

# ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Issue 8

FREE

Seskéha/August 2021

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## MCA HOLDS SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR 2021-2024 COUNCIL CHIEFS



On July 9, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne held the official swearing-in ceremony for the 2021-2024 Grand Chief and Council at the A'nowara'kowa Arena Pavilion. Justice Stephanie Cross conducted the ceremony as the newly-elected chiefs took their oaths of office. Nia:wen to all those who helped make this event possible. Congratulations to the 2021-2024 Council Chiefs: GRAND CHIEF — Abram Benedict; KAWEHNO:KE — Vanessa Adams, Jackie Benedict, Edward Roundpoint, Vince Thompson; KANA:TAKON — Cindy Francis-Mitchell, Ryan Jacobs, Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Tim Thompson; TSI SNAIHNE — April Adams-Phillips, Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo, JoAnn Swamp, Dwayne Thomas

## UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

### GENERAL MEETING

The first General Meeting of the new Council will be held via Zoom on August 5, 2021 at 6 p.m.

The August General Meeting will be held via Zoom on August 26, 2021 at 6 p.m.

Please send an email to [meetings@akwesasne.ca](mailto:meetings@akwesasne.ca) to receive a link to watch the meeting.

You can also send any questions you may have to [meetings@akwesasne.ca](mailto:meetings@akwesasne.ca) as well.

# MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2018-2021

## **Grand Chief**

Abram Benedict

## **Kana:takon District**

Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell

Chief Ryan Jacobs

Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

Chief Tim Thompson

## **Kawehno:ke District**

Chief Vanessa Adams

Chief Jackie Benedict

Chief Edward Roundpoint

Chief Vince Thompson

## **Tsi Snaihne District**

Chief April Adams-Phillips

Chief Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo

Chief JoAnn Swamp

Chief Dwayne Thomas

## **Administration**

Heather Phillips

*Executive Director*

Lorri Bova

*Director,*

*Department of Infrastructure,  
Housing & Environment*

Joyce King

*Director,*

*Akwesasne Justice Department*

Karen Hill

*Director,*

*Department of  
Community and Social Services*

Amber Montour

*A/Director,*

*Department of Health*

Donna Lahache

*Director,*

*Akwesasne Mohawk Board  
of Education*

Shawn Dulude

*Chief of Police,*

*Akwesasne Mohawk Police  
Service*

Kylee Tarbell

*A/Director,*

*Tehotienawakon*

# WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS



She:kon/Wat'kwanonhwera:ton,

The MCA Communications Team is proud to bring you a new issue of our print newsletter, Onkwe'ta:ke. The name Onkwe'ta:ke means "For the people" and the newsletter is our way of reporting MCA news and information to those we are serving...you, the people. MCA prides itself on transparency and accountability, and the news and reports in the pages to follow are MCA's attempt to ensure you receive informative and helpful news.

There is always a lot to learn about Council and the MCA departments, so we hope you find the newsletter both interesting and useful. We look forward to sharing our most valuable news with you in this format, and welcome you to provide feedback or suggestions by emailing our team at [communications@akwesasne.ca](mailto:communications@akwesasne.ca).

## FIVE THINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS &  
IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- 1** The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is nearing closer to the launch of its Akwesasne Healing Center, which aims to address the issue of homelessness by Akwesasronon in and around the community. To read more, see page 4.
- 2** On August 9, 2021, full vaccinated American citizens will be allowed into Canada for non-essential travel (Akwesasronon have been exempt from border closure since it was first declared). To read more, see page 6.
- 3** The Community Health Program has two COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics scheduled in August. If you have any questions, please call 613-575-2341 or see page 21 for more information.
- 4** Akwesasne Child & Family Services Home Repair Project will be made available to district community members with children under 18 years of age. To see the criteria and how to apply, see page 24.
- 5** The Akwesasne Mohawk Police are excited to launch the Positive Ticket Program. To find out more, see page 26.



TREE PLANTING CEREMONY IN MEMORY OF  
CHIEF DARRYL “KERMIT” LAZORE

On July 8, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne held a tree-planting ceremony in honour of the late Chief Darryl Lazore at the Kana:takon Recreation Centre. The beautiful Colorado Blue Spruce that was planted overlooks the St. Lawrence River and a plaque will be installed to commemorate Chief Lazore.

Grand Chief Abram Benedict and Kana:takon Chief Tim “Dooley” Thompson shared words honoring Darryl.

Darryl’s family, friends and community members all assisted to plant the tree.



Kana:takon District Chiefs Tim Thompson and Julie Phillips-Jacobs, along with Grand Chief Abram Benedict with the Blue Spruce in memory of Chief Darryl Lazore.



The family of the late Kana:takon District Chief Darryl Lazore at the tree planting ceremony.



# NEWS

## AKWESASNE HEALING CENTRE AIMS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS AND IMPROVE SERVICE ACCESSIBILITY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is nearing closer to the launch of its Akwesasne Healing Centre located in Cornwall, Ontario. The MCA Department of Community & Social Services (DCSS) has been developing the pilot project for the past several months with the goal being to address the issue of homelessness being experienced by Akwesasronon in and around the community.

