ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 12 Issue 8 FREE Seskéha/August 2023

IN THIS ISSUE:

YOUTH FOOTBALL
CAMP WITH OTTAWA
GEE GEE'S &
REDBLACKS

AMBE EARLY YEARS SUMMER TIME FUN

AKWESASNE JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

2023 AKWESASNE WELLNESS WEEK

GIRL'S SKATE DAY AT AKWESASNE SKATEPARK

INDIGENOUS STEM
CAMP AT TICC

ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAMS
STURGEON PROJECT



MOHAWK COUNCIL SWEARS IN NEWLY ELECTED KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF FALLON DAVID



A swearing-in ceremony took place at the St. Regis Recreation for newly elected Kana:takon District Chief Fallon David. Chief David will serve the remaining term until July 2024. Read more on page 5.

UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's next General Meeting will take place on September 28, 2023 at the Kana:takon Recreation Center at 6 p.m.

The MCA General Meeting will be a hybrid event (in-person and virtual).

To receive the Zoom link or submit your questions for Council, please email meetings@akwesasne.ca.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF **AKWESASNE** 2021-2024

Grand Chief Abram Benedict

Kana:takon District

Chief Fallon David Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs Chief Tim Thompson

Kawehno:ke District

Chief Vanessa Adams Chief Jackie Benedict Chief Edward Roundpoint

Tsi Snaihne District

Chief April Adams-Phillips Chief Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo Chief JoAnn Swamp Chief Dwayne Thomas

Administration

Theresa (Tessa) Jocko A/Executive Director

Heather Phillips Director Dept. of Finance & Administration

Leslie Papineau A/Director Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment

Cactus Cook Sunday A/Director Dept. of Justice

Joseph Morin-Lauzon Director Dept. of Community & Social Services

Amber Montour Director Department of Health

Donna Lahache Director Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education

Shawn Dulude Chief of Police/Director Dept. of Public Safety

Kylee Tarbell Director Dept. of Economic Development

WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS



She:kon and welcome to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's community newsletter, Onkwe'ta:ke, which means "For the people." The primary goal of this publication is to deliver MCA's news and updates straight into the hands of community members. Should you wish to stay exonnected in other ways, the following channels are provided:

date! Sign up by visiting www.akwesasne. Council contact information. ca/signup.

Social Media: Visit us on Facebook, Twitter, mation in Akwesasne's long-serving local Instagram and Snapchat!

Contact: If you have any questions about Mobile/Cell Text Alerts: Receive urgent MCA departments and services, please or important messages right to your cell email info@akwesasne.ca or call 613-575- phone. Sign up by visiting www.akwesasne.ca/textalerts.

E-newsletter: Register for a weekly e- Website: News and general information newsletter delivered straight to your email can be found on our website at www.akinbox. It's a great way to quickly stay up to wesasne.ca. This includes job postings and

> Local Media: Find our news and informedia, CKON 97.3 Radio and Indian Time Newspaper.

FIVETHINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS & **IMPORTANT MESSAGES**



The Seaway Claim Referendum took place on August 25, 2023 and was rejected by the community. Council will determine next steps for the claim and share with the community.



A by-election was held for the Kawehno:ke District with Vince Thompson being (re)elected. See our next month's issue of Onkwe'ta:ke for coverage of his swearing-in ceremony.



MCA will be hosting a career for on September 21st at the St. Regis Recreation from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Come out to learn what jobs are available or upcoming at MCA. Bring your resume and copies of degrees for on-the-spot interviews.



September is Suicide Prevention Month. Visit our website to learn about events taking place throughout the month: http://www.akwesasne.ca/suicide-prevention-awareness-month-2023/



Following a summer hiatus, MCA will resume holding its monthly general meeting this month. The September General Meeting will take place on September 28, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the St. Regis Recreation, and streamed via Zoom. Email meetings@akwesasne.ca to submit questions or to request the meeting link.

NEWS

OTTAWA REDBLACKS AND UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA GEE-GEE'S HOST FOOTBALL CAMP AT A'NOWARA'KO:WA ARENA

and the University of Ottawa Gee-Gees hosted and drills, a question-and-answer session with the a football camp for local Akwesasne and area players, and were given a swaq-bag with Redblacks youth. Ben Maracle, a resident of Tyendinaga, and and Gee-Gees team memorabilia, footballs, t-shirts, quarterback for the University of Ottawa Gee-Gee's and a \$25 gift certificate to Akwesasne Sports. The hosted the event at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena in the players signed autographs and took pictures with the hopes of building the sport of football in indigenous camp participants once the camp was complete. The communities.

The football camp was a collaborative effort between the Ottawa Redblacks, Gee-Gees Football, the On behalf of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health, Department of Community & Social Services, and Economic Development.



On Monday, July 31, 2023, the Ottawa Redblacks and area youth, who were provided with football skills Redblacks also donated a jersey signed by the team to the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena.

> we'd like to thank the Ottawa Redblacks and the University of Ottawa Gee-Gees for an amazing event and look forward to hosting the event again in the







Ottawa Gee-Gees' Ben Maracle interviewing with CKON radio host Reen Cook



ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023 ONKWE'TA:KE** Page 2 **AUGUST 2023** Page 3

NEWS

COMMUNITY CONGRATS EVENT FOR CAREY TERRANCE JR.

A community congratulations event was held on Community members brought jerseys, hats, photos, press event with local, regional and national (APTN) beaded Anaheim Ducks medallion. reporters, Carey then signed autographs and photos with the throngs of Akwesasne fans who came out to Thank you Carey for giving our community your time meet our community's new celebrity.

