

ONKWE'TÀ:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

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FREE

Ohiarí:ha/June 2025

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MARKING MILESTONES: CAREY TERRANCE JR. SIGNS IONKWAKWÉ:NION BOOK OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



On May 7, 2025, Carey Terrance Jr. was celebrated at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena for his outstanding achievements, including signing a three-year NHL contract with the Anaheim Ducks and winning gold with Team USA at the IIHF World Junior Championships. During the Akwesasne Jr. B Thunder home opener, he was honoured by MCA and SRMT leadership, received a beautiful beaded Ducks medallion, and sang the Ionkwakwé:nion Book of Accomplishments. Read more on page 3.

UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

MAY GENERAL MEETING

June 26, 2025 · 6 p.m.

Kana:takon Recreation Center

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

To receive the Zoom link, please email
meetings@akwesasne.ca

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2024-2027

- Grand Chief Leonard Lazore
- Kana:takon District Chief Fallon David, Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell, Chief Theresa Jacobs, Chief Teresa Oakes
- Kawehno:ke District Chief Vanessa Adams, Chief Lisa Francis-Benedict, Chief Lacey Pierce, Chief Vince Thompson
- Tsi Snaihne District Chief Scott Peters, Chief Tesha Rourke, Chief Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo, Chief JoAnn Swamp
- Administration Shannon Roundpoint A/Executive Director, Heather Phillips Director, Dept. of Finance & Administration, Leslie Papineau Director, Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment, Cactus Cook Sunday Director, Dept. of Justice, Valerie Cree-Cook A/Director, Dept. of Community & Social Services, Tessa Jocko A/Director, Department of Health, Donna Lahache Director, Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education, Ranatiostha Swamp A/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'tà: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 connected in other ways, the following channels are provided:

- Contact: If you have any questions about MCA departments and services, please email info@akwesasne.ca or call 613-575-2250.
- E-newsletter: Register for a weekly e-newsletter delivered straight to your email inbox. It's a great way to quickly stay up to date! Sign up by visiting www.akwesasne.ca/signup.
- Social Media: Visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat!
- Mobile/Cell Text Alerts: Receive urgent or important messages right to your cell phone. Sign up by visiting www.akwesasne.ca/textalerts.
- Website: News and general information can be found on our website at www.akwesasne.ca. This includes job postings and Council contact information.
- Local Media: Find our news and information in Akwesasne's long-serving local media, CKON 97.3 Radio.

FIVE THINGS OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS & IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- MCA's HR Program is now accepting applications for Summer Employment! All interested students between the ages of 14-29 must complete a summer employment application and submit to student@akwesasne.ca. Applications are available online at www.akwesasne.ca/employment (Summer Student Posting). Deadline to apply: June 30, 2025. Questions? Contact HR: 613-575-2250.
- Can't make your appointment? Let us know! The Department of Health kindly reminds clients to contact their clinic if they're unable to attend a scheduled appointment. To cancel or reschedule, call the Akwesasne Medical Clinic at 613-575-2341 ext. 3215 or the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic at 613-932-5808.
- Feeling overwhelmed? Need someone to talk to? The MCA Department of Health's Mental Health & Wellness Sector offers confidential support for both community members and employees. Therapy and addictions counselling are available through virtual and phone appointments, as well as in-person sessions at satellite locations throughout Cornwall. To learn more or to book an appointment, call 613-575-2341 ext. 3115.
- MCA's Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment is pleased to launch the FNCFS Home Repair Program to support Akwesasne families with essential home repairs. Application deadline is June 13, 2025. Go to page 25 for more information and how to apply.
- Turtle activity is on the rise! MCA's Environment Program would like to remind community members that early June is the peak time for nesting. You may see turtles along roadsides, in your yard, or shoreline. Spot a turtle nesting? Please contact the MCA Environment Program at 613-575-2250 ext. 1031 or email env.turtles.team@akwesasne.ca!

NEWS

MARKING MILESTONES: CAREY TERRANCE JR. SIGNS IONKWAKWÉ:NION BOOK OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

On Wednesday, May 7, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe came together at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of one of Akwesasne's own — Carey Terrance Jr. The event coincided with the 2025 season home opener for the Akwesasne Jr. B Thunder, setting the perfect stage to recognize a young man who continues to inspire both on and off the ice.

Before the game, Grand Chief Leonard Lazore delivered a warm welcome and presented Carey with a beautifully beaded medallion featuring the Anaheim Ducks logo — a symbol of both his accomplishments and his roots. In his address, Grand Chief Lazore remarked that "we honor one of our brightest athletes" and emphasized the importance of representing Akwesasne with pride and heart. He also gave heartfelt thanks to the coaches, volunteers, parents, and caregivers who uplift youth sports in the community, saying their time and dedication leave a lasting impact on the next generation.

The evening was made even more meaningful with the reintroduction of the Ionkwakwé:nion Book of Accomplishments — a tribute to Akwesasronon who excel in academics, athletics, arts, culture, and leadership. Reviving this cherished tradition, Carey was the first to sign the book under the current Council, making his mark not only in the world of sports but also in community history.

Carey Terrance Jr. is no stranger to success. At just 20 years old, he has earned gold with Team USA, played in three IIHF World Junior Championships, and signed a three-year NHL contract with the Anaheim Ducks — making him the first Akwesasronon to reach these historic milestones. The celebration took place on the very floor where he once played both hockey and lacrosse as a youth — a full-circle moment that touched the hearts of all in attendance.

What sets Carey apart isn't just his talent, but his unwavering humility, strong work ethic, and connection to home. He carries Akwesasne with him wherever he goes, serving as a powerful symbol of perseverance and possibility for Indigenous youth across Turtle Island.

During the first intermission, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Chiefs presented Carey with their Hometown Hero Award, recognizing individuals who embody hope, perseverance, and commitment. Following the ceremony, Carey Jr. was welcomed by fans of all ages during a community autograph session, where he graciously signed cards, hats, jerseys, and more — leaving many with memories to treasure and stories to tell.

Carey's journey is a testament to what can be achieved with discipline, determination, and heart. His story reminds us that greatness isn't just about breaking records — it's about lifting others up and staying grounded in who you are and where you come from.

To the youth of Akwesasne: dream big, work hard, and never lose sight of your goals. With determination in your spirit and the support of your community behind you, there are no limits to what you can achieve.



NEWS

AKWESASNE LEADERSHIP ATTENDS MILESTONE CEREMONY AT UOTTAWA
CELEBRATING PROGRESS IN INDIGENOUS EDUCATION



On May 6, 2025, Grand Chief Leonard Lazore represented the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne at a special event hosted by the University of Ottawa, marking the conclusion of its 2019 – 2024 Indigenous Action Plan. The ceremony not only reflected on the institution’s ongoing efforts toward reconciliation and inclusion, but also looked ahead to a future built on stronger partnerships with Indigenous communities.

A key highlight of the event was the university’s announcement of a full tuition waiver for Algonquin students. All students who are registered members of the 10 federally recognized Algonquin First Nations in Ontario and Quebec will now be eligible to study at uOttawa — at the undergraduate, master’s, or doctoral level — without paying tuition fees.

While the initiative was focused on supporting Algonquin learners, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne was invited to attend as part of broader efforts to build meaningful relationships with other First Nations. MCA was also proud to be joined by a trio of Akwesasronon graduates, whose success stories not only showcase the value of post-secondary education, but also highlight the potential benefits that future funding partnerships could bring for our community.

