

# ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Issue 6

FREE

Ohiari:ha/June 2021

## IN THIS ISSUE:

OFFICIAL ELECTION NOMINATIONS

NEW STOP SIGNS IN KANA:TAKON

MCA OFFERS PFIZER VACCINE TO AGES 12 AND UP

ENTRANCE AND SERVICE PROCEDURES AT HEALTH FACILITY

DIVE CONDUCTED REMOVES OLD NAVIGATION BATTERIES

BOATING SAFETY



## MONTH OF MAY CELEBRATES HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS



THE MANY FACES OF OUR FRONTLINE HEALTH WORKERS



**Nia:wen to our healthcare staff for all you do for our community!** Every day we are appreciative of the amazing healthcare staff that is here at the MCA. From Personal Support Workers to nurses, physicians to mental health counsellors, Emergency Medical Technicians to Administration, we appreciate every single one of you! Nia:wen for doing all you can to keep Akwesasne safe and healthy!

## UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

### JUNE GENERAL MEETING

Due to election, there will be no General Meeting for the Month of June.

### ELECTIONS FOR DISTRICT CHIEFS AND GRAND CHIEF

Saturday, June 26 (locations will be announced)

Due to pandemic, Advance Polls will be held June 6-19, 2021 by appointment only.

To make an appointment, contact the Chief Electoral Officer at 613-551-1622 or 616-575-2250 ext. 2406.

# MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2018-2021

## **Grand Chief**

Abram Benedict

## **Kana:takon District**

Chief Theresa Jacobs  
Chief Darryl Lazore  
Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs  
Chief Tim Thompson

## **Kawehno:ke District**

Chief Carolyn Francis  
Chief Edward Roundpoint  
Chief Vince Thompson  
Chief Vanessa Adams

## **Tsi Snaihne District**

Chief April Adams-Phillips  
Chief Connie Lazore  
Chief Joe Lazore  
Chief Tobi Mitchell

## **Administration**

Heather Phillips  
Executive Director

Lorraine Bova  
Director,  
Department of Infrastructure &  
Housing

Joyce King  
Director,  
Akwasasne Justice Department

Karen Hill  
Director,  
Department of  
Community and Social Services

Cindy Francis-Mitchell  
A/Director,  
Department of Health

Donna Lahache  
Director,  
Ahkwasasne Mohawk Board  
of Education

Shawn Dulude  
Chief of Police,  
Akwasasne 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 Elections will be held on Saturday, June 26 for District Chiefs and Grand Chief. To find out more information and to see who is nominated, see page 3.
- 2 The Department of Health is pleased to announce that vaccinations are now available for ages 12 and up. To register please call 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 or see page 4 for more information.
- 3 MCA will be re-opening offices to the public on June 3, 2021 (dependant on COVID-19 situation and health recommendations). We appreciate everyone's patience!
- 4 CBSA and MCA have extended the Domestic Lane Pilot. If you would like to see the results of the Domestic Lane Pilot Project Survey, please see page 8.
- 5 When visiting MCA buildings, regardless of vaccination status, masks are still required. For more information, please see page 13 or call 613-575-5005 ext. 3704 or 613-575-2331 ext. 3702.



# NEWS

## OFFICIAL ELECTION NOMINATIONS

Nominations of the eligible Mohawk members of Akwesasne were held on Saturday, May 22, 2021 for the purpose of nominating candidates for the positions of Grand Chief and District Chiefs for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, for the next ensuing term. There are four District Chiefs for each of the three districts and one position for Grand Chief available.

**Elections will be held on Saturday, June 26, 2021. Due to the pandemic, Advance Polls will be held from June 6, 2021 until June 19, 2021 by appointment only.** To make an appointment, please contact Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Leona Benedict at 613-551-1622 or 613-575-2250 ext. 2406.

Voters Lists are posted in the 3 districts of Akwesasne's northern portion. If your name is not on the Voters List in the district in which you reside, and you will be 18 years old on or before June 26, 2021, please contact Chief Electoral Officer Leona Benedict at 613-575-2250 ext. 2406 or at 613-551-1622. Please note that your name will not be automatically added to the Voters List, individuals must apply.

### VOTERS LISTS ARE POSTED IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

#### Kana:takon:

- Canada Post Office
- Village Currency Exchange

#### Tsi Snaihne:

- Iohahi:io
- OK Den

#### Kawehno:ke:

- Bank of Montreal (BMO)
- Jock's Kwik StopBelow are the unofficial election nominations.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Chief Electoral

Officer has provided the list of official candidates for MCA's 2021 General Election. Please see the photos below to view the nominations for Grand Chief and District Chiefs.

