizing the restoration of the Mohawk language and cultural teachings.

**ACCESS Presentation**

- Attended a presentation by Russell Roundpoint from ACCESS, which provided an overview of trades programming, Akwesasne career development, and internship support. Iohahitio currently has a partnership agreement with ACCESS.

**Emergency Services Transportation Meeting**

- Participated in an information session regarding the issue of ambulances being inspected when crossing the U.S. Customs POE. The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and SRMT Police Chief were present. MCA opposes this practice and is advocating for a resolution. Proposed solutions include advance notice from the ambulance to POE, delayed reporting after the emergency, or negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between all involved parties.

**Natural Gas Development Meeting**

- Participated in internal discussions regarding natural gas development within the Nutfield Tract Claim areas.

**Iroquois Caucus Harvest Working Group Meeting**

- Location: A'nowara'ko:wa Arena
- Chaired a meeting concerning aid requests for hunters under investigation in Quebec. Some hunters are accused of not carrying proper licenses or following protocols. The Iroquois Caucus is monitoring the situation and awaiting investigation results before taking action.
- The Mohawk Council of Kahnawake (MCK) has proposed hosting a Hunters Summit, and once details are finalized, the IC will determine the level of support required.

**Natural Gas Initiative Follow-up (Enbridge Expansion)**

- Following up on previous internal discussions, I have been identified as a lead contact for this initiative. I will be working closely with ARRO and ARRO portfolio chiefs as the project progresses.

**Economic Development Portfolio Meeting**

- Updates were provided regarding new border issues that may impact the community. Economic Development is organizing an event in June, in collaboration with the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce; more information to come leading up to the event. Additionally, a thank-you letter is being drafted for Hockey Canada in recognition of their ticket donation for minor hockey players to attend the World Junior Hockey Championship.

**Dialogue with AFNQL Election Candidates**

- Council met with candidates in the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) election to gain a deeper understanding of their platforms.
- MCA has identified a candidate to support.

**Akwesasne Youth Council Swearing-In Ceremony**

- Location: Kawehno:ke Recreation Center
- Council welcomed the newest members of the Akwesasne Youth Council at a swearing-in ceremony on February 21, 2025. As a YECL Committee member, I attended to support and congratulate the new representatives: Taylor Day, Iiokonhahes King, Cayde Lazore, and Starlyn Mason. Best wishes on your time serving as representatives, I look forward to working with you and seeing great things from you all.

This concludes my report at this time. If I have missed any details, my fellow chiefs may provide additional information and clarification as needed.

Nia:wen.



# Chief Lacey Pierce

## Kawehno:ke District



Email: [Chief.lacey.pierce@akwesasne.ca](mailto:Chief.lacey.pierce@akwesasne.ca) Office: 613-575-2250 Ext 2173 Cell: 613-363-3498

*This monthly report is provided as part of Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios, and Monthly Activities.*

### Portfolios:

- Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE)
- Department of Community and Social Services (DCSS)
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Public Safety

### Committees:

- Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)
- Finance
- Green Team
- Beautification
- Waterways
- Iroquois Caucus
- Youth, Elders, Culture and Language (YECL)
- Healing and Wellness Fund

### Monthly Notables:

- Childs Law Meeting
- Border Partners Meeting- CBSA, US Port of Entry, SRMT
- Governance Training with Carol Hopkins February 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>
- AMBE Portfolio Meeting
- YECL Meeting
- Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission Meeting
- District Meeting
- Out sick
- MCA Environment Presentation- Remedial Action Plan by Claire McFaul; Britney Bourdages
- ACCESS Presentation- Russel Roundpoint (Director)
- AFN Education Forum- Toronto February 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>
- Youth Council Swearing In Ceremony
- COO Health Forum- Toronto February 25<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup>

## **YOUTH ELDERS CULTURE & LANGUAGE**

On Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne held a swearing-in ceremony to welcome the newest members of the Akwesasne Youth Council (AYC). This event marked a significant moment for the community as Cayde Lazore, Starlyn Mason, Iiokonhahes King, and Taylor Day officially joined the council.

The new AYC representatives took their oaths before Justice of the Peace Alexandra David at eh Kawehno:ke Recreation Center, surrounded by family, friends, Council chiefs, and community members.

Congratulations to our newly sworn-in Youth Council members! The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne looks forward to seeing the positive impact these young leaders will have in our community.