For Ieronhenehtha Lazore (Honours Bachelor of Arts in Communications, Class of 2024), Shannon L. Lazore (Bachelor of Arts General, Class of 2001), and Lannie Mitchell (Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Class of 2003; Primary

Health Care Nurse Practitioner, Class of 2007), the event was more than a celebration — it was a family affair. The three are related, sharing not only roots in Akwesasne, but also a commitment to education and community leadership. Their presence at the ceremony was a powerful reminder that the next generation of Indigenous professionals is already here — and thriving.

“Education is one of the strongest tools we have in shaping our future — not just as individuals, but as communities,” said Grand Chief Leonard Lazore. “In a time when First Nations are advocating for equity and recognition, we must continue to push for access, opportunity, and the resources our people need to succeed. A tuition waiver for Algonquin students is an inspiring step forward, and we look forward to deepening our relationships with institutions like uOttawa to support the aspirations of Akwesasronon learners.”

Their stories highlight how our students, too, could benefit from targeted support and tuition initiatives. While no formal agreements are in place at this time, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is committed to continued dialogue with post-secondary institutions and is hopeful that collaboration could one day lead to new opportunities for our learners.

Nia:wen to the uOttawa Communications & External Relations teams for capturing and sharing photos from the event.

NEWS

DENTAL SERVICES INFORMATION FOR AKWESASNE
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The MCA Department of Health’s Dental Clinic Transition Coordinator, Thresea Adams, has concluded her position as of May 17, 2025. The DOH sends her a sincere nia:wen/thank you for her assistance and service to the community.

The information below is a list of resources researched and compiled by the Dental Clinic Transition Coordinator during her tenure:

WHERE CAN I GO FOR DENTAL SERVICES?

- **Cornwall Dental Arts:** (613) 932-2058, located on 806 Pitt Street
- **Dentistry @ Cornwall:** (613) 933-0030, located on 1232 Brookdale Avenue
- **Dr. Paul Dentistry:** (613) 938-1010, located on 110 Sydney Street
- **Dr. Navaneelan:** (613) 933-7528, located on 525 Ninth Street East

WHERE DO I GO FOR DENTURE REPAIRS, ADJUSTMENTS, OR NEW DENTURES?

True Smile Denture Clinic: (613)344-0888, located on 989 11th St East Cornwall

MY CHILD NEEDS BRACES, WHO DO I CALL?

Ask your new dental provider, they may have services available in their office or may refer your child to an Orthodontist available within a certain radius.

HOW AM I COVERED FOR DENTAL SERVICES?

Most dental services are covered by Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits with a valid health card. No dental clinic will single out RAMQ as an eligibility to treat or not to treat. All offices take both RAMQ and OHIP.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHEN TRANSFERRING OFFICES?

The waiting period for an appointment may range from 1 week to several months depending on what may be available for the clinics you call. NO SHOW appointments will be taken seriously, if you are not shown to a scheduled appointment, you may incur a no-show fee. Please honor all appointments you are given. ANIHB does not pay no-show fees.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MY RECORDS?

Former Akwesasne Dental Clinic clients can reach out to the following:

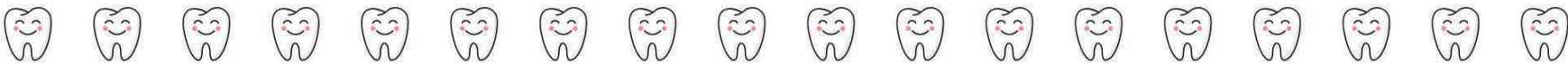
Email: info@cornwallspecialtydental.com

Phone: (613) 935-5555

Please reserve calls for those who do not have access to technology.

HELPFUL TIPS

- Brush properly twice a day — Use fluoride toothpaste and brush for 2 full minutes (morning and night).
- Floss daily — brushing alone doesn’t remove plaque from between your teeth.
- Use mouthwash wisely — choose an alcohol-free, fluoride-based mouthwash.
- Don’t skip dental visits — see your dentist at least once every 6 months, or more often if advised
- Watch your diet.
- Replace your toothbrush often.
- Avoid smoking. Smoking not only increases the risk of gum disease, tooth loss, and oral cancer but also negatively impacts the appearance of your smile and teeth.



COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: GRAND CHIEF LEONARD LAZORE



May 5, 2025

Discussion Items:

- Regional Committee on First Nations Language (RCFNL) looking for a representative from Akwesasne – Chief L. Francis-Benedict was selected.
- ED Meeting with SRMT ED – The Executive Director provided an update on the meeting held with the Executive Director of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.
- Contribution Presentation Summary – The ED provided an update to Council on the recent presentation of contribution summaries.
- Statistics training information was provided to all of Council.
- Council discussed an Elders Council – Youth, Elders, Culture and Language (YECL) Committee will follow up.
- Cornwall Truth and Reconciliation Action Plan – they would like to meet with Council; a meeting will be scheduled.
- Grand Chief discussed and forwarded an item for the PAT team

to review.

- An update was provided regarding the Transport Canada Fish Habitat Project – Chief V. Thompson will bring to Environment Portfolio to follow up.

Presentations:

A presentation was provided on the proposed language initiative and presented a proposal for funding, further follow up with be done.

MCRs: *Special General Meeting; (2) Housing Upgrade Applications; Youth Council Representative; Service Contract for Family and Child Services Consultant*

May 12, 2025

Discussion Items:

- Akweksko:wa Lands & Hopkins Point: Council discussed legal letters that need to be sent to the Canadian Government regarding Akweksko:wa and Hopkins point.
- IC Letter to Prime Minister Carney: Council discussed a letter that was drafted to send to the Prime Minister of Canada's office regarding the newly appointed Prime Minister.
- General Meeting Agenda – May 29th, 2025: Council discussed the general meeting agenda.
- Akwesasne Accessing Life Course & Environment Health Research Study: Council discussed the Akwesasne Accessing Life Course & Environment Health Research Study.

- Weekly Council and General Meeting: Council discussed having the annual break from Council and General Meetings during the summertime months.
- Orange Shirt Day Committee: Council discussed where the Orange Shirt Day festival will be located and transportation logistics on September 30th.
- Squares Corner Guard Rail: Council discussed installing a guard rail for Squares Corner on Cornwall Island for safety reasons.
- SRMT Funding Projects: Council discussed providing funding for the Saint Regis Tribe for projects that have mutual benefit and for positive partnership.

Presentations:

Org. Chart Update and Regional Education Agreement (REA) by AMBE: AMBE presented an updated organizational chart with an Associate Principal for the AMBE Program, gave a history of the AMBE Program, and proposed new financial models for the program.

MCRs:

Allotment Lot 212-1 Cornwall Island; Allotment Lot 212-2 Cornwall Island; Allotment Lot 212-3 Cornwall Island; Allotment Lot 200-6 Cornwall Island; Assignment of Lease Lot 6-3 Clark Island; Legal Retainer of K. Tucker of the JFK Law Firm for Seaway Proceeding; MCA Family Sustainability Project; MCA & Executive Services Org. Chart Update.

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY VISITS AKWESASNE TO DISCUSS BORDER SECURITY AND COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

On May 22, 2025, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) welcomed the Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Public Safety Canada, for his first official visit to the community. The visit highlighted Akwesasne's vital role in border security and the ongoing jurisdictional and economic challenges of being a cross-border First Nation.

The Minister's visit included stops at the Cornwall Port of Entry, a cultural event at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena hosted by the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education, and a driving tour of the Akwesasne districts. A working lunch at Iohahi:io provided an opportunity for introductions and discussions with members of Council on key community concerns.