### OFFICIAL ELECTION NOMINATIONS:

#### **Kana:takon District Chief Candidates:**

Joseph H. Lazore "Big Joe"  
Toby Sunday  
Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo  
April Adams-Phillips  
Hilda King

Connie Lazore  
Esther Jock  
Dwayne Thomas  
JoAnn Swamp

#### **Kawehno:ke District Chief Candidates:**

Tommy Francis  
Lloyd Benedict Jr.  
Rosemary Square  
Vanessa Adams  
Carolyn Francis  
Gary Cole

Vince Thompson  
Jacqueline Benedict "Jackie"  
Edward Roundpoint  
Dennis Chaussi  
Donna Delormier

#### **Kana:takon District Chief Candidates:**

Darryl Lazore  
Julie Phillips-Jacobs  
Cynthia Francis-Mitchell  
Kennedy Garrow  
Ryan Jacobs

Theresa Jacobs  
Tim "Dooley" Thompson  
Kristy Lauzon  
Janet Davis  
Jennine Hall

#### **Grand Chief Candidates:**

Abram Benedict  
Marlon Johnson

# NEWS

## MCA MAKES STRIDES TOWARD IMMUNITY WITH PFIZER 12 AND UP VACCINES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health is pleased to provide an update to the community regarding the vaccination roll-out for ages 12 and up. On May 12, 2021, the MCA Community Health Program began administering the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine to youth ages 12 and up, as one of the first communities across the country to do so.

"MCA's Department of Health was notified that the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine was being approved for 12 years of age and up, and we felt it was of the utmost importance to offer it to our community members," said Acting Director of Health Cindy Francis-Mitchell. "Vaccinating our community is our path to immunity and we continue to take strides toward ensuring community members have access to the vaccine as quickly as possible, to save lives and protect our most vulnerable."

Vaccines are proven to be safe and effective, and protect us from illness and death associated with COVID-19.

"We are very happy that many young Akwesasronon

took the opportunity to receive the vaccine," said Community Health Manager Lesley Bero, whose program oversees the vaccination clinics and other COVID-19 services. "Our team takes pride in helping our community members protect their health and the health of their loved ones."

The health team worked quickly to modify their scheduled adult Pfizer clinic to accommodate ages 12 and up this past week. A total of 72 Pfizer vaccines were administered on May 12th, including a mix of 12-18 year olds and adults. Additional clinic dates will be announced. Due to the logistics of ordering and storing the Pfizer vaccine, pre-registration will continue to be required until further notice.

If you would like to register, please contact the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 Ext. 3220.

Reminder: If you have been advised to self-isolate or have symptoms of COVID-19, please do not attend a vaccine clinic. The health and safety of our front-line health staff and our community members is a priority.

### 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.**



**COMING FROM OUTSIDE TRAVEL  
RADIUS? QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS.**



# NEWS

## NEW STOP SIGNS INSTALLED AT TWO INTERSECTIONS IN KANA:TAKON

Please be reminded that in an effort to enforce pedestrian and mobility safety, new stop signs have been installed at two intersections within the village of Kana:takon (St. Regis).

The Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (DIHE) and its Roads Program has installed the additional stops signs to create a 4-way stop at two intersections located at Second Street and Akwesasne

Street and the other at First Street and Johnson Road. DIHE advises the community to be cautious and aware of the new traffic flow change in these areas. The Akwesasne Mohawk Police will be monitoring these new conditions.

If you have questions or inquiries, please contact Leslie Papineau, Technical Project Manager at (613) 575-2250 ext. 1007 or email [leslie.papineau@akwesasne.ca](mailto:leslie.papineau@akwesasne.ca).





## ONTARIO RELEASES THREE-STEP ROADMAP FOR SAFE RE-OPENING

On May 20, 2021, Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced a three-step roadmap for safely re-opening the province, which coincides with its vaccination rate predictions. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and re-opening directives from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit.

MCA offices and programs are scheduled to re-open to the public on June 3, 2021, which is dependent on the COVID-19 situation.

### Ontario's roadmap is as follows:

- **Step One:** An initial focus on resuming outdoor activities with smaller crowds where the risk of transmission is lower, and permitting retail with restrictions. This includes allowing outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people, outdoor dining with up to four people per table and non-essential

retail at 15 per cent capacity.