The centre is located within the former General Hospital on Second Street and has been renovated to fit the needs of a homeless shelter, with an initial set up of beds for 8 men, 2 women, and 1 family. The facility is designed with emphasis on wellness, health and safety. Cozy healing rooms are available for counseling, bedrooms are large and comfortably furnished, for security there are separate areas for men and women.

Additional services will also be offered in the areas of health, mental health & addictions, and justice, and those services are geared toward any person in need. MCA and DCSS are working in collaboration with health officials, police and both Akwesasne and Cornwall councils to create the services that are most needed and which will improve the lives of community members.

"The statistics surrounding homelessness and drug addiction are troublesome and continue to rise," said Grand Chief Abram Benedict. "Our programs have worked to expand our existing services to help meet the needs. We see the Akwesasne Healing Centre as an initiative to meet the needs for our community members in and around Akwesasne. The additional services being built into the design will also go a long way in helping those who may have fallen through the cracks of public services. Bridging these gaps and connecting

people to the services they need is a high priority for our Council and staff."

On July 15, 2021, Ontario's Associate Minister of Mental Health & Addictions Michael Tibollo toured the facility and had a meeting with Council and the department staff who have created the centre. He pledged his support of the endeavor and commended Akwesasne for the initiative taken and the strength behind indigenous-based healing.

Information on criteria for the shelter and a complete listing of services offered will be publicized once the opening date for the Akwesasne Healing Centre is confirmed.

If you are currently experiencing an emergency, please contact the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service at 613-575-2000.



Touring the new Akwesasne Healing Centre. Left to right: Kana:takon District Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Tsi Snaihne District Chief April Adams-Phillips, Kawehno:ke District Chief Vanessa Adams, Grand Chief Abram Benedict, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Michael Tibollo, Kana:takon District Chief Tim Thompson, MPP Jim McDonnell, and Akwesasne Chief of Police Shawn Dulude.



## ONTARIO MOVING TO STEP THREE OF 'ROADMAP TO REOPEN'

Due to improvements in key public health areas and health systems, and increased province-wide vaccination rates, Ontario has moved to Step Three of its "Roadmap to Reopen" as of Friday, July 16, 2021, at 12:01 a.m.

**Step Three of the Roadmap to Reopen includes, but is not limited to:**

- Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 100 people, with limited exceptions
- Indoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 25 people
- Indoor religious services, rites, and ceremonies, including weddings and funerals permitted with physical distancing
- Indoor dining permitted with no limits on the number of patrons per table with physical distancing and other restrictions still in effect
- Indoor sports and recreational fitness facilities to open subject to a maximum of 50% capacity of the indoor space. Capacity for indoor spectators is 50% of the usual seating capacity or 1,000 people, whichever is less. Capacity for outdoor spectators is 75% of the usual seating capacity, or 15,000 people, whichever is less
- Indoor meeting and event spaces permitted to operate with physical distancing and other restrictions still in effect and capacity limited to not exceed 50% capacity or 1,000 people (whichever is less)
- Essential and non-essential retail with capacity limited to the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of 6-feet
- Personal care service, including services requiring the removal of a face covering, with capacity limited to the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of 6-feet
- Museums, galleries, historic sites, aquariums, zoos,

landmarks, botanical gardens, science centres, casinos/bingo halls, amusement parks, fairs, and rural exhibitions, festivals, with capacity limited to not exceed 50% capacity indoors and 75% capacity outdoors

- Concert venues, cinemas, and theaters permitted to operate at up to 50% indoors or a maximum of 1,000 people for seated events (whichever is less), up to 75% capacity outdoors or a maximum of 5,000 people for unseated events (whichever is less), and up to 75% capacity outdoors or a maximum of 15,000 people for events with fixed seating (whichever is less)
- Real estate open houses with capacity limited to the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of 6-feet
- Indoor food or drink establishments where dance facilities are provided, including nightclubs and restobars, permitted up to 25% capacity or up to a maximum limit of 250 people (whichever is less)
- Face coverings in indoor public settings and physical distancing requirements remain in place throughout Step Three.

To review the full Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen, please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario>.

**ONTARIO MOVING  
TO STEP THREE OF  
'ROADMAP TO  
REOPEN'**





# NEWS

## CANADA OPENING BORDER FOR VACCINATED TRAVELLERS; U.S. KEEPING BORDER CLOSED FOR NOW (JULY 23)

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe are providing an update to the community on the U.S. – Canada border closure.

Canada announced that as of August 9, 2021, fully vaccinated American citizens will be allowed into Canada for non-essential travel (leisure, entertainment, etc.). A negative COVID-19 test is required prior to entry or return to Canada, and vaccinated individuals will be selected at random for on-arrival COVID-testing at ports of entry. On September 7, 2021, citizens from other countries will be allowed to enter Canada if vaccinated.

The United States announced that they are not yet opening up their border to any non-American citizens travelling for non-essential purposes. The U.S. will keep their border closed until at least August 21, 2021 at which time the next update will be provided.