Akwesasne is geographically and politically unique, spanning Ontario, Quebec, and New York State. Community members frequently cross both international and provincial borders, and the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) responds across more than 40 miles of shoreline. Given this frontline role, Akwesasne is calling for inclusion in Canada's \$1.3 billion Border Enforcement Strategy.

"Our community is doing the work. We are the frontline presence at this border every single day," said Grand Chief Leonard Lazore. "We want to be involved and bring solutions. If Canada is serious about border security, it must include Akwesasne as a true partner — not just in words, but through action, meaningful investment, and long-term solutions."

Some issues raised included the urgent need for federal funding for AMPS, infrastructure improvements at border crossings, and concerns about the economic strain caused by the current location of the CBSA port of entry and toll plaza. The border's location and associated delays not only affect daily movement and commerce, but also pose serious risks during medical emergencies, where seconds can mean the difference. MCA emphasized that continued collaborative work with CBSA is key to building stronger relationships and improving mobility and safety for the entire community.

MCA looks forward to continued discussions with the Minister and federal departments on these important matters. The Minister's office has also committed to arranging a future meeting with AMPS leadership.



Pictured L-R: MCA Grand Chief Leonard Lazore; Kana:takon District Chief Fallon David; the Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Public Safety Canada; Kawehno:ke District Chief Lacey Pierce; Kana:takon District Chief Theresa Jacobs; Tsi Snaihne District Chief Scott Peters.



MCA COMMUNITY MEETINGS

DISTRICT MEETING

JUN.
23

KANA:TAKON, TSI SNAIHNE, & KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT MEETING
DISTRICT RECREATION CENTERS • 6 PM

GENERAL MEETING

JUN.
26

GENERAL MEETING
KANA:TAKON RECREATION CENTER • 6 PM

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF TESHA ROURKE UPDATES



Portfolios:
Dept. of Community & Social Services, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Justice

Selected Committees:
CBSA, Youth, Elder, Culture, and Language (YECL), Special Needs, Finance, Governance, Executive Committee (Alternate)

External Committees:
Jay Treaty Border Alliance Entry of Goods Technical, Chiefs of Ontario Economic Development Committee, Chiefs of Ontario First Nations Women's Council, AFNQL Elected Women's Council

MONTHLY NOTABLES

Tsi Snaihne District Meeting Topics:

- Presentation to community members — Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits
 - » Tessa Jocko, A/Health Director & Melanie Gibson, Program Manager for Non-Insured.
 - » Discussed elder retirement benefits and the potential need for a senior benefits committee and supplemental insurance.
 - » Reviewed issues with non-insured health benefits, appeal processes, and prescription coverage gaps.
 - » Raised concern about lack of pharmacy consultant and asked for clarity on who manages denied claims and appeals.
- Recommended quarterly updates and intro videos from associate directors to help the community understand who does what at MCA.
- Community questioned why budgets are MCR'd before community input, and called for more transparency in spending.

- Requested a full Special Needs presentation with service stats by age and year.
- Noted short notice given about the dentist's departure, suggesting better communication.
- Recommended Chiefs provide their own monthly updates separate from Onkwe'ta:ke to allow space for MCA program updates.
- Flagged community concerns around cross-border issues, including:
 - » Impact on child tax and income tax.
 - » Concerns about U.S. tuition rates and FAFSA filing.
 - » Status of the Haudenosaunee Promise Scholarship for Canadian-born citizens.

April 12 - YECL Committee Meeting — Met with language group to discuss language revitalization. Focus was on how the northern portion of Akwesasne can contribute to Kanienhkeha learning at A:se Tsi Tewa:ton. Discussed ways to work together to revitalize language and culture across the community. Some members suggested extending A:se Tsi Tewa:ton program to three (3) years for deeper learning. The group aims to close the gaps and move language efforts forward. Key questions raised: Should this become a working task committee? Could it be a sub-committee under the Youth, Elders, Culture, & Language (YECL) committee? How can Council support these efforts? Can Kanienhkeha become a degree program like Six Nations, now that Iohahi:io is accredited? Noted strong interest in adult language learning and the need to support adult learners in their journey.

April 14 - All Council Meeting — AFAL Presentation (2:30 p.m.): DFA Director Heather Phillips provided an overview of the Akwesasne Financial Administration Law (AFAL). The presentation will continue with Part 2 at a later date, as we had to leave early to attend our District Meetings.

April 15 - MCA/SRMT Leadership Meeting — SRMT took us on a tour of their new Community Services building called Teionkwarihwa:ienawà:kon (We work together and help each other). Topics discussed: Tribal Electric Utility Presentation by Tribal Energy Specialist Jim Ransom and SRMT update on new FASFA guidelines for students.

Elected Women's Council via Zoom — Went over our Terms of Reference - on-going document.

April 16 - Bridging Justice Presentation — Invited to sit in on conversation with Parole Board of Canada to get insight of Akwesasne. Received a phone call regarding steps on getting Haudenosaunee Passports for community members.

April 17 - DCSS Portfolio Meeting — Topics discussed: Office space on Kawehno:ke, Special Needs update - Job descriptions getting prepared, attending AFN Indigenous Laws Gathering (June 3-4, 2025 in Rama, ON).

DOH Portfolio Meeting — Topics discussed: Community Paramedic, Meeting with Cornwall Community Hospital, Health Fair (May 22, 2025 at Tsi Snaihne Rec.), Jordan's Principle Bear Witness Day (May 9, 2025), Nurses Week planning underway for May 2025, Tsiionkwanonhso:te invited Portfolio Chiefs to visit on a monthly basis.

April 22 & 23 - Emergency Management Virtual Conference — The conference brought together leaders, healthcare professionals, emergency responders, and community advocates to explore strategies for building safer, more resilient Indigenous communities. Key presentations focused on community-led planning, culturally appropriate care, and integrating traditional knowledge into emergency systems. The second day of the conference continued with a strong focus on relationship-building, culturally grounded response systems, and interagency collaboration to enhance emergency services in Indigenous communities.

Attended AFN Virtual Forum Series with Conservatives.

Started Mohawk Class via Zoom that is Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. (50 weeks).

Attended AFN Virtual Forum Series with Liberals.

April 24 - General Meeting (Kawehno:ke Recreation) — Budgets and Audits. Meeting ended at 8 p.m. and there will be a part 2 to finish going over the budget and audits.

April 25 - Governance Meeting — Attended my first Governance meeting; team went over the work they have been doing.

Chiefs of Ontario Women's Council — Topics discussed: 25+ Council update, 231 Calls for Justice, May 5th Red Dress Day.

Executive Committee Meeting — Attended my first Executive Committee Meeting. Met with Pathways to go over the applicants that have applied.

April 27-29 - Attended FNMPC Conference (Toronto, ON) — Travel report available on the MCA website.

May 1 - University of Ottawa visit at Kana:takon Recreation Center — The day began with a traditional opening and a welcome message. Kana:takon District Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell gave an overview of our Council and how

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF TESHA ROURKE UPDATES

leadership works in Akwesasne. Cheyenne Lazore shared a cultural presentation that highlighted our history and identity, and Rachel Lazare gave an update on our self-government work through the Entewatathá:wi Program. We also heard from Cactus Cook Sunday about how our Justice Department and court system operate, and Kylee Tarbell presented on economic development projects happening in the community. The day ended with a guided bus tour of all three districts to show our geography and cross-border setup.