- **Step Two:** Further expanding outdoor activities and resuming limited indoor services with small numbers of people where face coverings are worn. This includes outdoor gatherings of up to 25 people, outdoor sports and leagues, overnight camps, personal care services where face coverings can be worn and with capacity limits, as well as indoor religious services, rites or ceremony gatherings at 15 per cent capacity.

- **Step Three:** Expanding access to indoor settings, with restrictions, including where there are larger numbers of people and where face coverings can't always be worn. This includes indoor sports and recreational fitness; indoor dining, museums, art galleries and libraries, and casinos and bingo halls, with capacity limits.

# ONTARIO RELEASES THREE-STEP ROADMAP FOR SAFE RE-OPENING





# NEWS

...continued from page 6.

The province will remain in each step for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on key public health and health system indicators. If at the end of the 21 days, the following vaccination thresholds have been met, along with positive trends in other key public health and health system indicators, then the province will move to the next step:

- Step 1: 60 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose.
- Step 2: 70 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose and 20 per cent vaccinated with two doses.
- Step 3: 70 to 80 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose and 25 per cent vaccinated with two doses.

Based on current trends in key health indicators, including the provincial vaccination rate, the government expects to enter Step One of the Roadmap the week of June 14, 2021. The province will confirm closer to the expected start of Step One.

The provincewide emergency brake restrictions remain in effect while the province assesses when it will be moving to Step One of the roadmap with the Stay-at-Home order expiring on June 2, 2021. During this time, the government will continue to work with stakeholders on reopening plans to ensure full awareness of when and how they can begin to safely reopen.

Due to the continuing success of Ontario's vaccine rollout and the collective efforts of Ontarians in following public health and workplace safety measures to date, effective May 22, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. the province will reopen outdoor recreational amenities with restrictions in place, such as the need to maintain physical distancing. These amenities include but are not limited to golf courses and driving ranges, soccer and other sports fields, tennis and basketball courts, and skate parks. No outdoor sports or recreational classes are permitted. Outdoor limits for social gatherings and organized public events will be expanded to five people, which will allow these amenities to be used for up to five people, including with members of different households. All other public health and workplace safety measures under the provincewide emergency brake will remain in effect.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne wishes to thank the community of Akwesasne for their continued adherence to recommended precautions, including receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. These actions are contributing to our decrease in COVID-19 cases. The goal of MCA is to ensure the community's safety and protection from the COVID-19 virus, and our community is helping us all to achieve this. Niawenhkó:wa.

## MCA TO REMAIN CLOSED TO PUBLIC UNTIL JUNE 3, 2021

Please be reminded that due to Ontario's current lockdown being extended to June 2, 2021, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's non-essential offices and programs will remain closed until June 3, 2021. Upon reopening, visitors will be required to wear masks and respond to screening questions upon entering an MCA building.

We appreciate the community's patience and diligence

for safety as we await a safe return to full operations. In the meantime, essential services and programs continue to be available.

The reopening date is tentative dependent on the COVID-19 situation and health recommendations.

# NEWS

## REMINDER: U.S. CUSTOMS CONTINUES REDUCED HOURS AT FORT COVINGTON/DUNDEE BORDER CROSSING

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is reminding the community that the U.S. Customs & Border Protection has reduced hours at certain border crossings due to the border closure. These limited hours have been in place since April of 2020.

The following border crossings are affected, with reduced hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.:

- Rouses Point

- Overton Corners
- Mooers
- Trout River
- Fort Covington (Dundee)

Community members are encouraged to plan their travel accordingly. The Massena/Roosevel-town border crossing remains open 24/7.

## CBSA & MCA EXTEND DOMESTIC LANE PILOT

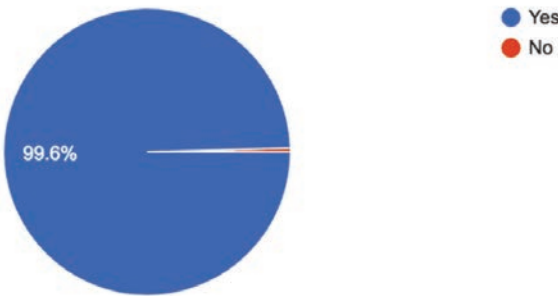
The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne have agreed to extend the Domestic Lane Pilot Project for an additional year, until April 2022. The lane was launched through collaboration within the MCA & CBSA Border Collaboration Initiative (BCI), intended to improve the border crossing experience. The initial pilot was for a six-month period from November 2020 to April 2021 , but due to the U.S.-Canada border being closed to international travel, the pilot is being extended to gain accurate measures of the lane’s usefulness.