## **Kawehno:ke District Meeting:**

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## **Portfolio Meetings**

### **Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE)**

#### **Donna Lahache- Director**

K3 Registrations are now being accepted

## **AMBE INTERIM WEBSITE**

AMBE has created an interim website while our old one is being phased out and our brand-new experience is being built. You can find it here; <https://ambeducation.my.canva.site/ambe-website>

## **AMBE TEXT ALERT SYSTEM**

Stay connected with the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education. Families are invited to join our text alert system to receive important updates straight to your phone. Get real-time alerts about: Important events; Cancellations; Delays; Early Dismissals. Stay informed and never miss a critical update. Sign up today at <https://eztxt.net/xQG6Kz>

## **AMBE SOCIAL MEDIA**

Follow the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education on Facebook and Instagram for updates, pictures, videos and more!

<https://www.facebook.com/AhkwasahsneMohawkBoardofEducation>

[https://www.instagram.com/ambe\\_iethihahonnien/](https://www.instagram.com/ambe_iethihahonnien/)

## **AMBE COMMUNICATION SURVEY**

AMBE strives to continue growing our communication within the organizations, community and beyond. Do you or someone you know prefer other forms of communication? Let us know by completing the quick



survey: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdb7SR0HMEbwCpPzdlgh0Lv6acu-eE9iSbuMg-BgUyxRu4WA/viewform>

AMBE Budget Presentation 2025-2026 Draft

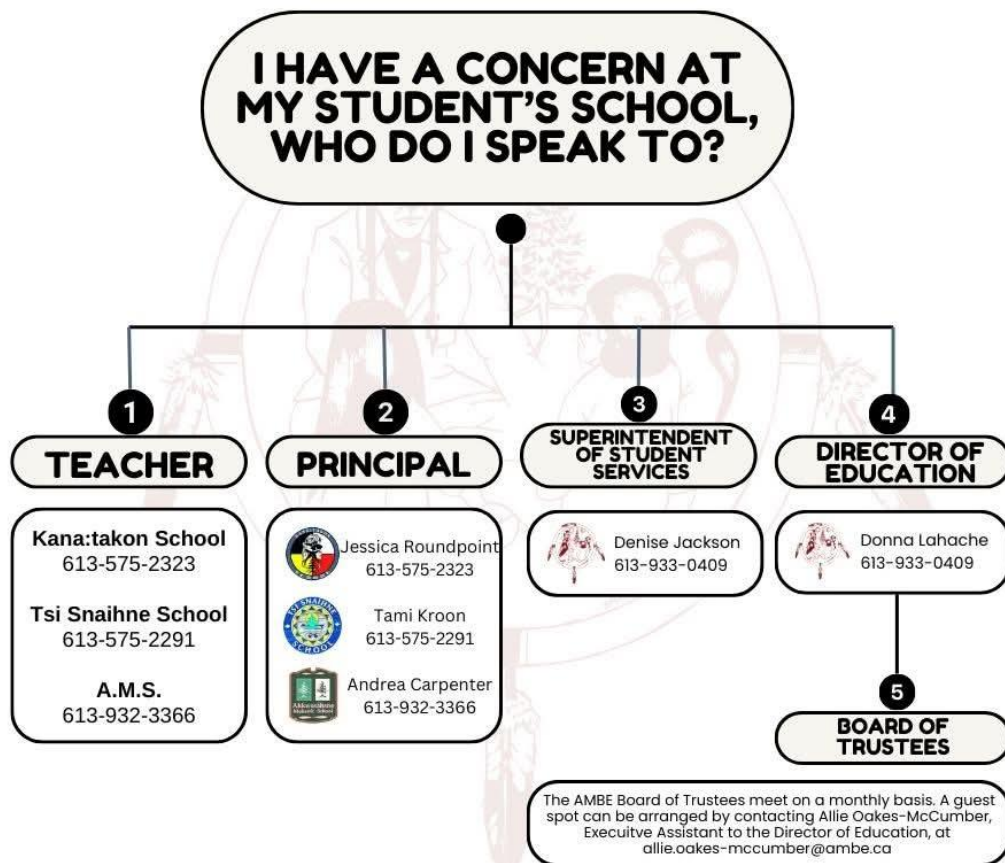
-Core funding deficit with education needs of community due to increase in special education supports.

Salary increases completed.

Total vacancies posted: 36

April 2025- Install of new playground equipment at all 3 AMBE schools.

AMBE is currently working on draft of calendar 2025/2026 School year.



## Department of Community and Social Services (DCSS)

**Valerie/ Cook-Cree- Acting Director**

### THE TWO-SPIRIT EXPERIENCE IN AKWESASNE

Step into an evening of insight and celebration with Haudenosaunee Universe and the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program. Gather around a panel of inspiring two-spirited Akwesasnoron who will share their unique stories of growing up and living our community. When: Wednesday, March 5 (6 p.m.)