Oversight Committee Meeting — Topics discussed: Welcome and introductions of new members: Tsi Snaihne Rep. Theresa Benect and New Justice Portfolio Chief Tesha Rourke. I will be working on the Fire Safety Law. Also received updates on the Child Rights Law, and Fire Safety Law.

May 5 - Council Meeting — lonkwahronkha'onhakie – “We Are Becoming Fluent”: The lonkwahronkha'onhakie team presented to Council to share information about their program and the initiatives they offer to support second-language speakers. Their focus is on helping community members become more fluent in Kaniehkeha, and they highlighted the tools, activities, and supports they provide to encourage continued learning and language use.

May 6 - Met with Cornwall Community Hospital — We held our first official meeting with representatives from Cornwall Community Hospital (CCH). The goal was to introduce the new Council and begin building a stronger working relationship. April White, who plays a key advocacy role for Indigenous patients at CCH, provided an overview of services, hospital processes, and areas for collaboration.

The discussion focused on improving communication, reducing emergency room wait times, access to patient records, and supporting community members navigating hospital care. Topics such as cultural safety, patient advocacy, and the inclusion of Akwesasronon youth and Elders in hospital advisory councils were also raised.

Both MCA and CCH expressed interest in hosting future wellness events and health education sessions, and meetings will now take place quarterly to keep momentum going.

Border Partners Meeting — Council participated in a Zoom meeting with Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT), and Massena Port officials to share updates and strengthen coordination on cross-border matters.

Key updates from CBSA: Island Border Hours: Open daily from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. CBSA confirmed ambulance access is always available; CARM Commercial Program: Launch expected around

May 20–22. No major delays expected at the local port, but national delays may occur. Our port can hold 10–12 trucks if needed; Commercial Lane: Open Monday to Friday (weekends by request); License Plate Reader Upgrades: Begin June 16— one lane affected per day, but four lanes (including the commercial lane) will remain available. Public messaging will be shared when the island lane changes; Summer Planning: CBSA is increasing staff with 3 new recruits and is fully staffed for lacrosse season and summer events.

Key updates from Massena Port: Bob Dwyer is retiring at the end of April. Tracy Casey remains the tribal liaison. The new tire shredder pilot is in place for wrong-way drivers only; Creation of Records (Jay Treaty): Volume of requests is high, but Tracy reported it's being managed locally and internationally; Community Impact: No tariff changes affecting Akwesasne at this time. Current updates mainly concern goods from China and Hong Kong.

MCA informed partners that a community information session is being planned. Tracy will be updated once a date is confirmed. SRMT informed partners about lacrosse season starting back up.

YECL Committee Meeting — Discussed priorities, planning, and next steps for promoting language and culture in the community. The group is working to revitalize its structure and expand support for both youth and elders.

Key discussion points: Plans to revitalize the Elders Language Committee and create a wish list, including the goal of hiring a Language Coordinator. Currently developing a Terms of Reference (TOR) for both YECL and the Elders Council. Proposed events include a Language Symposium, Language Trail, and an Elder Callout (one elder per district, aged 60+).

May 7 - Meeting with Directors and Council regarding First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) — We shared ideas on how to better support families, focus more on prevention, and make sure services are rooted in our culture. We also talked about the need for better coordination between programs and making space for youth and community voices in future planning. This was a positive first step, and we plan to keep meeting to move these ideas forward. More community information sessions will be happening soon, stay tuned for updates.

Attended Akwesasne Thunder Home Opener — On Wednesday, May 7th, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe came together at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena to honor Carey Terrance Jr. during the Akwesasne Jr. B Thunder's 2025 home opener. Carey was

celebrated for his achievements on and off the ice, including being presented with a beaded Anaheim Ducks medallion by Grand Chief Leonard Lazore. The event also marked the return of the lonkwakwé:nion Book of Accomplishments, with Carey becoming the first to sign under the current Council, recognizing his place in Akwesasne's history.

May 9 - Governance Committee Meeting (attended via Zoom) — Updating our Council Meeting Regulations - on-going process. Travel day to Toronto, ON to attend the Chiefs of Ontario Women's Council Joint Meeting.

May 10 - Tri-Council Meeting (Toronto, ON) — The Tri-Council meeting brought together representatives from Women's Council (FNWC), Youth Council (OFNYPC), and the Knowledge Keepers (KK) Council to continue collaborative work on key issues affecting First Nations communities in Ontario. The gathering focused on strengthening unity across generations, reaffirming Indigenous identity, and guiding future policy directions for the Chiefs of Ontario.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

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

Email: info@oenetworks.ca
Phone: 613-936-6173 (call or text message)

Mohawk Class: I have started Mohawk Language Class via Zoom with Otsitsia Sunday; they are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Education: AMBE will be providing a community information session in the next coming weeks regarding FAFSA.

Finance Committee: Community members are encouraged to apply for positions on the Finance Committee.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

June 3-4: AFN (Assembly of First Nations) Annual Indigenous Laws Gathering (Rama First Nation, ON)

June 17-19: AFNQL (Assembly of First Nation Quebec and Labrador) Chiefs Assembly

July 15-17: AFN (Assembly of First Nations) General Assembly

July 31-August 3: Vacation

CONNECT WITH ME:

Email: Chief.Tesha.Rourke@akwesasne.ca
Phone: 613-551-3825 or 613-575-2250 ext. 2197

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION



FACEBOOK STATS

Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in May

1. Congratulations to Leah Tarbell on her Retirement
2. Talia Cook is not only an Emergency Medical Technician — they're also a model!
3. Kharlene "Bineh" Garrow is not only an Emergency Medical Technician — they're also an ista and athlete!
4. Teeweewes Swamp is not only an Emergency Medical Technician — they're also a big sister!
5. Rakeni & Me: Hair Class with Tisha Thompson (Flyer)

Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in May

1. Congratulations to Leah Tarbell on her Retirement — 21,013 Reached
2. Brunch, Bingo, & Big Smiles: Iakhihsotha Mother's Day Celebration — 17,265 Reached
3. Talia Cook is not only an Emergency Medical Technician — they're also a model! — 16,410 Reached
4. Rakeni & Me: Hair Class with Tisha Thompson (Flyer) — 13,105 Reached
5. AMBE Celebrates Culture, Community & Connection — 10,082 Reached



X STATS

Top Post in May



YOUTUBE STATS

Highest Viewed Video on the MCA YouTube Channel for May

How to Apply for a Certificate of Indian Status Card (Laminated)



Scan QR Code to view video!