MCA Grand Chief Abram Benedict and Saint Regis biggest fans! Mohawk Tribal Chief Agnes Jacobs welcomed and congratulated Carey.

Monday, July 17, 2023 at the Akwesasne Mohawk and more unique items (bowling pins!) to be signed Casino featuring Carey Terrance Jr., newly drafted and Carey was friendly and humble accepting all of Anaheim Ducks NHL hockey player. Following a the fanfare. He even received some gifts such as a

> and for being a role model to other young Mohawks chasing dreams. Akwesasne will always have your













NEWS

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY HELD FOR KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF FALLON DAVID

On Tuesday, August 15, 2023 the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) held a swearing-in ceremony for Fallon David, the newly-elected District Chief of Kana:takon. District Chief David was elected through a by-election held on August 5, 2023 for the district of Kana:takon.

Chief David was sworn in by Justice of the Peace Alexandra David at the Kana:takon Recreation Center with family, friends, council and community members. Words of welcome were provided to her through speeches given by Grand Chief Abram Benedict, Acting Executive Director Tessa Jocko, Kana:takon District Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell, Tsi Snaihne District Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo and Tsi Snaihne District Chief Dwayne Thomas. Alma Ransom, community elder and great-aunt of District Chief David, also provided warm words and advice for political success. Youth Kaienas Lazore sang the Mohawk Friendship Song, which provided a beautiful ending to a positive event.

Congratulations and welcome, District Chief Fallon David — the community looks forward to the positive contributions that you will bring.











ONKWE'TA:KE Page 4 **AUGUST 2023 AUGUST 2023 ONKWE'TA:KE**

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



July 3, 2023

- Legal Counsel provided an overview of the dispute regarding block one lands and discussed options for resolving the issue.
- The Director for the Indigenous Secretariat for CBSA Affairs introduced the new Akwesasne Regional Indigenous Affairs Advisor to the Council and provided an

draft for community acceptance.

Members of the Aboriginal Rights

and Research Office provided Coun-

cil with overview and presentation

on the Seaway Claim and shared in-

formation about the upcoming refer-

endum on the proposed settlement.

Council discussed the recent increase

in domestic lane issues and received

ing efforts to address the concerns.

• A request for Council's feedback was

overview of his responsibilities.

- A briefing was given on a recent AFN meeting where the National Chief was removed from her position.
- Council agreed, at the request of Chief Thompson, to host a Special General Meeting on July 6, 2023.
- Council received a briefing on a recent court application and decision regarding Section 16 of the Akwesasne Election Law.
- Council was briefed on the recent meeting with the HAVFD Station 3.
- The Property Acquisition team was requested to reach out to an interested estate.
- Chief Diabo agreed to chair next week's meeting in the absence of the Grand Chief.
- A briefing and breakdown were pro-

vided to Council on the recent funding announcement made by the Public Safety Minister.

MCRs Passed: Acceptance of 21/22 MOHTLC schedule of revenue and expenses; Acceptance of 21/22 audit of Ministry of Health, Children and Mental Health; Approval of assignment of leases Renshaw Island; Appointment of community members to Nation Building Communications Working Group; Approval of revised Nation Building Program Organizational Chart; Appointment of Seaway Claim Referendum Appeal Adjudicator;

July 5, 2023, **Emergency Council Meeting**

- Approval of postponement of Special General Meeting on July 6, 2023, due to the passing of community member.
- July 17, 2023 made on a recent letter from MCK (Kahnawake) regarding harvesting • The Legislative Oversight Commit
 - tee and the Justice Coordinator presented to Council the draft Emergen-Council discussed a recent agreement with Ontario Power Generacy Management Law for Council's consideration. Council agreed to tion, and agreed the Grand Chief consider a resolution accepting the would follow up to clarify protocol.

and gathering.

- A briefing was provided from the recent Executive Committee meeting on the need to identify another Acting Executive Director due to medical leave.
- Council discussed the upcoming Special General Meeting and agreed that no Zoom option would be provided.
- additional information on the ongo-A briefing was provided on a recent Akwesasne Mohawk Council hearing and the next steps for the case.

- Council received information and the itinerary for this Friday's community tour with Senator Francis and Senator Clement.
- A briefing was provided on an upcoming press conference at the Akwesasne Mohawk Council with Carey Terrance Jr.

MCRs passed: Approval of mortgage renewal with Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation; Approval of agreement with Mohawk Court and Prosecutorial and Duty Counsel; Approval of lease assignment Hamilton Island; Approval of lease Thompson Island; Approval of service contract for AMBE bus servicing; Approval of service contract with fluency center; Approval of (5) Council Meeting Minutes; Approval of

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

Emergency Council Meeting Minutes; Approval of appointment of Acting Executive Director.

July 24, 2023

- MCA Legal Counsel presented the New York State Land Claim • background and provided an update on the status of the claim, and highlighting what can be expected in the upcoming months as negotiations reach a conclu-
- Council discussed the action items

tasked the Finance Committee with follow-up. The next General Meeting is scheduled for September 28th in Kana:takon.

- An overview of the progress of the amendments to the Akwesasne Election Law was presented by Legal Counsel.
- Council agreed to proceed with the installation of signage in each district to welcome travelers.

from the General Meeting and • A request to fill a vacancy on the OVS Committee was made, Council agreed to review portfolio listing next week.

> MCRs Passed: Approval of the assignment of lease for Clark Island; Approval of the amendment to the Midwifery agreement with Québec; Approval of the 22/23 OFNLP Audit; Approval of the service contract with CREO for digitization work; Approval of minutes from (4) previous Council Meetings.