Where: 50 Herne Farm Road (Akwesasne, NY)

## **Department of Health (DOH)**

### **Amber Montour- Director**

MCR for Dr. Daradich contract renewal for 2025-2026 CARRIED

MCR for Dr. Levac contract renewal for 2025-2026 CARRIED

### **LET KINDNESS GROW: PINK SHIRT DAY 2025**

Kindness is like a garden- it grows when we nurture it! Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup> the MCA Health Promotion & Prevention Program invites you to spread kindness and stand up against bullying by wearing pink in support of Pink Shirt Day.

Bullying affects people in schools, workplaces, homes, and online. It can have lasting impacts, including anxiety, low self-esteem, and depression. But together, we can make a difference! Here's how: Stand up for others, speak out against bullying, Support those who are being targeted, Don't engage in or encourage hurtful behavior

Every small act of kindness helps create a safer, more inclusive world. Let's plant the seeds of empathy and let kindness grow.

If you or someone you know is struggling, know that support is available. Check out our emergency contact list for mental health services and crisis support. Help is just a call away.

### **TSI NIIONKWARIHO:TEN ENTEWAHTHA:RAHKWE- CULTURAL CONNECTIONS & CONVERSATIONS**

The MCA Traditional Medicines program is hosting a community event for speakers and learners of Kanien'keha Tsi niionkwariho:ten entewahtha:rahkwe tanon enkakhwa:rake- We are going to talk about our culture and there will be food. Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm-1:00pm at Kanonhkwatsheri:io Health Facility (Turtle Room).

### **ELDER FALL PREVENTION LUNCH & LEARN**

MCA Health Promotion & Prevention Program lunch and learn session on how to stay active, mobile, and reduce your risk of falls. Enjoy a meal while gaining valuable tips to keep yourself or your loved ones safe and steady. February 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am – 1:00pm at St. Regis Recreation Center. This session is open to all elders. To learn more contact MCA Community Health Services at 613-575-2341 ext. 3241.

### **DR. HORN CLINIC CANCELLED- FEBRUARY 24 & MARCH 5, 2025**

The Akwesasne Medical Clinic has been reaching out to patients with appointments on these dates to reschedule. If you had an appointment on February 24<sup>th</sup> or March 5<sup>th</sup> and have not received a call to reschedule, please contact the Akwesasne Medical Clinic at 613-575-2341 ext. 3215.

### **JANET BRANT, NP, OUT OF OFFICE MARCH 3-7 AND MARCH 17-21**

Any appointments scheduled with Janet during this time will be rescheduled. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Clients of Janet Brant are encouraged to check the refill status on your medication bottles and to contact your pharmacy should you need refills

as soon as possible. Community members can call the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic at 613-932-5808 for any questions or concerns.

### **JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE SATELLITE OFFICE**

Jordan's Principle is dedicated to ensuring First Nations children receive the support they need, when they need them. From January 23<sup>rd</sup> to February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Jordan's Principle staff will be available every Thursday from 8 AM–4 PM at their satellite office in Iakhihsohtha Lodge (Tsi Snaihne).

Services Available:

- Program information
- Intake appointments
- Support services

Appointments are recommended, but walk-ins are welcome based on staff availability.

Jordan's Principle funding supports health, social, and educational needs, including culturally relevant services and the unique needs of First Nations children, such as Two-Spirit, LGBTQIA, and children with disabilities. Visit us to learn how Jordan's Principle can assist you and your family!

For more information or to schedule an appointment:

- 613-575-2341 ext. 2652
- [jordansprinciple@akwesasne.ca](mailto:jordansprinciple@akwesasne.ca)

### **PAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS- MARCH 2025**

Loving someone struggling with addiction can be overwhelming, but you are not alone. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Addictions Services invites you to Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) Meetings- a safe, supportive space where parents, grandparents, and spouses can connect, share, and learn.

Join us Wednesday evenings in March at the Akwesasne Homemakers in Tsi Snaihne. Together, we'll explore ways to support our loved ones fighting substance use disorder.