To view more videos, please visit:
www.youtube.com/MohawkCouncilofAkwesasne

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Word Scramble

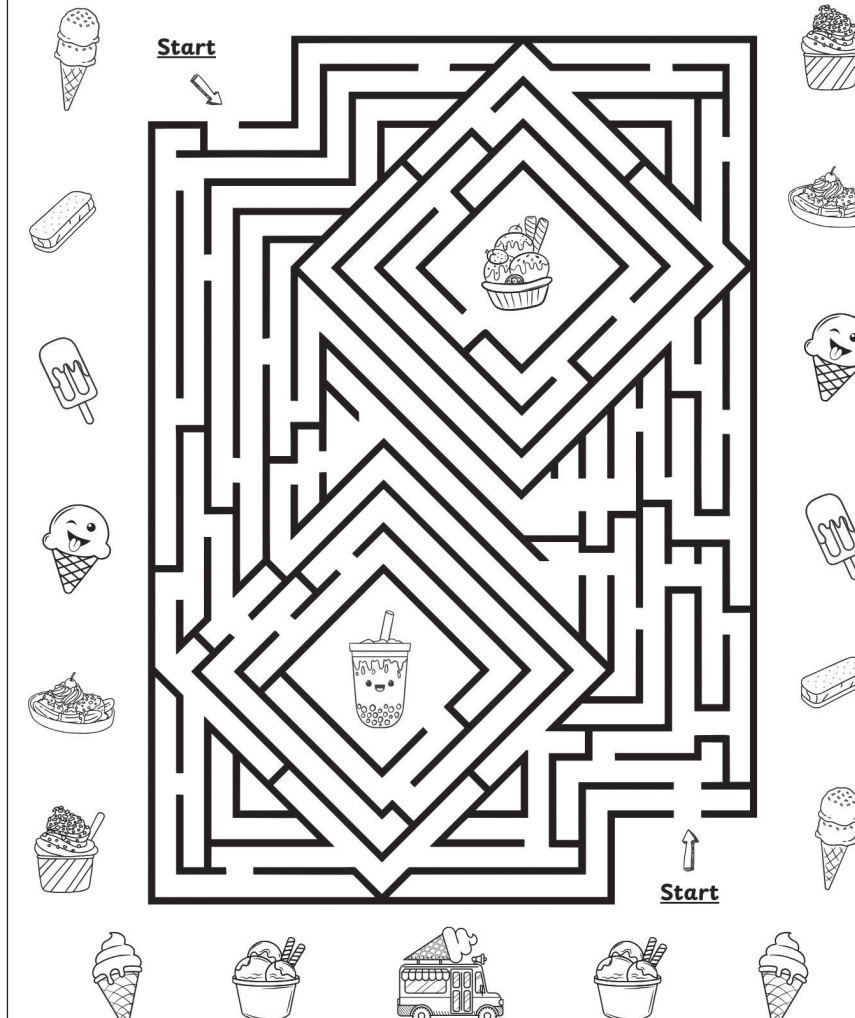
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SUN BEACH BERRY
DRAGONFLY PICNIC SANDCASTLE



MAZE & COLOR!

Find your way to the ice cream sundae and boba tea!



COLOR THE FLOWERS!



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why did the crab never share his toys at the beach?
Because he was shellfish!

How do flowers greet each other in the summer?
Hey bud!

What do you call a dog who loves summer?
A hot dog!

AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

MEET THE JUSTICE LEAGUE IIOKONHAHES KING, AKWESASNE REPRESENTATIVE



IioKonhahes has been a dedicated member of the Akwesasne Representative & Advocacy Program for the past two years. Although relatively new to the field, she brings a strong willingness to learn and grow, drawing insight and inspiration from her experienced colleagues. IioKonhahes is deeply passionate about working with youth and families, empowering them to break generational cycles of trauma—something she

of care.

In addition to her academic achievements, IioKonhahes is certified to facilitate culturally grounded healing programs such as Daughters of Tradition and Mending Broken Hearts. She has independently led two successful Daughters of Tradition cohorts, with growing interest and participation from young women each year.

A strong advocate for cultural identity, IioKonhahes organizes workshops that reconnect clients with traditional Mohawk crafts and teachings. Her enthusiasm for group facilitation continues to grow, and she aims to expand her work by leading traditional talking circles focused on mental health, substance use, and family wellness.

The staff at the Akwesasne Justice Department unanimously agree that we are very proud to have IioKonhahes on our team! We are also excited to see the new programs and workshops she will host in the future, staying true to our cultural core. Keep up the great work!

has successfully done in her own life.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Carleton University and aspires to pursue a Master's Degree in the same field. Her goal is to enhance her ability to support and advocate for the families and youth she serves, ensuring they receive the highest quality

MEET THE JUSTICE LEAGUE DARILEE SWAMP, GLADUE WRITER



Darilee has served as a Gladue Writer with the Akwesasne Community Justice Department since January 2024, following her previous role as Leasing Officer at the Office of Vital Statistics. Her commitment to justice is driven by both personal passion and a strong academic background. She completed Basic Military Qualification training with the Canadian Armed Forces through the RAVEN Program

this community is more than just a place to live—it is home in every sense: geographically, spiritually, and culturally. It is where she has built a life with her husband and their son, and where she continues to be an active and engaged member of the community.

When asked what her future plans are, Darilee declared “my ultimate goal is to become a criminal defense lawyer and advocate for Indigenous peoples within the legal system. I want to stand up in courtrooms and fight for justice—especially for those who, like me, have experienced the consequences of systemic oppression and lacked support during critical moments in their lives. Becoming a lawyer is not just a career goal; it is a calling and a way to fulfill what I believe is my life's purpose.”

Through her role as a Gladue Writer, Darilee has the profound responsibility of listening to and documenting the life stories of Indigenous individuals—stories shaped by systemic injustices, intergenerational trauma, and social barriers. These experiences are deeply emotional and often infuriating, revealing the extent to which Indigenous communities have been oppressed and underserved. With a significant lack of Indigenous representation in law—particularly among women—Darilee is determined to help change that. “I want to be someone who makes a difference and serves my people by giving voice to their struggles and strength in the courtroom,” she says.

and holds several college diplomas, including Massage Therapy, Medical Office Assistant, and Social Service Worker. Additionally, she earned a University Certificate in Land Management and Resources and is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, which she expects to complete by August 2026.

Originally from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River Territories, Darilee is Mohawk and a proud member of the Bear Clan. She has lived in and around Akwesasne since the age of 14. Although she briefly returned to her home territory to pursue her education, she soon came back to Akwesasne, where she has remained ever since. For Darilee,

AKWESASNE RIGHTS & RESEARCH OFFICE

A LEGACY OF SERVICE: THE HOGANSBURG AKWESASNE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department (HAVFD) has been a central part of Akwesasne history for more than 70 years and has grown to be one of the top fire departments in Franklin County, but it started out much smaller. Now, the department has three stations spread across two countries, two Canadian provinces (Ontario & Quebec) and one U.S. state (New York).

In 1954, the Fire Department was formed after a tragic event. With the contributions of generous donors who each donated \$100 to help HAVFD purchase the initial equipment needed to get started. The Canadian government contributed \$3,800 worth of equipment to assist.

With the money they raised and the donation from Canada, the department bought an old army truck for \$400. They added a 650-gallon water tank and a Chrysler pump, making it their first fire truck. They also bought an ambulance for \$200, so they could be ready for more types of emergencies.

Three years later, Alcoa Massena Works donated a 1942 International Pumper to HAVFD along with a suction hose, ladder, and pump. This truck could pump 550 gallons per minute and was a major help to the team.

In 1975, the Cornwall Island Fire Brigade joined the HAVFD, which gave the department a new station on Cornwall Island, five more firefighters, a 1,200-gallon tanker, and helped reduce response time on Cornwall Island by six minutes.

Over the years, the fire department kept growing. They have a tower truck, two fan boats, UTVs and numerous utility trucks. They also built a new station, Tsi Snaihne Station #3, so they can be ready for any emergency that they might face whether it happens on land or in the water.

Submission provided by the Akwesasne Rights and Research Office.



NOMINATION FOR 2025 CEO AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is proud to announce that a group of current and former members of the Akwesasne Rights & Research Office (ARRO)—along with valued Indigenous Services and Parks Canada technicians & colleagues—have been nominated for the 2025 Parks Canada CEO Awards of Excellence in the Protect, Present & Commemorate category.