Akwesasronon who are registered status Indians in Canada have been exempt from the border closure since it was first declared; Akwesasronon have been permitted to continue crossing the border for both essential and non-essential purposes without COVID-19 test-ing or quarantine. This exemption for Akwesasne residents is unchanged. However, anyone visiting Akwesasne from other places of residence will be required to have proof of a negative COVID-19 test when arriving to Canada. Those not vaccinated are required to quarantine.

The Canada Border Services Agency is advising the community that traffic may increase at the Cornwall Port of Entry resulting in some adjustments to staffing, lanes and fluctuating wait times. The Domestic Lane pilot will continue to operate and the public is encouraged to use this lane when travelling domestically from Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island).

## MCA COMMUNITY INFORMATION: WHAT IS COMMON LAND?

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) is providing the community information on the use of common lands in Akwesasne.

### Common Land on a First Nation:

Common land is considered reserve land that is not under the lawful possession of an individual member. A member who has lawful possession of land is, in most cases, entitled to a certificate of possession or "CP".

By default, all land in the reserve is common land. In the northern portion of Akwesasne, common land is controlled by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. Reserve land is not owned by individuals but held in trust for the benefit of band members by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. The MCA can manage the land and can also

allocate land to an individual member by resolution.

### Who controls Common Land?

No individual member of Akwesasne can take exclusive possession of common land or any part of it. For example, individuals can not fence off a part of common land and build on it. The right of community members to use common lands for various purposes would be determined by the custom of the Mohawks of Akwesasne.

There are some specific cases that arise. For example, the MCA holds CPs for certain lands on which it has constructed facilities. The MCA has full control of these lands. In Akwesasne, if you have a need to use common land for any reason, please contact Mohawk Government Office at 613-575-2250.



# NEWS

## MCA FINANCE COMMITTEE FILLING VACANCIES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is currently filling four (4) vacant seats on the Finance Committee:

- One (1) vacant seat for the district of Kana:takon, with a term of not less than three (3) years
- One (1) vacant seat for the district of Kawehno:ke, with a term of not less than three (3) years
- One (1) vacant seat for the district of Tsi Snaihne, with a term of not less than three (3) years
- One (1) vacant seat for a member at large, with term of not less than three (3) years

The Finance Committee is established to provide Council with advice and recommendations in order to support Council's decision-making process respecting the Financial Administration of Akwesasne. In the spirit of transparency, accountability and integrity the Finance Committee shall assist Council with safeguarding community assets by ensuring compliance with all relevant laws and regulations.

The Honorarium rate for this position is determined by Council's Honorarium Policy, which is \$25-hourly for meetings, and training related sessions.

To qualify for appointment for the position, a person must:

- be a Member;
- have knowledge of Mohawk cultures and traditions;
- have good character, credibility and reputation in the Akwesasne community;
- have good communication skills;
- Shall be independent from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- Shall have Financial Competency
- be "in good standing" as defined in the Akwesasne Good Standing Policy;
- not be a Council member of the Mohawk Council of

Akwesasne; the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council; or, the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs;

- not be an employee of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- produce a valid certificate from the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC);
- have the means to participate in Finance committee whether it be held in person or in a virtual setting;
- attend and actively participate in training deemed essential for the successful operation of the Finance Committee;
- attend regularly scheduled Finance Committee meetings to conduct business and attend Public Meetings as scheduled;
- sign the Oath of Appointment within 30 days of appointment.

Interested candidates are required to complete an Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Finance Committee Application, which is available at MCA, Executive Services (Administration 1 Building). Candidates are also required to submit a letter of interest on how they meet the criteria established in the Finance Committee Charter.

All interested individuals are asked to submit a completed package no later than Monday, August 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions regarding this community notice or which to submit a Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Finance Committee Application please contact:

Executive Services  
Executive Director, Heather Phillips  
PO Box 90  
Akwesasne, QC H0M 1A0  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2120



# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - “WE WILL GOVERN”



## WHY AKWESASNE WILL NOT BECOME A MUNICIPALITY: PART 2

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Entewatathá:wi of Akwesasne will not become a municipality. Program would like to provide information to the Entewatathá:wi is further providing a comparative community regarding questions our office has re- chart of the delivery of programs and services by ceived about self-government. In a previous edi- the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne; and the City of tion we provided the reasons why the Mohawks Cornwall administration.

### COMPARATIVE CHART OF THE DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne services with the Federal and Provincial Funding Agreements.	Services provided by the City of Cornwall from the collection of the city tax base and in cooperation with the Federal and Provincial taxes.
<p><b>Executive Services</b></p> <p>Aboriginal Rights and Research (Office and Land Claims)</p> <p>Employment Programs</p> <p>Nation Building (Self-Government Negotiations)</p> <p>Office of Vital Statistics- Lands &amp; Estates, Membership &amp; Residency, Leasing,</p>	<p><b>Executive Services</b></p>
<p><b>Department of Community and Social Services</b></p> <p>Akwesasne Child and Family Services</p> <p>Community Support</p> <p>Akwesasne Family Wellness</p>	<p><b>Social Services</b></p> <p>Community Agencies</p>



# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - “WE WILL GOVERN”