PAL is open to community members ages 18 and older. For more information, please contact MCA Addiction Services at 613-575-2341 ext. 3115

MCA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## HOW TO ENSURE THAT BLOODWORK COMPLETED IN ONTARIO IS SENT TO QUEBEC



**Blood work completed in Ontario is not automatically sent to Quebec doctors**

*This issue affects residents attending Quebec doctor appointments without their results available.*

### TEMPORARY WORKAROUND

- Client brings their Quebec requisition to MCA clinic.
- Our Providers transfer it to an Ontario requisition, allowing Life Labs to pick it up and process it.
- Results can be faxed anywhere with client consent from the medical clinic.
- Clients can request a copy of their blood work from the medical clinic.
- Client should confirm with their Quebec Providers office that the results were received.
- MCA will also call the Quebec Provider to verify receipt.

### ALTERNATIVE OPTION

- Clients can use their Quebec requisition directly at a Quebec lab.
- Medical transportation may assist in bringing clients to the nearest Quebec lab.
- Quebec labs are in: Ormston, Huntington, and Valleyfield



## Public Safety

### Ranatiosta Swamp- Acting Chief of Police

#### COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WITH AMPS

Join the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) for a community conversation on the AMPS Strategic Plan 2025-2030.

There will be three events held in each of the districts:

- Monday, January 6 from 5-7 p.m. at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation
- Wednesday, January 8 from 5-7 p.m. at the Kana:takon Recreation
- Thursday, January 9 from 5-7 p.m. at the Kawehno:ke Recreation

### **Works in Progress:**

- Continuing to meet with Portfolio Departments and Committees to support in reaching goals set out in strategic plan.
- Continue to attend weekly Monday Council Meetings to review MCR's and Discussion Items

### **Collaborative Opportunities:**

- Iroquois Caucus- Akwesasne Mohawk Casino January 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Chiefs of Ontario (COO) and Iroquois Caucus (IC)
- CBSA Border Partners Meeting January 29, 2025
- Tri-Council Initiatives with Border
- SIBC Toll Increase

### **Upcoming Travel/ Events:**

- General Meeting- Kawehnoke Recreation Center January 30<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm
- AFN National Natural Resources Forum- Vancouver March 12-13<sup>th</sup>
- Personal Vacation April 19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

### **Community Announcements:**

- CALL OUT FOR BEAVER TRAPPING

The MCA Environment Program is seeking local trappers in Akwesasne to provide beaver trapping services. Between January 13, 2025 to March 21, 2025, interested trappers can contact MCA Environment, and bring in whole, freshly-caught beavers. We will collect data to assist with our initiative to monitor and manage the local beaver population, and help us learn more about this traditional practice and land stewardship. Trappers will be provided with paid honoraria per beaver. Some of the beavers may be kept for future workshops on trapping, hide tanning, or meat preparation. We encourage our traditional practices and aim to provide a space for sharing knowledge and experiences. For more information, please contact Jacey Hall at [jacey.hall@akwesasne.ca](mailto:jacey.hall@akwesasne.ca).

- NOTICE OF AKWESASNE MEMBERSHIP BOARD BY-ELECTION

The Akwesasne Membership Board has requested a By-Election to be held in the districts of Kana:takon and Tsi Snaihne. The following seats are available:

- District of Kana:takon: One (1) seat for a 2- year term (time remaining)
- District of Tsi Snaihne: One (1) seat for a 4- year term (time remaining)



Nominations for the Akwesasne Membership Board By-election will be held on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at the following locations:

District of Kana:takon, Kana:takon School (28 Second Street, Kana:takon) from 9:00am to 12:00pm (noon).

District of Tsi Snaihne: Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education & Training Institute (16 Iohahi:io Road, Tsi Snaihne) from 9:00- 12:00pm (noon).

### **BY-ELECTION & ADVANCED POLLS**

If needed, a By-election will be held on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 9:00am- 2:00pm at Kana:takon School and the Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education & Training Institute.

If needed, Advanced polls will be held from April 1-2, 2025 by appointment only at the Angus Mitchell Memorial Building (former Akwesasne Justice Department office) in Kana:takon between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

If the number of eligible candidates does not exceed the number of available positions, the CEO (subject to any appeal) shall declare the candidate elected. If there is more than one nominee per district, an official by-election will take place.

### **VOTERS LIST**

Voters lists will be available for viewing by 12 pm on Tuesday February 25<sup>th</sup> at the following locations:

- Canada Post Office (Kana:takon)
- Village Currency Exchange
- Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education & Training Institute
- Snye Life Convenience

Please review the voters list to ensure your name is listed. Community members are advised to contact the CEO as soon as possible if your name is missing.

### **CONTACT**

If you have any questions or require clarification, please reach out to Chief Electoral Officer Cheryl Jacobs at: [chief.electoral.officer@akwesasne.ca](mailto:chief.electoral.officer@akwesasne.ca) and/or 613-575-2250 ext. 2126.