This national recognition celebrates their contributions to the historic and meaningful initiative:

The return of a sacred site, Tsikatsinakwahere/Cairn Island, to Mohawks of Akwesasne stewardship group.

This prestigious nomination recognizes the collaborative efforts made to restore stewardship over Tsikatsinakwahere, a site of deep cultural and spiritual significance.

We honour the following Akwesasro:non for their dedication and outstanding work:

Cheyenne Lazore	Phillip White-Cree
Cactus Cook Sunday	Rasennes Pembleton (posthumous)
Adam Jacobs	

A hybrid (virtual and in-person) recognition ceremony will take place on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. (ET). The award recipients will be announced during this celebration.

We congratulate all nominees and extend our deepest appreciation for their efforts in reclaiming sacred spaces, preserving our culture, and protecting our land.

OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS



OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Services provided by OVS:



Indian Status



Lands



Estates



Membership/Residency



Leasing

CONTACT US

CIA #3 Building
101 Tewesateni Road (Kawehno:ke)
Akwasasne, ON K6H 0G5

Tel: 613-575-2250 ext. 1013
Email: ovs.office@akwasasne.ca

MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

CALL FOR REPRESENTATIVES: JOIN THE ELDERS COUNCIL

The Mohawk Council of Akwasasne is seeking three (3) Elders Council Representatives to help guide our community with wisdom, respect, and a strong voice for the future.

Eligibility:

The Akwasasne Elders Council membership shall consist of representatives, with a goal of equal gender composition, and staggered terms of two to three years. In order to be eligible to represent the Mohawks of Akwasasne, applicants must:

1. Be enrolled or have an active application to be a Member of the Mohawks of Akwasasne, according to the Akwasasne Membership Code;
2. Be 60 years of age at the time of appointment;
3. Reside in one of the three districts of Akwasasne: Kawehno:ke, Kana:takon, or Tsi Snaihne;
4. Must pass a Criminal Reference Check (CPIC) prior to appointment and not be convicted of criminal charges during the appointment term.

Responsibilities in accordance with the terms of reference:

1. Share ideas and issues, recommendations, and/or solutions with MCA;
2. Liaise with Grand Chief and Council on an as-needed basis;

3. Be committed to being a positive role model and promote a positive lifestyle;
4. Be respectful to all;
5. Support and work with Akwasasne youth and elder initiatives.

Please be advised that there are additional responsibilities in accordance with the Terms of Reference. Individuals selected will be appointed as an MCA Elders Representative through a Mohawk Council Resolution for a two to three-year term.

Interested individuals are invited to submit their letter of interest and resume to Kuyra Chaussi at kuyra.chaussi@akwasasne.ca or by mail/in-person to the Mohawk Government Offices located at the 12 Akwasasne St., Akwasasne, QC H0M 1A0 (Admin. #1 Building in Kana:takon), positions opened until filled. For further information or if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Mohawk Government offices at 613-575-2250 ext. 2162.





CALL OUT FOR

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE COMMISSIONERS

MCA is currently filling six vacant seats on the Akwasasne Mohawk Police Commission (AMPC); two seats each for the districts of Kawehno:ke, Kana:takon, and Tsi Snaihne with a term of three years.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: JUNE 25, 2025

For more information on qualifications and how to apply, please scan QR code:



AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

UNITY IN ACTION: AMBE STUDENTS LEAD THE WAY

On May 30, the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education hosted its very first Middle School Unity Day — a celebration of togetherness, wellness, and fun at Generations Park!

Grade 6, 7, and 8 students from all district schools came together for a day filled with kickball, lacrosse, basketball, cornhole, arts and crafts, and more. One special activity — the Unity Basket — gave students the chance to reflect on what unity means to them by sharing their thoughts along with their name, grade, and school.

But the most inspiring part? This day was sparked and steered by students themselves. The idea be-

gan with members of the Tentewaienáhsheke Student Leadership team, who turned their vision into reality — planning the day, organizing the activities, and even writing and submitting a grant to help bring it all to life. Their dedication shows what's possible when student voices lead the way.

The event even featured a special performance by Uncle Bubba, adding to the day's excitement and good vibes.

Nia:wen to the students, staff, and community partners who made this day possible. Here's to many more Unity Days ahead!



AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

2025 AMBE CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

In May, the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education launched its annual Cultural Celebration at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena for a two-day celebration. The arena came alive with laughter, drumming and song as Early Years students through Grade 8 sang, danced, and honored our Onkwehonwe culture through music, movement and traditional dress.

As a special highlight, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne was joined by Canada's Minister of Public Safety, Sathiyasangaree "Gary" Anandasangaree,

for a community tour — and made a stop at the arena to witness the celebration and experience the strength and beauty of our culture firsthand.

Nia:wen to the singers, drummers, organizers, parents, and everyone who helped bring this joyful event to life — and a big thanks to our friends at the Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance Unit and Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service for joining us and helping keep our students safe.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH INDIGENOUS PATIENT NAVIGATORS FAQ SHEET

The Department of Health's Clinical Care Services has responded to community questions regarding the Indigenous Patient Navigators roles and responsibilities.

Please see the FAQ's below for the most frequently asked questions about the Indigenous Patient Navigators along with their answers, hours of availability and contact information.

What are the hours of the Indigenous Patient Navigators?

April White is available Monday-Thursday at the Cornwall Community Hospital from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Room 4436.

Daryl Diabo is available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you need to speak with him outside those hours, he has flexibility.

How does someone get referred to the Indigenous Patient Navigators?

Patients can be referred to the Indigenous Patient Navigators by their primary healthcare provider, nurse, or anyone in their circle of care.

Can community members self-refer to the Indigenous Patient Navigators?

Absolutely! Community members are encouraged to self-refer to the Indigenous Patient Navigators.

Can the Indigenous Patient Navigators help if I have a concern with the care received at the hospital?

Yes! This is within the role of the Indigenous Patient Navigator.

Can the Indigenous Patient Navigators help me access healthcare in Quebec?

Yes! As the Quebec Indigenous Patient Navigator, Daryl Diabo can assist with this.

Can the Indigenous Patient Navigator accompany me to a medical appointment?

Yes they can! The role of the Indigenous Patient Navigator is to advocate for their clients healthcare services.

Do the Indigenous Patient Navigators make home visits?

Yes they do. The Indigenous Patient Navigators can make an appointment with you for a home visit.

How do I contact the Indigenous Patient Navigators?

Daryl Diabo can be reached at 613-575-2341 ext. 3207 or 613-551-7710 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or via email at daryl.diabo@akwesasne.ca.

April White can be reached at 613-938-4240 ext. 4542 or 613-577-5445. She can also be contacted via email at april.white.doh@akwesasne.ca or apwhite@cornwallhospital.ca.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

Community Health Services:
613-575-2341 ext. 3220

Jordan's Principle:
613-575-2341 ext. 2652

Addiction & Mental Health Services:
613-575-2341 ext. 3115

Land-Based Healing:
613-575-2341

Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center:
613-932-5050

Traditional Medicine:
613-575-2341 ext. 3100

Akwesasne Medical Clinic:
613-575-2341 ext. 3215

Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic:
613-932-5808

Home & Community Care:
613-575-2341 ext. 1618

Elder Services:
613-575-2341 ext. 1661

Iakhihsohtha Lodge:
613-575-2507

Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care:
613-932-1409



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DETOX CENTERS AND TREATMENT FACILITIES: THE DIFFERENCES

In response to the rising need of a detox center within our own community, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health opened the Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center (SDC). With the doors to the detox center being open for many months, there have been many misconceptions on what a detox center does, and what it does not, for a person's recovery journey.