July 31, 2023

- Representatives from Akwesasronon Shonataten:ron provided Council with an introduction to the organization's background and mandate, and requested Council to designate a liaison to collaborate with them.
- Council received a briefing on the challenges faced with the new telephone connectivity and decided to address the matter in an upcoming meeting with Bell.
- An overview of a previous land for sale in Ontario was presented. The Property Acquisition Team will conduct further follow-up and

- present their recommendation to Council.
- A concern regarding the timing of community notifications was discussed, and the Grand Chief will be following up on this matter.
- Council reviewed the current committee and portfolio selections and agreed that minor adjustments will be made and presented for resolution.
- Council collectively decided not to hold a Council Meeting due to the holiday.

MCRs Passed: Approval of (2) amendments to Canada Akwesasne

funding agreement; Approval of (2) 21/22 Ministry of Children CSS audit; Approval of Ontario Health one time increase; Approval of 21/22 MCSS Annual Reconciliation Report; Approval of (3) Notice of Budget Amendment to Akwesasne Canada funding agreement; Acceptance of draft Akwesasne Emergency Management Law to proceed to referendum for acceptance; Approval of 23/24 NILO contribution agreement; Approval of (4) housing upgrade loans to community members; Approval of changes to Akwesasne Justice Department organization chart.





MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

To reach a member of Council, call the Mohawk Government Office: 613-575-2250

Or, find phone numbers and email addresses for all Council members online:

akwesasne.ca/contact-chiefs Q

ONKWE'TA:KE ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023 AUGUST 2023** Page 6 Page 7

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF SARAH LEE SUNDAY-DIABO UPDATES



Monthly Report: July 2023

Portfolios: Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education, Department of **Health and Department of Justice**

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.

MONTHLY NOTABLES:

- Attended Chiefs of Ontario First Nations Women's Council meeting via Zoom. Key discussions centered around addressing human trafficking and securing funding for pathways to safety. Noted the upcoming OPP community hate crimes training scheduled for October. Discussed the situation of evacuees from First Nations communities in Thunder Bay due to wildfires.
- Participated in a collaborative session with the Recreation Committee, focused on strategic development for all 3 district recreation centers. The meeting was focused on the short and long-term vision of the recreations on July 11, 2023.

- Attended the special general meeting on July 17th.
- Engaged in a noteworthy event by participating in the welcoming of Senator Brian Francis during his visit to Akwesasne. The occasion included a luncheon and a meet-and-greet session with the esteemed senator and his wife, Georgina.
- Engaged in the inaugural meeting with the Cemetery committee. The goals are to establish, maintain, purchase cemetery mapping system, personnel, and GIS software. Ongoing effort to update committee bylaws with vision and goals.
- Recently joined the Border Collaboration Dundee point of entry working circle. Engaged in discussions regarding the remission order Akwesasne had with the Cornwall point of entry. Addressing implications of ATR (Additions to Reserve) lands becoming part of Akwesasne territory. Incorporating UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) and Jay Treaty considerations into discussions.
- Participated in the 2-day Iroquois Caucus event hosted in Kahnawake Mohawk Nation on August 9 & 10, 2023. Key agenda items included discussions within the harvest and hunting group, presentation of the 2023 financial report, and engagements within the Mental Health Table.
 - » Addressed the pressing Metis issue and deliberated on the upcoming September 20th protest Bill C-53, to be held at Parliament Hill.

- » Featured a presentation on OWES (Ontario Wetlands Evaluation Systems) and a community member's overview of OLA sanctions impacting Haudenosaunee youth in lacrosse.
- » Highlighted the broader impact of OLA sanctions on First Nations' lacrosse across the country, spanning from BC to Quebec.
- » Jointly preparing a letter from the Iroquois Caucus to address the shared concerns.
- » Distinguished regional leaders, Chief Glenn Hare, and AFNQL Chief Ghislain Picard, were present during the proceedings.
- Participated in the swearing-in ceremony for the newly elected Kana:takon District Chief Fallon David on August 15.
- Attended the AFNQL Training for Election woman from Quebec held in Montreal from August 16-20. This was sponsored by AFNQL which provided lodging, meals and travel cost.

This section will provide the community with other activities, projects and initiatives that are still under development or in progress. It will also serve as an informative update on where items are and what is being advanced for the community.

COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP UPDATES:

Akwesasne Justice Department -Participated in the oversight committee session focused on the legislative development within the realm of justice department. The session encompassed comprehensive discussions regarding the

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF SARAH LEE SUNDAY-DIABO UPDATES

recent advancements in three key laws: Cannabis, Emergency Management, and Election Laws. The meeting also delved into the established priorities and outlined the forthcoming stages in the legislative process.

Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of **Education** – Participated in a bursary ceremony held at Generations Park on July 7, 2023, where I had the privilege of extending warm congratulations to our accomplished students who will be embarking on their college journey this

upcoming fall.

Attended the Board of Trustees Monthly Attended the swearing-in ceremony for

Department of Health - Participated in Zoom meeting with Chiefs of Ontario Health forum.

Took part in the tree planting memorial ceremony honoring Diane King, a dedicated long-term employee with the Department of Health. Offered heartfelt condolences and words of support to her loved ones and colleagues in attendance

on July 20, 2023.

the Health Advisory Board on July 26, 2023. The Board consists of 3 members from Kawehno:ke, 1 member from Tsi Snaihne and 2 members from Kana:takon.

FINANCIAL STATUS/LOBBY **PROGRESS:**

Continue to sign EFTs and checks on a weekly basis or as needed.