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne services with the Federal and Provincial Funding Agreements.	Services provided by the City of Cornwall from the collection of the city tax base and in cooperation with the Federal and Provincial taxes.
<p><b>Finance &amp; Administration</b></p> <p>Finance Services</p> <p>Human Resources (Staffing and Recruitment)</p> <p>Communications ( Community notices)</p> <p>Information Services (Information Technology and Archives)</p>	<p><b>General Administration &amp; Finance</b></p> <p>Finance Services</p> <p>Human Resources</p> <p>Communications</p> <p>Information Services</p>
<p><b>Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE)</b></p> <p>Iohahi:io &amp; Post Secondary Education (Student Services)</p> <p>3 District Schools ( K4 to Grade 8)</p> <p>Child Care - Headstart</p> <p>AMBE-Secondary school services</p> <p>AMBE Administration</p>	<p><b>Education</b></p>
<p><b>Department of Health Akwesasne</b></p> <p>Non Insured Health Benefits</p> <p>Home Support/Home care</p> <p>Community Health</p> <p>Iakhihsohtha (Long Term Care)</p> <p>Tsiionkwanonhso:te (Long Term Care)</p> <p>Holistic Health &amp; Wellness</p>	<p><b>Health Unit</b></p> <p>Long Term Facilities</p>
<p><b>Department of Justice</b></p> <p>Akwesasne Community Justice Program</p> <p>Akwesasne Court</p> <p>Akwesasne Representatives &amp; advocacy</p> <p>Civil Remedies</p>	<p><b>Justice</b></p>



# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - “WE WILL GOVERN”



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne services with the Federal and Provincial Funding Agreements.	Services provided by the City of Cornwall from the collection of the city tax base and in cooperation with the Federal and Provincial taxes.
<div>Department of Infrastructure</div> <div>Housing</div> <div>Maintenance &amp; facilities</div> <div>Roads</div> <div>Water &amp; Waste Water</div> <div>Capital Projects</div> <div>Housing Administration (rentals and housing loans)</div> <div>Environment</div>	<div>Infrastructure</div> <div>Social and Housing Services</div> <div>Parks and Recreation</div> <div>Road Repair and Snow Removal</div> <div>Infrastructure and Municipal Works</div> <div>Transit Services</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Public Library</div>
<div>Economic Development</div> <div>Arena</div> <div>Peace Tree Mall</div> <div>Thompson Island</div> <div>Tobacco</div>	<div>Planning and Economic Development</div> <div>Recreation</div> <div>Economic Development Department</div>
	<div>Note: Additional to the property taxes are charges to property owners for water, waste water, and garbage pick-up.</div>

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



### JUNE 28, 2021

- Council was briefed a recent request for input from an organization requesting insight into a residential school public acknowledgement.
- A concern with respect to treatment of members at Cornwall Community Hospital was discussed and will be followed up with the hospital.
- Council agreed and acknowledged that a posting will be forthcoming for two positions for the Overseers for the Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust.
- A briefing was provided on a request from the Seaway International Bridge Corporation (SIBC) for a representative to provide input into the RFID bridge pass development project. Further follow up will be done with SIBC.
- Council received an update on community planning for the Every Child Matters Unity March.
- An update was provided on the annual evaluation for the Executive Director.
- Council discussed possible avenues for mitigation on Hydro Quebec outages and will be followed up on.
- **MCR's passed:** Approval of allotment of land St. Regis Village; Approval of waterline extension on Kawehno:ke Rec Road / Lillian Way; Approval of assignment of (2) lease Clark Island; Approval of assignment of lease St Francis Island, Approval of assignment of (2) lease Colquhuoun Island; Approval of assignment of (2) lease Ross Island; Approval of new organization chart for Iohahi:io; Approval of the amendment to Akwesasne Canada funding agreement.

### JULY 5, 2021

- A request for information for the process of accessing a Justice of the Peace for marriage services was discussed and will be followed up on.
- Council was updated on the Every Child Matters Unity March and received a briefing from the exchange with the City of Cornwall regarding the recognition of the residential school survivors.
- A briefing on a request for the use of band land was discussed, the requestor will be asked to put the request in writing.
- Council discussed the district recreations re-opening, a letter to the recreation centres will be sent requesting resumption plans.
- A briefing was provided on the upcoming 2021-2024 Council swearing in.
- Council discussed the need for a riverfront clean up in Kana:takon, further research will be done on other district waterfronts.
- A request to put a recognition mural for the residential school survivors at the tennis court was discussed, approval was provided.
- The Executive Director provided an overview of the transition plan for Council.
- **MCR's passed:** Approval of Ontario Child Care Transfer Payment agreement; Approval of Band Transfer (probation completed); Approval of assignment of lease Ross Island; Approval of Interim Cannabis Working Task Group; Approval of (2) business application to AEDF; Acceptance of two resignations letters of two Overseers for the Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust.