WHAT IS DETOX?

Detoxification, or "detox," is the process in which the body clears itself of toxins, drugs, and other harmful chemicals ingested through drug use. The body, over time and frequent use, has become reliant on the drugs or chemicals ingested, and becomes addicted. Detox is considered to be the "first step in treatment and recovery."

When done "cold turkey," or completely stopping on your own, can be dangerous to that person's health. A medical intervention, or detox through a medically supervised center, is often recommended. The medical team at a detox center can help manage and safely handle withdrawal symptoms that come with detoxification.

Detox is a critical and vital role in a person's recovery. It gives them a "clean slate," providing them with a physically stable body to begin their recovery journey. The mental and emotional recovery process is handled in a rehab/treatment center.

As noted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, "Detoxification alone does not address the psychological, social, and behavioral problems associated with addiction and therefore does not typically produce lasting behavioral changes necessary for recovery. Detoxification should thus be followed by a formal assessment and referral to drug addiction treatment."

WHAT IS REHAB/TREATMENT?

"Rehab" is short for rehabilitation and is the process for restoring a person's health (physical, mental, emotional) through treatment or therapy. Drug rehab refers to the treatment needed to overcome drug abuse and establish healthy living habits. Rehab can also include the therapy needs to heal from the mental and physical detriments that can occur alongside addiction. "Drug treatment" and "recovery center" is synonymous with drug rehabilitation.

There are many types of rehab facilities, such as long-term residential (30, 60, and 90-day) and outpatient. 90 days is typically the recommended length of stay for many rehab centers.

Rehab centers typically offer the following:

- Long-term and extended care programs for clients
- Residences for the clients to live

- A variety of evidence-based therapy treatments, tailored to client needs
- Multiple interventions and episodes for treatment
- Ongoing care services and supports for clients
- Regular monitoring of clients, through residences or sober living homes

Once a client of the Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center has completed their process, they are provided with resources and referrals to long-term treatment centers and services. SDC staff will work with that client to plan their recovery, to the best of their ability. Ultimately, the choice to continue the recovery path is up to the client.

DETOX CENTER HOURS & SERVICES

Currently, the Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center is open Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The detox center offers weekly pre-admission screenings with its attending physician, Dr. Scott. The detox center has medical personnel as well as support staff to assist with all phases of the client's stay. Staff provide medical management to case management, offering referral services to treatment services upon completion of their detox process.

One of the long-term goals of the detox center is to expand services and hours. DOH administration and staff are researching and pursuing various avenues to see this goal be completed.

CONTACT SDC

For more information, please call the Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center at 613-932-5050.

**Detox and Rehab information courtesy of Turnbridge.com*

	<u>Detox Facility</u>	<u>Treatment Facility</u>
Primary Goal	Safe withdrawal from substances	Long-term recovery and behavior change
Duration	Short-term (days)	Longer-term (weeks to months)
Focus	Physical stabilization	Psychological and behavioral healing
Staff	Medical professionals	Therapists, counselors, support staff
After Detox?	Often leads into a treatment	May follow or include detox as first step

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

TOTAS FLOAT WITH PRIDE ON MEMORIAL DAY

Thanks to the amazing Iakhihsohtha Lodge team and a group of generous volunteers, our totas were front and center for this year's 2025 Akwesasne Memorial Day Parade!

With help from Mary Faye and Toby Roundpoint — who kindly donated their time and materials — our elders had a beautiful float to ride in style. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren hopped on board too, proudly waving to family and community mem-

bers along the route.

Those who preferred not to be on the float still showed their pride, cheering and waving from the comfort of the Lodge bus with big smiles on their faces.

A heartfelt nia:wen to Larry Roundpoint for driving the float, and to every volunteer who helped make this a parade to remember. Our totas felt the love — and it showed!



MEDICAL CLINIC REMINDER: PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CANCEL APPOINTMENTS

The MCA Department of Health is reminding clients of the importance of notifying the clinic if they are unable to attend a scheduled appointment.

If you need to cancel or reschedule, please call the clinic as soon as possible. This allows staff to offer the time slot to another client who may be waiting to be seen, helping to keep the clinic schedule running smoothly and efficiently.

If you are unable to make your scheduled appointment, please contact the Akwesasne Medical Clinic at 613-575-2341 ext. 3215 or the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic at 613-932-5808.

Reminder



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

IAKHIHSOHTHA CELEBRATES NURSES WEEK

Iakhihsohtha Lodge celebrated the dedicated and loving nurses who provide care to all the totas at the lodge. Lodge staff extend our deepest gratitude to our incredible team of nurses. Their unwavering dedication, compassion, and hard work are the backbone of our community, and we are immensely proud of the care they provide every day.

To honor our nurses, we treated them to a special lunch and presented them with a heartfelt gift as a token of our appreciation. This gesture is just a small way to say thank you for their tireless efforts and the positive impact they have on the lives of our

residents and their families.

Our nurses are more than just healthcare providers; they are the heart and soul of Iakhihsohtha Lodge. Their commitment to excellence and their compassionate care make a world of difference, and we are truly fortunate to have such an outstanding team.

Please join us in celebrating and thanking our nurses for their extraordinary contributions. Their dedication and hard work do not go unnoticed, and we are forever grateful for their service.



EVENING & SATURDAY CLINICS AVAILABLE AT KAWEHNO:KE MEDICAL CLINIC

The MCA Department of Health's Clinical Care Services Sector is reminding the community that evening and Saturday clinics are available with Nurse Practitioners Chelsea Albright and Olivier Lemay at the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic (KMC).

Saturday clinics at the KMC offer same day and pre-booked appointments with the nurse practitioner that is attending the clinic that day. To schedule an

appointment for the Saturday clinics, please call the KMC office starting at 8:00 a.m at 613-932-5808.

Evening appointments with Chelsea Albright, NP, are also available. Please call the KMC for available appointments and times.

Any questions or concerns, please call the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic at 613-932-5808.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

A BEAUTIFUL CELEBRATION FOR THE ONES WHO NURTURE US

Akwesasne Child and Family Services Traditional Support Unit proudly hosted a joyful Mother's Day Event on May 10th, bringing together community members to honor mothers, totas, aunties, and caregivers with love and creativity.

Akwesasronon enjoyed a relaxing afternoon filled with laughter, connection, and hands-on fun as they designed their very own hanging flower and berry baskets.

Niawenhkó:wa to everyone who attended and helped make this event a sweet success!



Attention Community of Akwesasne:
**Akwesasne Child & Family Services
needs YOUR help!**

There is an urgent need for kinship/foster/customary care homes.
If you, or anyone you know, may be in a position to open your home to either temporary or long-term fostering, please call **613-575-5020** and speak to an intake worker to submit your information. A Resource Development Worker will be in contact with you.



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SKATEBOARDS AND SMILES ROLLING THROUGH AKWESASNE

On Saturday, May 10, 2025, Akwesasronon came together for Girls Skate Day, a high-energy afternoon of skateboarding and creativity at the Akwesasne Skatepark on Kawehno:ke. The event featured Indigenous pro skater Rosie Archie, who inspired young participants with her presence and skills.

The day was packed with engaging activities including skate lessons, a grip tape workshop, portraits by Jaiden Mitchell, and a

mental health chat with Annie. Attendees enjoyed music, prizes, and a lively mix of art and food vendors. The event aimed to foster confidence, community, and wellness among girls and young women through skate culture.