SENATORS BRIAN FRANCIS AND BERNADETTE CLEMENT VISIT AKWESASNE

Brian Francis, Mi'kmaw and one of four senators representing Prince Edward Island.

Grand Chief provided a tour with the Senators learning more about Akwesasne.

On Friday, July 21, 2023, the Mohawk Council of highlighting issues our community faces, particularly Akwesasne welcomed two visitors from the Senate the border's implications on our day-to-day lives and of Canada: Senator Bernadette Clement, former services. Members of Council joined the group for mayor of Cornwall, is a familiar friend to Akwesasne a luncheon in Kana:takon where the leaders shared and we were pleased to welcome her back. She stories and commonalities between Mi'kmaq and helped introduce our community to fellow Senator Mohawk traditions, language revitalization and food.

> We want to thank Senator Clement, Senator Francis, and his wife and assistant for visiting us today and





Pictured L-R: MCA Grand Chief Abram Benedict, Senator Bernadette Clement and Senator Brian Francis.

ONKWE'TA:KE ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023 AUGUST 2023** Page 8 Page 9

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

FACEBOOK STATS



Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in July

- 1. Attention (Canadian) Visitors of Akwesasne (Graphic)
- 2. NHL's 59th Draft Pick Carey Terrance Jr. Appearing at "Community Congratulations" Event (Graphic)
- 3. Community Congratulations Event for Carey Terrance Jr.
- 4. Akwesasne Mohawk Police Identify Body Found in St. Lawrence River
- 5. 2023 Wellness Week Colorful Fun Run

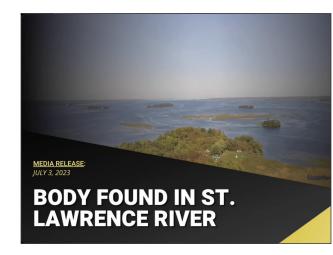
Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in July

- 1. Akwesasne Mohawk Police Identify Body Found in St. Lawrence River 16,689 Reached
- 2. You're Invited: Sahatiha'hara:ne Detox Center Open House (Graphic) 9,308 Reached
- 3. Second Annual Elders Ice Cream Social 7,768 Reached
- 4. Akwesasne Mohawk Police Seize Drugs & Guns during Search Warrant Execution in Kana:takon 4,880 Reached
- 5. Tsiionkwanonhso:te's 29th Anniversary Week (Graphic) 4,496 Reached



TWITTER STATS

Top Tweet in July



YOUTUBE STATS

Highest Viewed Video on the MCA YouTube
Channel for July

1. MCA General Meeting – June 29, 2023

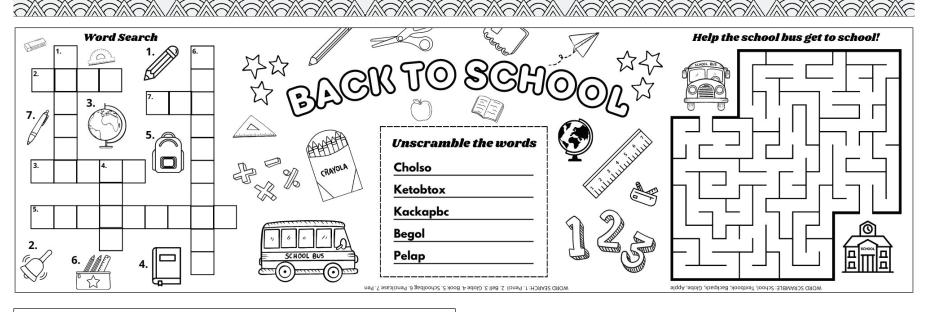


FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

www.facebook.com/akwesasne.ca www.twitter.com/MCAkwesasne www.youtube.com/MohawkCouncilofAkwesasne

Page 10 ONKWE'TA:KE AUGUST 2023

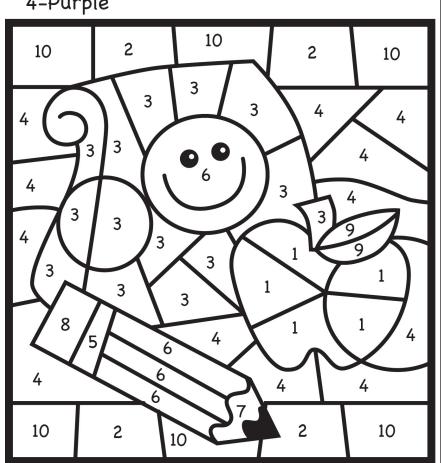
CHILDREN'S PAGE



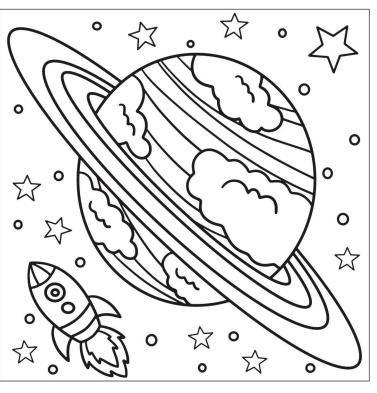
Color by Number

1-Red 5-Grey 8-Pink 2-Orange 6-Yellow 9-Green 3-Brown 7-Peach 10-Blue

4-Purple



COLOR THE PLANET



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why did the pony get sent to his room? Because he wouldn't stop horsing around!

Where do cows go on a Friday night? They go to the moo-vies!

How do young bees get to school? They take the school buzz.