An Akwesasne community survey was conducted near the end of the initial six-month pilot, asking for feedback on the lane’s effectiveness and to gather any suggestions for improvement. The Domestic Lane Working Circle, which consists of CBSA and MCA representatives, has reviewed the survey results and poured over the many comments received. The community’s input was greatly appreciated, and the working circle is determining what adjustments or changes might be possible to ensure the Domestic Lane continues to be a meaningful improvement for the border crossing experience. Nia:wenkowa to all who participated in the

survey.

The following images show a summary of the Domestic Lane Pilot Survey results:

**1. Are you aware of the Domestic Lane Pilot Project and dedicated lane at the Cornwall Point of entry?** (241 Responses). This question ensured that those completing the survey were actual users of the Cornwall port of Entry or community members familiar with it. It was also a tool to gauge the community awareness on the pilot project. 99.6 percent of those surveyed, or 240 out of 241 said yes, they were aware of the project.

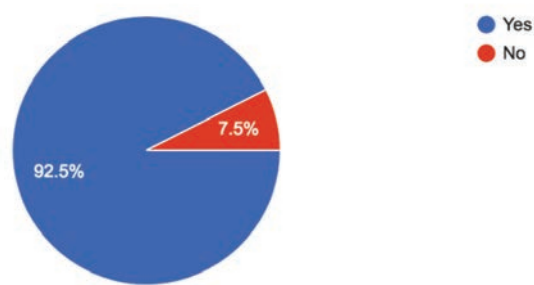


**2. Have you used/transited through the Domestic Lane at the Cornwall Port of Entry?** (241 responses).



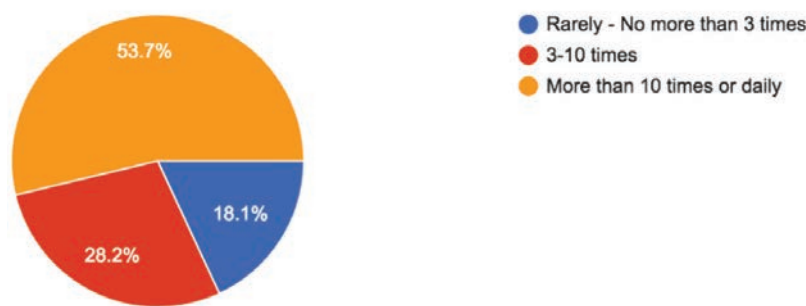
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This question helps us to determine if those completing the survey have actually used the pilot or are providing feedback from a non-users’ point of view. 92.5 percent, or 223 out of 241 said that yes, they have used the domestic lane.



**3. If you have used/transited through the Domestic Lane, how many times would you estimate you have done so? (227 responses).**

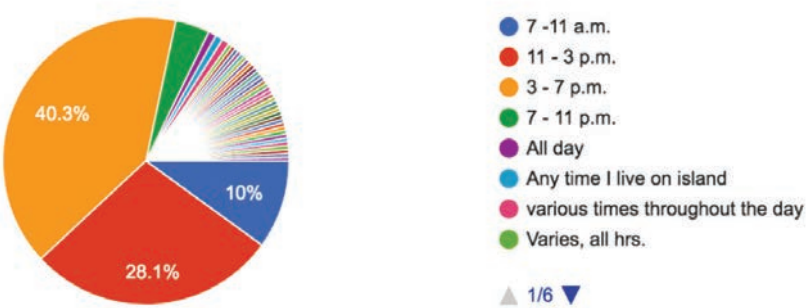
This question helps us to determine if the person providing the responses uses the lane frequently or not frequently, and this is for semantics. 53 percent of those surveyed have used the lane more than 10 times. 28.1 percent have used it 3-10 times and 18.1 percent have used the lane rarely or no more than 3 times.



**4. What time of day do you/would you most use the Domestic Lane? (231 responses).**

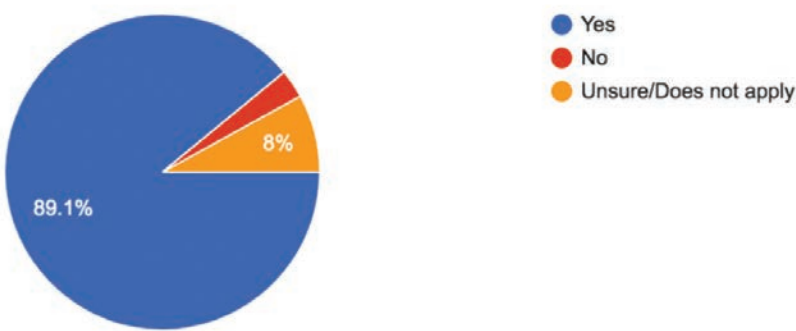
We provided set timeframes for users to select but also allowed them to enter a more specific time if they wished. The result was that the majority of responses indicated 3-7 p.m. is the time frame the lane is most