Niawenhkó:wa to the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, Generations Skateboarding, and other local sponsors who made this event possible!



Portraits by Jaiden Mitchell

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & HOUSING



PICK-UP SCHEDULE

TUESDAY	RECYCLING
WEDNESDAY	MCA FACILITIES
THURSDAY	TSI SNAIHNE
FRIDAY	KAWEHNO:KE
SATURDAY	KANA:TAKON

CONTACT D&R DISPOSAL: 613-932-4588

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

ADMINISTRATION:
613-575-2250 ext. 1003

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

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & HOUSING

FNCFS HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment is pleased to launch the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Home Repair Program — an initiative designed to support Akwesasne families with essential home repairs.

This program is available to community members living with children under 18 who need critical repairs to their primary residence, such as:

- Mold remediation
- Roof or siding replacement
- Furnace upgrades
- Insulation installation
- HRV systems and more

The Housing Sector will manage this program to address necessary repairs (not cosmetic improvements), with a maximum of \$15,000 per civic address.

Program Criteria:

- Must be the head of household
- Primary residence only

- Must reside within MCA jurisdiction in the northern portion of Akwesasne
- Must be in good standing with the DIHE Housing Sector
- Proof of income is required
- Applicants are responsible for any costs beyond the \$15,000 maximum

Application Deadline: June 13, 2025

The goal of the program is to make homes safer and more comfortable for low-income families — ensuring access to heat, water, electricity, and healthy living conditions for our children. Priority will be given to families who have previously applied and not yet received assistance.

For more information or to apply, please email charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca or gina.thompson@akwesasne.ca. You may also contact Charmaine Caldwell, Associate Director, or Gina Jones-Thompson, Housing Services Manager, by phone at 613-575-2250 ext. 1051.

TURTLE TIME IN AKWESASNE

As June begins, turtle activity is on the rise! Ista turtles are on the move from mid-May to mid-July — with early June being the peak time for nesting. You may see them along roadsides, in your yard, or near the shoreline, looking for the perfect place to lay their eggs.

If you spot a turtle nesting, please contact the MCA Environment Program!

Email: env.turtles.team@akwesasne.ca

Phone: 613-575-2250 ext. 1031

You can also reach out if you have general turtle questions or if you spot an injured turtle — we're here to help protect our turtle relatives.

Even after nesting season wraps up, turtles will still be on the move until late fall, so please stay alert while driving!

Let's protect our turtle relatives and nia:wen for always looking out for them, Akwesasne!



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

CELEBRATING SAFETY, SERVICE, AND COMMUNITY: POLICE WEEK 2025

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) proudly participated in Police Week 2025, held from May 9-16, celebrating the strong connections between police, youth, community members, and local partners.

Throughout the week, AMPS took part in a variety of events focused on safety, youth engagement, and community connection. From serving lunch to our beloved tota's in long-term care to fun activities such as Kids for Fishing and Girls Skate Day, there was something for everyone.

Students enjoyed the Spring into Safety series,

where offices visited all three AMBE schools to share safety tips through engaging demonstrations, hands-on activities, and a friendly game of kickball with the officers. At Salmon River Central School, a Mock Car Crash helped raise awareness about impaired and distracted driving.

The week wrapped up with a visit to the Cornwall Police Open House, where AMPS joined other first responders for a fun, interactive day with the public.

Niawenhkó:wa to everyone who helped make Police Week 2025 a success. Together, we are building a safer and stronger community.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

CONGRATULATIONS TO LEAH TARBELL ON HER RETIREMENT



The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to congratulate Leah Tarbell on her retirement and thank her for an incredible 25 years of dedicated service to the organization!

Leah began her career with MCA on December 1, 1998, and has contrib-

uted to several departments over the years:

- Information Services (1998–2003): Computer Technician; Information Services Manager
- Human Resources (2003–2018): Personnel Officer; HR Generalist/Compensation

- Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance (2018–2025): Program Manager, Associate Director

As we celebrate EMS Week, it is especially meaningful to recognize Leah's leadership and guidance within Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance over the past seven years.

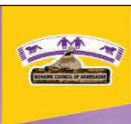
Leah has been more than a manager, she's been a mentor, a steady hand, and a constant source of support through every challenge. Her dedication, leadership, and heart have made a lasting impact on Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance. She has truly made a difference — not just in how AMA operates, but in who they are as a team.

On behalf of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, we sincerely thank Leah for her outstanding service and wish her all the best on her well-earned retirement.

MAY 2025 STATISTICS



317 May	40 1004 Assist Public	2 1049 Medical Aid
2 024 Break & Enter Residence	2 1006 Document Service	1 1050 Youth Complaint
1 025 Break & Enter Other	6 1008 By-Law Dogs	3 1052 Shooting Complaint
1 030 Theft – Other Vehicles	1 1009 By-Law Noise	2 106 Provincial Statutes – Other
3 040 Theft Under \$5,000 – Other	62 1013 Community Services	20 1063 Marine Patrol
1 045 Frauds – Other	6 1014 Crime Prevention	1 1064 ATV Patrol
1 061 Bail Violations	1 1015 Committal Warrants	1 204 Sexual Assault
1 063 Disturb the Peace	2 1016 Domestic Dispute (non-violent)	1 205 Assault – Level 1
1 068 Obstruct Peace Officer	4 1018 Escorts – Prisoner	1 206 Assault Weapon/CBH – Level 2
1 070 Trespass at Night	13 1023 Judge's Order (Court)	1 212 Assaults other
4 072 Mischief (Property Damage) Under \$5,000	1 1023 MVC – Non-Reportable	1 3030 Admin – Assist Other Agency
1 083 Other Drug Possession	2 1027 Property Found	1 6666 Assist Other Departments – Fire
2 100 Immigration Act	10 1029 Suspicious Persons	3 705 Dangerous Operation MV
5 1001 Alarms	8 1030 Suspicious Vehicles	3 711 Impaired Operation MV
2 1002 Alerts	18 1031 Suspicious Circumstances	2 715 Fail to Stop and Remain (CCC)
3 1003 Assist other agencies – Ambulance	2 1032 Sudden Death	2 717 Fail to Stop and Remain (HTA)
10 1003 Assist other agencies – Cornwall PS	4 1036 Warrant – Bench/First	1 720 Traffic – Federal Statutes
1 1003 Assist other agencies – OPP	1 1037 Warrant – Search	27 721 Traffic – Provincial Statutes
6 1003 Assist other agencies – Other	1 1038 Missing Persons	1 726 PD MVC over \$1,000 (Property Damage)
6 1003 Assist other agencies – Tribal PD	1 1040 Traffic Complaint	4 Incident Type Not Listed
	2 1041 Mental Health Act	



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FNCFS HOME REPAIR PROGRAM



MAXIMUM OF
\$15,000
PER CIVIC ADDRESS



Apply by: **June 13, 2025**

PROGRAM CRITERIA:

- Must be the head of household.
- Primary residence only.
- Must reside within MCA jurisdiction in the northern portion of Akwesasne.
- Must be in good standing with the DIHE Housing Sector.
- Proof of income is required.
- Applicants are responsible for any costs beyond the \$15,000 maximum.

Open to **Akwesasronon with children under 18** who need critical repairs to their primary residence, such as:



**MOLD
REMEDiation**



**INSULATION
INSTALLATION**



**ROOF/SIDING
REPLACEMENT**



**HRV SYSTEM
INSTALLATION**



**FURNACE
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...AND MORE!

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