AUGUST 2023 ONKWE'TA:KE Page 11

AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

SUMMER TIME FUN FOR THE EARLY YEARS PROGRAM

It was a fun-filled summer for children ages 3-5 who attended the AMBE Early Years Summer Program located at Kawehno:ke Recreation Center and Tsi Snaihne Recreation. The kids were busy each day with various activities from glow dance parties, doing arts and crafts, learning yoga and exploring the great outdoors. At the end of the program, the two units came together for a summer bash! It was a beautiful day and the children had fun at the splash pad and playground before the indoor movie and lunch. We hope everyone has a great school year ahead!



















AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONGRATULATIONS RETIREES!

Congratulations to the wonderful educators and staff who have retired from the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education this school year. Niawenhkó:wa for your lifelong dedication, service and hard work to A.M.B.E. Wishing everyone all the best on this new phase of your life!



Sheila Lafrance





Contact Shayleen Thompson at (613) 933-0409

or shayleen.thompson@ambe.ca





Alvin Lazare

Page 12 ONKWE'TA:KE AUGUST 2023 AUGUST 2023 ONKWE'TA:KE Page 13

ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - "WE WILL GOVERN"

ENTEWATATHÁ: WI SELF-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Agreement in a timely manner.

The Government of Canada is committed to achieving reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through a The Government of Canada recognizes that change.

RECOGNITION

The Mohawks of Akwesasne have an inherent right of self-government, which originates from our people, culture and land that is recognized and affirmed in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Entewatathá:wi Self-Government Agreement establishes new recognized jurisdiction and authority for the Mohawks of Akwesasne.

RESPECT

The Entewatatha:wi Self-Government Agreement is intended to reflect a relationship between the Mohawks of Akwesasne and the Government of Canada based on the principles of Kanikonriio (a good mind), mutual respect, trust, openness and cooperation.

RECONCILIATION

Canada's Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples made recommendations indentifying the need to establish a new relationship according to the territorial collective characteristics of Aboriginal people.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides that Indigenous peoples, in particular those divided by International borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.

The Mohawks of Akwesasne are an Indigenous peoples as described in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and are entitled to rights described in the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Peoples.

The guiding principles for the Mohawks of Akwesasne relationship with the Crown. This relationship, and the Government of Canada are to work together including existing Aboriginal and treaty rights, in a spirit of peace, respect, and friendship, conduct is recognized and affirmed in Section 35 of the themselves in good faith and make every effort Constitution Act, 1982. Section 35 contains a full reasonable to conclude any other agreements box of rights and holds the promise that Indigenous referred to in the Entewatathá:wi Self-Government nations will become partners in Confederation on the basis of a fair and just reconciliation between Indigenous peoples and the Crown.

renewed government-to-government relationship Indigenous self-government and laws are critical to based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation, Canada's future and that Indigenous perspectives and partnership as the foundation for transformative and rights must be incorporated in all aspects of this relationship.

Indigenous peoples have a special constitutional Entewatathá: wi is mindful of the following principles:

RESPONSIBILITY

The Mohawks of Akwesasne have as part of the Kanien'keha:ka (Mohawk) Nation and the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois Confederacy), a distinctive culture and language with practices, traditions, government, laws, and economic structures prior to the arrival of European Nations and the establishment of Canada and the United States.

The Mohawks of Akwesasne continue to assert that they have extinguished Aboriginal titles, and jurisdiction based on this title, including Akwesasne

RELATIONSHIP

The Entewatatha:wi Self-Government Agreement is a modern and respectful government-to-government relationship between Akwesasne and the Government of Canada.

Canada has enacted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act which affirms the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a universal international human rights instrument with application in Canadian law and provides framework to advance implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the federal level.

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples state that Indigenous peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023** Page 14

AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

LAW ENACTMENT PROCEDURE REGULATIONS

Phase I - Law Development

 To draft law to be reviewed & accepted by Council to present to community

Phase II - Acceptance In Principle

 Draft law accepted in principle to being Community Consultation

Phase III - Community Consultation

• Conduct session to gather input on draft law

Phase IV - Enactment of Law

- Council Accepts in Principle
- Voting

Phase V - Ratification/Rejection

• Council confirms results

CANNABIS LAW

Phase IV Enactment of Law: Council has approved MCR #2023/2024-004 dated April 17, 2023 approving the Final Draft referendum of voting process

Phase V Ratification/Rejection. Date of Referendum to be determined.

CHILD'S RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITY LAW

Phase I Law Development: There has been Input Sessions with Community, Elders, MCA departments & programming, and community organizations dealing with child well-being. A Legislative Drafter has been added to the team. The WTG is now in the process of drafting the draft law.

The Akwesasne Justice Department, Oversight Committee on Legislative Development and the Working Task Groups (WTG) have been actively working on the following laws for the community of Akwesasne;

FIRE SAFETY LAW

The Working Task Group was identified by MCR#2022/2023-#078 dated June 27, 2022. The establishment of the WTG needs to be completed, once completed the initial meeting of the WTG will be coordinated.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LAW

Phase IV Enactment of Law: Council has approved MCR # 2023/2024- #185 dated July 31, 2023 approving the Final Draft referendum of voting process.

Phase V Ratification/Rejection. Date of Referendum to be determined.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION LAW

Phase III Community Consultation: Draft law has now been sent for Post Consultation Legal Review. Next will be Post Consultation Line by Line with Council to complete Phase III.