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT

JULY 19, 2021

- Council discussed a letter received requesting support and assistance on a number of initiatives regarding residential school survivors, including an apology from the elected council. Further research will be conducted in order to formulate a response.
- A briefing was provided on the current process to assist community members with disputes/issues with Bell Canada.
- Council discussed the ongoing power outages and formed a Chiefs committee to examine options and to arrange a meeting with Quebec Hydro to discuss solutions.
- A briefing was provided on the continued development of the tennis courts on Kawehno:ke.
- Council received a briefing on the current arrangements for shared working space and the space limitations amid COVID-19 restrictions.
- A briefing was provided on a recent tour and meeting with the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.
- Council discussed a request from Walpole Island First Nations for elected officials' salary ranges; a decision will be deferred to next week.
- An update was provided on the recent announcement of the warehouse being removed at the Port Lands.
- Council discussed a letter received from the Iroquois Woodland Metis requesting a meeting regarding the Iroquois Indian Head on the Iroquois Water Tower. Further research will be done regarding the Metis Group.
- Council agreed that all members of Council will have BMO signing authority.
- **MCR's passed:** Approval of funding agreement with Ministry of Health, Child and Youth Health Services; Approval to rescind previous renovation loan (loan declined).

## YOU ARE IN THE TERRITORY OF AKWESASNE

PLEASE PRACTICE THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOLS TO ENSURE SAFETY FOR ALL:



**WEAR A MASK.**



**PHYSICAL DISTANCE  
KEEP 6 FT/2 M.**



**WASH HANDS OFTEN  
FOR 20 SECONDS.**



**GET VACCINATED.**

# SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

## FACEBOOK STATS



### Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in July

1. Akwesasne Marches for Children & Families of Resident Schools
2. Tree Planting Ceremony in Memory of Chief Darryl “Kermit” Lazore
3. MCA Holds Swearing-In Ceremony for 2021-2024 Council
4. The Department of Health Sends Well Wishes to Former Acting Director
5. Akwesasne Healing Centre Aims to Address Homelessness & Improve Service Accessibility

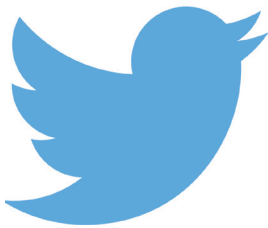
### Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in July

1. Akwesasne Marches for Children & Families of Resident Schools — 8,905 reached
2. Tree Planting Ceremony in Memory of Chief Darryl “Kermit” Lazore — 8,380 reached
3. Live: MCA Swearing-In Ceremony for 2021-2024 Term — 5,456 reached
4. Canada Opening Border for Vaccinated Travellers; U.S. Keeping Border Closed for Now — 5,237 reached
5. AMPS Seeking Public’s Assistance in ATV Theft — 4,724 reached

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## TWITTER STATS

### Top Tweet in July



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## YOUTUBE STATS



### Highest Viewed Videos on the MCA Youtube Channel for July

1. Nia:wen to Akwesasne’s PSWs!
2. COVID-19 Questions with Dr. Horn
3. Risks of Getting COVID-19 vs. Getting the Vaccine



# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCES!

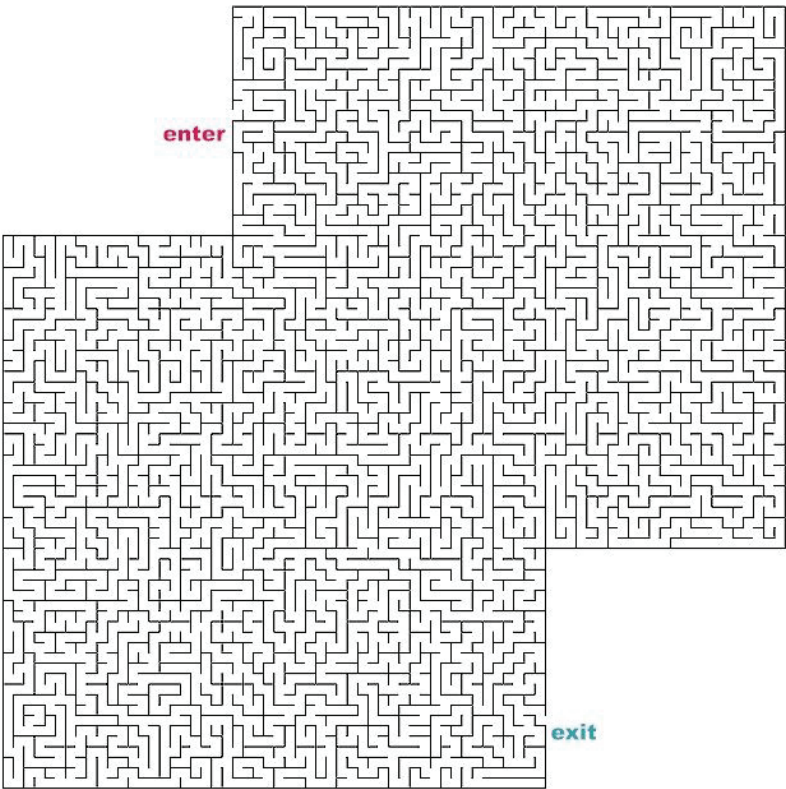
Can you spot the 5 differences in the two pictures of the child fishing?




1. On the bottom right, there is one extra lily-pod in the water. 2. In the top of the river scene, the fish is missing its shadow. 3. There is a leaf missing in the tree in the middle. 4. There is a missing branch on the tree under the bird. 5. Extra flower in the bush on the left side of photo.

## SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

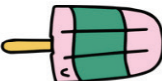
Try out this tricky maze!




## YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why do fish like to eat worms?  
 They are hooked on them!

When do you go at red and stop at green?  
 When you're eating a watermelon!

What is every dad's favorite treat?  
 POPSICLES!

Why do bananas use sunscreen?  
 Because they peel!

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## Wholistic Health & Wellness

### Addictions Program

Bonnie Bradley, Clinical Supervisor  
Joey David, Cultural Addictions Specialist

The Addictions Program offers Holistic Medicine Wheel assessments, and other services, to assist community members in their recovery process.



**SUBSTANCE USE CAN BE A  
LIFE-OR-DEATH DECISION.  
CHOOSE TO EMBRACE LIFE  
AND RECOVERY.**

**CALL 613-575-2341 TO SPEAK TO AN ADDICTIONS PROGRAM STAFF PERSON**



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet

Information provided by Health Canada

### WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 is an infection caused by the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). It is passed from an infected person who coughs, breathes, sings, or talks (droplets from the mouth).

It is possible to have no symptoms and still spread the COVID-19 infection (asymptomatic).

### HOW DOES THE COVID-19 VACCINES PROTECT AGAINST THE VIRUS?

The vaccine works by presenting your body with something that looks like the infection so that your immune system can learn how to produce its own natural protection.

This natural protection prevents infection if you come in contact with an individual who has COVID-19.

### WHO CAN RECEIVE THE VACCINE?

The Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is approved for individuals 12 years of age and up.

The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is approved for individuals 18 years of age and up.

A discussion with your primary healthcare provider can assist in the prevention of any complications from the vaccine.

### HOW IS THE VACCINE ADMINISTERED?

The COVID-19 vaccine is administered via injection in two doses, given 21-28 days apart.

After receiving your first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, you will be provided with a follow up appointment for your second dose.

### WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF THE VACCINE?

The most commonly reported side effects are pain at the injection site, tiredness, headache, fatigue, chills, joint pain, and mild fever.

These side effects typically subside after 1-2 days after injection.

### MY SIDE EFFECTS AREN'T GOING AWAY. NOW WHAT?

If your side effects haven't subsided after a few days, contact your healthcare provider.

Contact emergency services if you experience any adverse reactions such as:

- Hives
- Swelling of the face/mouth
- High fever
- Serious drowsiness
- Convulsions or seizure
- Numbness/"pins and needles"

To register for the COVID-19 vaccine, please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.

**Take your shot! Get the vaccine.**



## COVID-19 Age 12-17 Fact Sheet

### What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is an infection caused by the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), and is mainly passed from an infected person through coughing, sneezing, talking, breathing, or singing.

### What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, body aches, tiredness, loss of taste or smell. An infected person can also have no symptoms at all (asymptomatic).

### How does the vaccine protect me from COVID-19?

The vaccine works by presenting something to your body that looks like the infection, causing your body to produce its own natural protection. The natural protection helps prevent infection if you come in contact with an individual who has COVID-19.

### Who can receive the COVID-19 vaccine?

The Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is currently approved for individuals 12 years of age and older. The vaccine is administered in two doses, 21-28 days apart.

### What are the side effects of the vaccine?

The most common reported side effects are pain/swelling at the injection site, mild fever, chills, body aches, and tiredness. Some experience no side effects at all.



**Take your shot!**  
Contact the Community  
Health Program if you're  
interested in receiving the  
COVID-19 vaccine at  
613-575-2341 x3220.





# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SENDS WELL WISHES TO FORMER ACTING DIRECTOR

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health (DOH) wishes to send their best regards, and the deepest of appreciation for her many years of service, to former Acting Director Cindy Francis-Mitchell. Cindy has accepted her first term as a District Chief of Kana:takon for the 2021-2024 term.

Cindy spent the majority of her MCA career in various programs under the DOH, devoting the past 34 years to the health & wellness of our community. Cindy worked her way up the ranks of the DOH over the years, starting as a receptionist for the Akwesasne Medical Clinic, eventually serving as the Department of Health's Acting Director for the past year and a half.

Cindy's leadership and devotion were an asset to the Department of Health, helping to navigate the depart-

ment, and the MCA organization, through the COVID-19 pandemic. Her leadership skills and devotion to her community never wavered, no matter how tired she became. She was a constant presence in the office throughout the pandemic, attending Zoom meetings first thing in the morning, and often times well into the evening hours. Cindy offered support to her management team when needed, and ensured they had the resources necessary to keep their programs going, and to see the community through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cindy's leadership skills and the passion she holds for the community of Akwesasne will be exhibited while she is at the Council table. The management team and staff of the Department of Health wish her all the best in her endeavor as District Chief of Kana:takon!



***Cindy's leadership skills and the passion she holds for the community of Akwesasne will be exhibited while she is at the Council table. The management team and staff of the Department of Health wish her all the best in her endeavor as District Chief of Kana:takon!***

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## MCA SEEKS HEALTHCARE STAFF

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is currently seeking staff to fill several positions and areas in need throughout the Department of Health. The pandemic has left many programs short on staff or unable to fill positions.