used, with 40.3 percent or 93 respondents choosing that option. 28.1 percent, or 65 respondents said 11 am to 3 pm is their most used time frame, and 10 percent or 23 respondents said 7-11 a.m. was there most utilized timeframe. The remaining respondents manually entered a variety of responses including: Various times throughout the day; Anytime as I live on the Island; Mostly on weekends; Shift work so it varies; and All of the above.



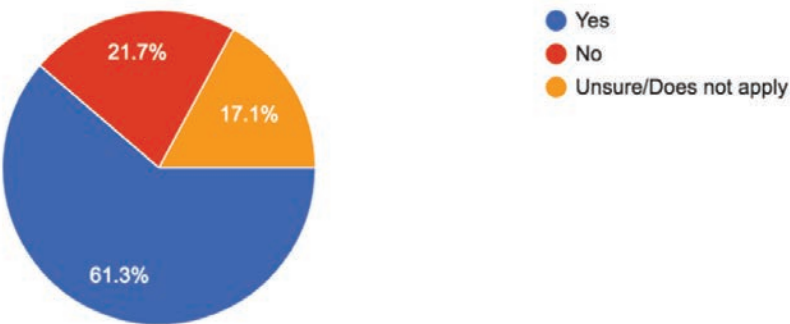
**5. In your opinion, does the Domestic Lane reduce the time it takes to transit through the Cornwall Port of Entry as a domestic traveler? (238 responses).**

This question was asked to determine if people felt the lane made passing through the port quicker for those travelling domestically. 89.1 percent or 212 people said yes, 8 percent or 19 respondents said they were unsure or it didn’t apply, and 2.9 percent or 7 respondents said no.

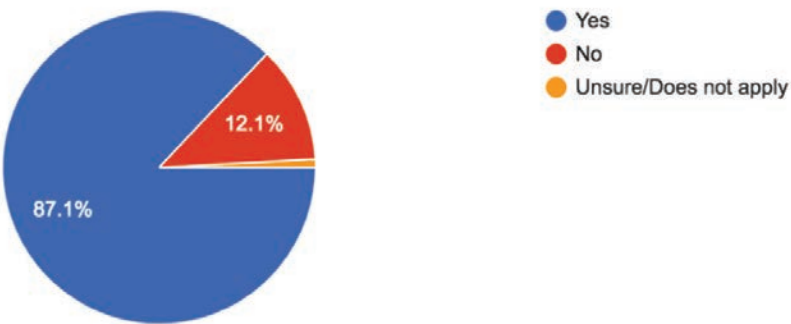


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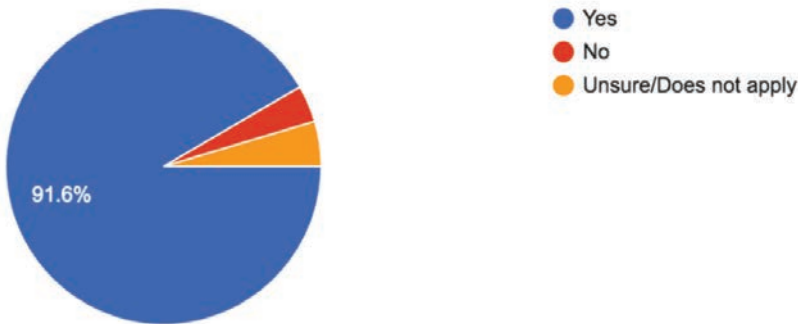
**6. In your opinion, does the Domestic Lane reduce the time it takes to transit through the Cornwall Port of Entry as an international traveler?** (240 responses). We asked the same question but in reference to an international traveler, in order to gauge the opinion on whether or not the wait times were shorter for those in the non-domestic lane traveling internationally, as the intention of the Domestic Lane is to reduce wait times for all. 61.3 per-cent or 147 people said yes, 21.7 or 52 percent said no and 17.1 or 41 respondents said unsure/does not apply.