AMENDMENTS TO THE RESIDENCY LAW

Phase I Law Development: Phase I Development has begun, the WTG is now reviewing the existing law.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Connie Lazore, Justice Coordinator Akwesasne Justice Department, MCA 613-575-2250 ext. 2403 connie.lazore@akwesasne.ca



AUGUST 2023 ONKWE'TA:KE Page 15

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM HOSTS TREE PLANTING CEREMONY IN MEMORY OF DIANE KING

On July 20, 2023, the Community Health Program babies to our elders, she provided care to everyone. (CHP) and the Department of Health (DOH) held a treeplanting ceremony in honor of the late Diane King at the Diane's presence will be truly missed but will be Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility (KHF). A Colorado memorialized by the beautiful blue spruce that will Blue Spruce was planted in her memory and a plaque overlook the Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility for will be installed to commemorate Diane.

Many of Diane's family, friends, and colleagues gathered to share words and recognize her many years of service to the community of Akwesasne. Diane had worked as a Registered Nurse for over 40 years, dedicating her life to the care and well-being of the Akwesasne community. She championed many health initiatives during her years of service, being an advocate for breast cancer awareness, cancer prevention, hand hygiene, and healthy living. Diane was a protector to the community. From our

many years to come.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WELCOMES NEW ACTING HEALTH MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Benefits Program. She has a strong commitment to the Health (DOH) would like to welcome Leah Mitchell to Akwesasne community. the Administration Team as Acting Health Management Coordinator. The Health Management Coordinator Leah is honored to be part of the Department of Health oversees various services throughout the Department of team as a Health Management Coordinator. Please join the Health, such as Elders Services, Meals on Wheels, Respite Department of Health in welcoming Leah to her new role. Care, and Liaise with the Tri-District Elders.

Leah Mitchell was born and raised in Akwesasne. She graduated with an Advanced Diploma in Business Administration - Accounting from St. Lawrence College. She is also a Certified First Nations Health Manager.

Leah has worked with various programs within MCA, such as Economic Development, Office of Vital Statistics, Mohawk Government, Community Health, Finance and most recently with the Akwesasne Non-Insured Health



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

2023 AKWESASNE WELLNESS WEEK

collaborated with the SRMT Health Planning and year, Wellness Week continues to grow, bringing the Promotion Department and surrounding programs community together and promoting healthy living. to host the 5th Annual Akwesasne Wellness Week from July 17-21, 2023. The week was filled with a Niawenhkó:wa to the community members who variety of fun and family friendly events through participated in events and all the organizers for out the community. Wellness Week kicked off with making the 2023 Akwesasne Wellness Week a a community favorite, the Medallion Hunt, followed success. We look forward to what's in store for 2024! by the 35th Annual Health Fair, Bubble Run, Trails

MCA's Wholistic Health and Wellness Program Fur Tails Dog Walk and several presentations. Each





















ONKWE'TA:KE ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023** Page 16 **AUGUST 2023** Page 17

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WELCOMES NEW JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE PROGRAM MANAGER

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of the program throughout the community. He feels Health would like to extend a warm welcome to Kevin honoured and privileged to continue to grow the Buckshot. Kevin joins the Department of Health as Jordan's Principle Program and to assist community the new Jordan's Principle Program Manager.

back to Akwesasne over 30 years ago. Kevin has a Akwesasne Team. Bachelor's Degree in Business Management, while also achieving and maintaining certification as a First Nation Housing Professional (F.N.H.P.). Prior to accepting the position of Jordan's Principle Program Manager, Kevin had worked in MCA's Housing Sector for many years.

Kevin believes in, and is encouraged by, the work that has been done by the Akwesasne Jordan's Principle Program, and looks forward to continuing to grow

members in accessing its program services.

Kevin was raised in Syracuse, NY, but always knew Please join us in welcoming Kevin to the Department Akwesasne was home. He moved permanently of Health team, and to the Jordan's Principle -



SUSPECT AN OVERDOSE? STAY & CALL EMERGENCY SERVICES!

protect you. The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act more serious offences, such as: applies to anyone seeking emergency support during • Outstanding warrants an overdose, including the person experiencing an • Production and trafficking of controlled overdose.

The Act can protect you from:

- Charges for possession of a controlled substance.
- Breach of conditions regarding controlled substances (pre-trial release, probation orders, parole, conditional sentences).

Canada's Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act can The Act does NOT provide legal protection against

- substances
- All other crimes not outlined within the Act

Drug overdoses can happen with others around. Staying at the scene is important to help save the life of someone experiencing an overdose.

Stay. Save a life.

If you suspect that someone is overdosing, please contact Emergency Dispatch at 613-575-2000.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SECOND ANNUAL ELDERS ICE CREAM SOCIAL

the Second Annual Elders Ice Cream Social on July held a comedy show, and Tina Thompson of Queena 27, 2023. Participants were served delicious treats Ribbon Designs held a mini-fashion show. and lots of laughs at this fun and entertaining event!

It was a sweet day for all attendees who came out for Sunday and Johnny Bigtree of Aboriginal Outlaws

During the event, comedians Wil "Sugarbear" this event possible.

Nia:wen to all of the attendees and staff who made













DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits: 613-575-2341 ext. 3340

Community Health:

613-575-2341 ext. 3220

Wholistic Health and Wellness: 613-575-2341 ext. 3115

Home Care Home Support:

613-936-1548

lakhihsohtha Lodge: 613-575-2507

Tsiiokwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility:

613-932-1409



ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023** ONKWE'TA:KE Page 19 **AUGUST 2023** Page 18

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

ACFS HOSTS LACROSSE IS WELLNESS EVENT

International Youth Day is commemorated every year on August 12th. This year, the Akwesasne Child and Family Services celebrated our youth as partners in society by holding a lacrosse game among local adult lacrosse players and young people to promote intergenerational understanding and respect for the game, wellness, and our community.