We are encouraging anyone interested in emergency employment to submit a resume identifying skills and areas of interest to our Human Resources office. Sever-

al positions will be filled immediately on an emergency hire, term basis.

Staff are currently sought for the following areas/positions: Nurses, RPNs, and Personal Support Workers.

Any questions or resume submissions can be directed to:

- [jobs@akwesasne.ca](mailto:jobs@akwesasne.ca)
- 613-575-2250 ext. 2145, 2146, or 2147



# WE'RE HIRING!

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT MCA

[AKWESASNE.CA/EMPLOYMENT](http://AKWESASNE.CA/EMPLOYMENT)





# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EXTENDS APPRECIATION TO THREE FEATHERS CAFE STAFF

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health (DOH) would like to extend a sincere *niawenhkó:wa* to the staff of Three Feathers Cafe. Three Feathers Cafe owner, Valene Gray, took on the Meals on Wheels Program during the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring our elders who participate in the program received their meals in a timely manner. Without

the assistance of Three Feathers Cafe staff, the Meals on Wheels Program would not have been able to continue throughout the pandemic.

On behalf of the DOH, thank you to the dedicated staff at Three Feathers Cafe for your commitment to our elders and to the community of Akwesasne.



Thanks to the assistance of the staff at Three Feathers Café, the Meals on Wheels Program was able to continue throughout the pandemic!



# UPCOMING COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC

If you are interested in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, the Community Health Program has the following clinics scheduled:

**MODERNA (AGES 18+):**

**AUGUST 11, 2021 • 10 AM – 12 PM**

**BY APPOINTMENT**

**KANONHKWATSHERIO HEALTH FACILITY**

**PFIZER (AGES 12+):**

**AUGUST 18, 2021 • 10 AM – 12 PM**

**BY APPOINTMENT**

**KANONHKWATSHERIO HEALTH FACILITY**

*If you have any questions, please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341.*





# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## COMMUNITY CALL OUT: OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT

As per MCA 2021/2022 #055, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has approved the creation of an Oversight Committee on Legislative Development with working task groups. The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to draft legislation that protects, exercises, and advances the inherent rights of the Mohawks of Akwesasne in accordance with the principles of peace, respect, and fairness.

The committee will oversee legislative development; receive Council and community input; provide community guidance and direction in the development of laws; and, consider and balance the diversity of perspectives within Akwesasne’s community.

The Oversight Committee on Legislative Development consists of 3 District Community Members and two justice portfolio Chiefs and the Justice Coordinator. They will be responsible for listening to diverse community comments and formulating a harmony of community opinion and Council legislative priorities. The committee will also have the task of overseeing the legislative development of the working task groups.

For more information, please email [emily.king@akwesasne.ca](mailto:emily.king@akwesasne.ca) or call 613-575-2250 ext. 2403.

Visit the [Akwesasne.ca](http://Akwesasne.ca) website to download the Declaration of Qualifications.

## STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



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# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

## AKWESASNE CHILD CARE REMINDERS

To promote the ongoing safety of our children during this pandemic, the Akwesasne Child Care program would like to remind families of our COVID 19 Policy & exclusion of ill children:

- Children who show at least one Covid symptom must be excluded for 10 days. They can return after 24 hours of being symptom free after 10 days, OR with a negative Covid test and 24 hours symptom free, OR with a doctor's note and 24 hours symptom

free.

- Household members or siblings are also to be excluded as well.
- Families will not be charged for time away due to our increased safety measures.

We are working closely with community health on this matter and appreciate your patience and understanding, niawen.



169 International Road, Akwesasne, Ontario, K6H 0G5 | tel: (613) 933-0409 | e-mail: info@ambe.ca | web: www.ambe.ca

## AMBE SEEKING INTERESTED COMMUNITY MEMBER FROM DISTRICT OF KANA:TAKON

The Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) is seeking an interested community member from the district of Kana:takon to fill a one (1) year appointment in the role of Board Member.

In order to be eligible, you must be an enrolled member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne, at least 18 years of age and be a resident of Kana:takon for the last six (6) months. Please note, you cannot be an employee of AMBE.

The Board consists of six members, comprised of two elected members from each of the three districts of Akwesasne: Kana:takon, Kawehno:ke and Tsi Snaihne. The role of a Board Member is to provide leadership and direction for all educational matters. All Board Members will receive honorarium for monthly meetings.

If you are interested, submit a letter of interest to the attention of Donna Lahache, Director of Education no later than Wednesday, August 11, 2021.

### CONTACT US!

Ahkwasahsne Mohawk  
Board of Education  
(613) 933-0409 or  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1400

Tsi Snaihne School  
(613) 575-2291  
Kana:takon School  
(613) 575-2323

Iohahi:io  
(613) 575-2754 or  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 4100

Ahkwasahsne Mohawk School  
(613) 932-3366





# ACFS HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

The Akwesasne Child & Family Services Home Repair Project will be made available to community members with children under 18 years old living in their home, whom require repairs such as: *mold remediation, roof repair, repair siding, adding insulation, furnace replacement, etc.*

**CRITERIA:**

- ▶ Applicant must be head of the household
- ▶ Must be for a primary residence located in MCA's jurisdiction
- ▶ Pay any overages over \$7,500 (2 quotes, if possible)
- ▶ Must be in good standing with the DIHE Housing Sector

**Contact**



613-575-2250 ext. 1051



[charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca](mailto:charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca)  
[gina.thompson@akwesasne.ca](mailto:gina.thompson@akwesasne.ca)

# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## PATH TO RETIREMENT

If you are starting to approach retirement years, you may have many questions to ask yourself.