Niawenhko:wa to ACFS, Wholistic Health and Wellness Program, lakwa'shatste Youth Fitness and Spirit North for putting together this great event for our youth. Keep up the great work!













DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

Akwesasne Family Wellness Program: 613-937-4322

DCSS Administration: 613-575-2341 ext. 3305

Community Support Program: 613-575-2341 ext. 3262

Akwesasne Child and Family Services: 613-575-2341 ext. 3139

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AKWESASNE SKATEPARK HOSTS GIRL'S SKATE DAY

with female skaters of all ages and skill levels to chance to participate in the tie dye workshop led by Kit participate in Girl's Skate Day. The goal of the event Thomas and Avnee Roy, turning their white garments was to get more girls interested in the sport and into colorful creations. provide them a chance to check out the skatepark.

seasoned skaters. Participants had the opportunity this terrific event. to get free skate lessons from Girls+ Skate 613 and

On July 15, the Akwesasne Skatepark was booming Oorbee Roy aka Aunty Skates. Attendees also had a

Niawenhkó:wa to the organizers for hosting and Annie It was an action packed day for both beginner and Guglia, Vans Canada and City Seltzer for sponsoring



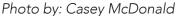




Photo by: Casey McDonald









Check out this amazing promo video of the Akwesasne Skatepark, created by Nicholas Seguin Creative! Scan the QR code to view the video with your smart phone or tablet.



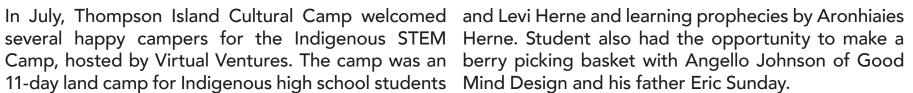
ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023** Page 20 **AUGUST 2023** ONKWE'TA:KE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INDIGENOUS STEM CAMP AT THOMPSON ISLAND CULTURAL CENTER

11-day land camp for Indigenous high school students Mind Design and his father Eric Sunday. to connect with traditional knowledge and Western STEM, while earning a high school credit upon completing the camp.

Numerous activities and workshops were held to and Virtual Ventures for hosting the event. broaden the students cultural knowledge. A few activities included learning how to cook geese and bannock over a fire with Gerald and Winona Chum, participating in a social song presentation by Sam Shenandoah



It was a great camp filled with new knowledge, inspiration and networking with peers. Niawenhkó:wa to the TICC staff, cultural practitioners who presented

Be sure to follow Thompson Island Cultural Camp's Facebook page to stay in the loop of upcoming workshops and events.









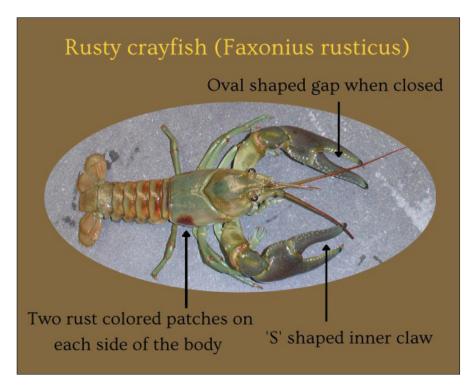
ENVIRONMENT

INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT - RUSTY CRAYFISH

MCA's Environment Program and the St. Lawrence River Institutes FINS crew found an invasive Rusty crayfish (faxoniuc rustics) in Akwesasne at Yellow Island. The distinguishable features on the crayfish include two rust coloured spots on either side of its body and "S" shaped inner claws and oval shaped gap when closed.

"The aggressive nature of this species is cause for concern for our native crayfish species, as they will be in competition for food, resources and habitat. Their aggressive nature allows them to spread rapidly and take over."

If you spot a Rusty crayfish, reach out to the MCA Environment Program to report the finding. We appreciate your help to allow the program to track this new invasive species.



COMMUNITY MEMBERS CREATE BAT BOXES

On July 5, MCA's Environment Program hosted a Bat Niawenhkó:wa to the Environment Program for de-Box Assembly Workshop at Generations Park. The veloping this informative workshop and thank you to workshop was led by Research Scientist, Dr. Brian Dr. Brian Hickey for leading the class. This workshop Hickey of the St. Lawrence River Institute, who shared was made possible by: TD Friends of the Environment his extensive knowledge about bats. Community Foundation. members had the opportunity to build bat boxes to take home and enhance our local ecosystem. The bat boxes create a sustainable environment that supports bat populations and promotes ecological balance. It will also help deter bats from taking up residence in your home.





ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023 AUGUST 2023** Page 22 ONKWE'TA:KE Page 23

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING



DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

MAINTENANCE PROGRAM: 613-575-2250 EXT. 1022

HOUSING: 613-575-2250 EXT. 1056

ENVIRONMENT: 613-575-2250 EXT. 1038

ROADS DEPARTMENT CENTRAL DISPATCH: 613-575-2340 OR 613-938-5476

WATER/WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE EMERGENCY: 613-575-2000

AFTER HOURS PAGER: 518-404-3352

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM-4PM 613-933-4924

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT (GARBAGE AND RECYCLING):

613-575-2250 ext. 1002

613-575-2250 ext. 1003

ADMINISTRATION:

ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM CONDUCTING STURGEON PROJECT

MCA's Environment Program's team has been busy and hard at work tagging sturgeon in order to gather crucial data. The team has partnered with Thompson Island Cultural Camp in order to tag, scan, weigh and take measurements of sturgeon they have caught. By understanding sturgeon populations and their behaviour, informed decisions can be made to protect and conserve their habitat for future generations. Together, we can make a positive impact on our environment and ensure the well-being of these fascinating creatures.



MCA's Environment Program is currently conducting a sturgeon project that tags juvenile and adult sized sturgeon in order to gain further knowledge about their health and movements to improve their habitats and population sizes.

What to do if you catch a tagged sturgeon?

Contact MCA's Environment Program Facebook page with the tag color and number.

www.facebook.com/mca.environment

















FIND A TURTLE IN NEED?

If you spot a turtle in need of help, you can call:

Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre

Peterborough, ON 1-705-741-5000

Nicandri Nature Center *Massena, NY*

1-315-261-2243 (Rehab line)

If you need a turtle taxi to these areas, please message the MCA Environment Program Facebook page.

Page 24 ONKWE'TA:KE AUGUST 2023 AUGUST 2023 ONKWE'TA:KE Page 25

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

YOUTH CURFEW REMAINS IN EFFECT

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service is reminding surveillance cameras. the community, especially parents and youth, that there has been a curfew in place since 1973 for youth. The AMPS are advising youth and parents that if these subject to a fine.

reported youth are knocking on their doors late at our elderly residents. night and running away. The youth are identified on

No youth under the age of 16 are permitted to be incidences continue, homeowners have the right to in the streets or public areas after 10 p.m. Parents pursue charges. These could include trespassing that permit their children to violate this law may be at night, mischief charges, or charges as per the Criminal Code of Canada.

AMPS has recently responded to several complaints AMPS is asking to parents to supervise youth and from elders in the village of Kana:takon who have advise them of harassing behavior, especially toward



ONKWE'TA:KE Page 26 **AUGUST 2023**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

AMPS ATTEND 10TH ANNUAL CRUISIN' FOR KIDS CAR SHOW

The 10th Annual Cruisin' for Kids Car Show charity event took place on August 12th at Generations Park. The annual event hosted by Swamp's Automotive supports a youth cause or program and this year's recipient was Rydyr David. The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service and Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Department were in attendance, providing children the opportunity to ride the junior cruisers. Great job to the organizers of the event and niawenhkó:wa to the community for coming out to show support!









JULY STATISTICS

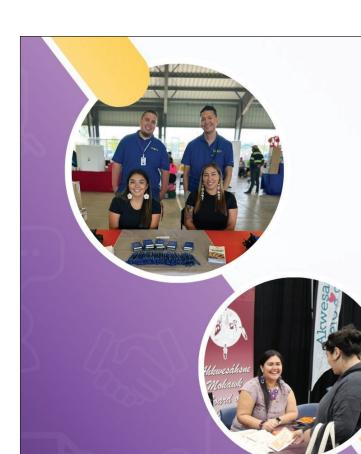
275 July

- 029 Theft Motorcycles
- 040 Theft Under \$5000 Other
- 061 Bail Violations
- 5 072 Mischief (Prop. Damage) Under \$5000
- 2 073 Criminal Code Other
- 083 Other Drugs Possession
- 1000 Abandoned Vehicles
- 1001 Alarms
- 1002 Alerts
- 1003 Assist Other Agencies Ambulance
- 1003 Assist Other Agencies Cornwall PS
- 1003 Assist Other Agencies Other
- 1003 Assist Other Agencies Tribal PD
- 1004 Assist Public
- 1008 By-Law Dogs
- 1009 By-Law Noise
- 1010 By-Law Parking Occurences

- 5 1012 Civil Disputes
- 19 1013 Community Services
- 9 1014 Crime Prevention
- 3 1016 Domestic Dispute (Non-violent)
- 1018 Escorts Prisoner
- 102 Other Federal Statute Offences
- 3 1023 Judge's Order (Court)
- 1023 MVC Non-Reportable
- 1026 Property Lost
- 1027 Property Found
- 1029 Suspicious Persons
- 1030 Suspicious Vehicles
- 20 1031 Suspicious Circumstances
- 3 1032 Sudden Death
- 1036 Warrant Bench/First
- 1 1037 Warrant Search
- 3 1038 Missing Persons
- 1 1039 Property Recovered

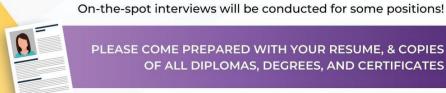
- 1 1040 Traffic Complaint
- 1041 Mental Health Act
- 1050 Youth Complaint 1056 Hazardous Conditions
- 2 106 Provincial Statutes -Other
- 16 1063 Marine Patrol
- 2 205 Assault Level 1
- 1 210 Assault Police
- 1 212 Assaults Other
- 1 213 Other Sexual Offences
- 1 711 Impaired Operation MV
- 2 715 Fail to Stop/Remain (CCC)
- 16 721 Traffic Provincial Statutes
- 1 725 PI MVC (Personal Injury)
- 2 726 PD MVC Over \$1000 (Prop. Damage)
- 2 Incident Type Not Listed

ONKWE'TA:KE **AUGUST 2023** Page 27





THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 11 AM - 7 PM • St. Regis Recreation



PLEASE COME PREPARED WITH YOUR RESUME, & COPIES OF ALL DIPLOMAS, DEGREES, AND CERTIFICATES

WWW.AKWESASNE.CA/EMPLOYMENT

Save the Date!

ORANGE **SHIRT DAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

Lamoureux Park, Cornwall 1-4 p.m.

In the spirit of reconciliation, we will honour Indigenous people & cultures and remember the impact of residential schools.



- Residential School History
- **Culture Sharing**
- Traditional Teachings
- Social Dancing

• Traditional/Indigenous **Food Sampling**