- Are you thinking about retiring?
- Do you every wonder if you will still have a mortgage payment when you retire?
- Do you think you are paying enough to have your mortgage paid off when you retire?
- Do you know what happens to your mortgage in an untimely death?

If these are questions you have and have not answered, we may be able to help.

An example: If you are 50 years old and only paying \$200.00 on your mortgage and still have a balance of \$50,000.00, it will take you approximately 21 years to pay it off. You will be 71 years old when your mortgage is finally paid off.

You should be enjoying retirement instead of worrying about a mortgage payment.

Contact the Housing sector of Mohawk Council of Akwesasne to see if you are on the right path to retirement.



### CONTACT US!

**Administration**  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1003

**Maintenance Program**  
(613)-575-2250 ext. 1022

**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 Mon – Fri. 8AM-4PM (613) 933-4924**  
**Solid Waste Management (Garbage and Recycling)**  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1022

**Housing**  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2300

**Environment**  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1038



# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## AMPS LAUNCH POSITIVE TICKET PROGRAM

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police are excited to work in partnership with the St.Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, CAA Management, and Sweet Treats to bring the Positive Ticket Program to the youth in the community of Akwesasne throughout the summer.

The Positive Ticket program is designed to build strong relationships between our youth and the community. Youth who are witnessed displaying positive behaviours will be rewarded with a positive ticket and a coin for a free ice cream at Sweet Treats



Two youth being awarded a positive ticket.

### JUNE 2021 STATISTICS

<b>Total: 268</b>			
1	027 Theft-Automobiles	3	1003 Assist Other Agencies-Tribal PD
1	040 Theft Under \$5000-Other	32	1004 Assist Public
1	041 Possession Stolen Property	2	1007 Breach of Probation
2	045 Frauds-Other	8	1009 By-Law- Dogs
3	061 Bail Violations	7	1009 By-Law-Noise
1	063 Disturb the Peace	4	1009 By-Law-Other
2	072 Mischief (Prop. Damage) Under \$5,000	9	1012 Civil Disputes
1	073 Criminal Code-Other	15	1013 Community Services
1	084 Other Drugs-Trafficking	3	1014 Crime Prevention
1	088 Cannabis-Trafficking	1	1018 Escorts-Prisoner
3	100 Immigration Act	4	1023 Judge's Order (Court)
10	1001 Alarms	3	1028 Probation Orders
6	1003 Assist Other Agencies-Ambulance	12	1029 Suspicious Persons
3	1003 Assist Other Agencies-Cornwall PS	6	1030 Suspicious Vehicles
4	1003 Assist Other Agencies-OPP	20	1031 Suspicious Circumstances
11	1003 Assist Other Agencies-Other	1	1032 Sudden Death
		2	1036 Warrant-Bench/First
		1	1038 Missing Persons
		2	1039 Property-Recovered
		3	1040 Traffic Complaint
		2	1041 Mental Health Act
		1	1045 Attempt Suicide
		4	1050 Youth Complaint
		1	1056 Hazardous Conditions
		14	106 Provincial Statutes-Other
		16	1063 Marine Patrol
		4	107 Municipal By-Laws
		1	204 Sexual Assault
		3	205 Assault-Level 1
		1	206 Assault Weapon/CBH-Level 2
		1	210 Assault Police
		1	213 Other sexual offences
		4	711 Impaired Operation MV
		3	715 Fail to Stop/Remain (HTA)
		16	721 Traffic-Provincial Statutes
		1	726 PD MVC Over \$1000 (Prop. Damage)
		1	Incident Type Not Listed



# WATER SAFETY RULES



**Buddy up!**  
Make sure you  
never  
swim alone.

**Know your limits.**  
Don't swim  
farther  
than or hold your  
breath  
longer than you  
are able to.



**Swim in safe areas.**  
If you are at the beach,  
always know where the  
lifeguard is located.



**Wear a life  
jacket if you can't  
swim or while on  
a boat.**



**Don't go in  
cold water.**



**Jump in  
feet first.**



**To assist someone in trouble,  
reach them with a pole or  
throw a floatable ball.**



**Never swim  
during a  
storm.**



**Learn how  
to swim!**







CURRENT ACTIVE CASES

0

TOTAL POSITIVE CASES

358

TOTAL TESTS ADMINISTERED

2,249

TOTAL VACCINES ADMINISTERED

3,853

TOTAL VACCINATED: AGES 18+

1,874

TOTAL VACCINATED: AGES 12-17

94

TOTAL POPULATION VACCINATED\*

1,968

TOTAL POPULATION VACCINATION RATE\*

23.98%

Note: "Total vaccination" indicates individuals who have received 2 doses of their vaccine.  
\*The data represents community members under the jurisdiction of MCA that have received the vaccine from MCA or SRMT.