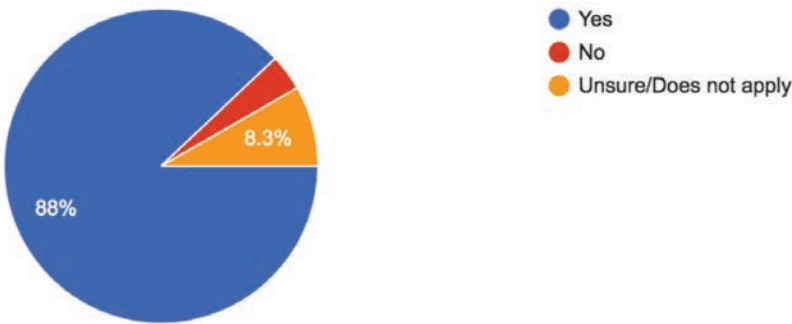
**7. Is the Domestic Lane signage visible and clear?** (240 responses). In our planning and implementation of the pilot project, signage was thoroughly discussed, and should the lane be implemented permanently the team wants to ensure proper and adequate sign-ing is in place. 87.1 percent or 209 respondents said yes, the signage is visible and clear. 12.1 percent or 29 people said no it isn't, and 0.8 percent or two respondents said they were unsure or does not apply.



**8. In your opinion, does the Domestic Lane provide a valuable service worthwhile to implement permanently?** (239 responses). Overall, regardless of any of the other questions and technical aspects we wanted to know if the project overall is one that is valued and that community members see as worthwhile. 91.6 percent, or 219 respondents said yes. 4.6 percent or 11 respondents said unsure/does not apply, and 3.8 percent of 9 respondents said no.



**9. Was your experience using the Domestic Lane a positive one?** (241 responses). In order to ensure that the border crossing experience continues to improve, we asked respondents if their use of the domestic lane was positive. 88 percent or 212 said yes, 8.3 percent or 20 said unsure/does not apply and 3.7 percent or 9 respondents said no.



In addition, questions 10 and 11 asked for feedback and additional comments. To read entire survey results, go to <https://bit.ly/2QSqV5g> or visit the [akwesasne.ca](http://akwesasne.ca) website.



# NEWS

## U.S. COAST GUARD ENCOURAGES BARREL MARKING

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) is encouraging property owners who utilize barrels, also known as “drums,” as part of their docks to please mark them by painting a large RED ‘X’ on them. Barrels that are swept away into our waterways become a hazard to navigation and the USCG will treat them as a “hazardous material” because their contents are “unknown.”

Some barrels may include chemicals or petroleum products. Marking barrels with a large RED ‘X’ will allow the USCG, police, compliance and conservation officer and

their boat crews to identify these barrels as non-hazardous and will allow first / emergency responders to remain available for search and rescue and other maritime emergencies. Any assistance from local partners is to encourage property owners to mark these barrels is much appreciated.

Please note, the costs of hiring a hazardous materials contractor to complete barrel recovery can exceed five-thousand dollars in U.S. currency (\$5,000.00 U.S.) per barrel / drum.



**MEDIA RELEASE: MAY 21, 2021**

# U.S. COAST GUARD ENCOURAGES BARREL MARKING

**THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG) IS ENCOURAGING PROPERTY OWNERS WHO UTILIZE BARRELS, ALSO KNOWN AS “DRUMS,” AS PART OF THEIR DOCKS TO PLEASE MARK THEM BY PAINTING A LARGE RED ‘X’ ON THEM.**

# NEWS

## REMINDER: MCA COMMUNITY IN QUARANTINE SERVICES LIMITED

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is notifying the community that the Community in Quarantine Program (food deliveries) is not available to those quarantining from recent travel or vacation. The services are intended to assist those who are unexpectedly required to quarantine due to exposure to COVID-19. Vacationers are advised to ensure they have a plan in place for quarantine upon their return that will include delivery of groceries for 14-days.

We continue to advise the community that travel out-

side the 100-mile radius is restricted, in the interest of community safety. Information about the variants of concern (VOCs) and the effectiveness of vaccines against them are still emerging, and we are taking every step possible to shield our community from COVID-19 illness and death. Your cooperation is appreciated and will assist our community in managing the number of COVID-19 cases impacting Akwesasne.

If you are returning to Akwesasne from outside the travel radius, please ensure you quarantine for 14-days.

### MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

## COMMUNITY IN QUARANTINE PROGRAM

To assist community members affected by COVID-19 that must complete 14 day quarantine

#### TO ORDER SUPPLIES:

**MONDAY-FRIDAY**

**8 A.M.-5 P.M.**

**613-575-2130**

**AFTER-HOURS**

**1-800-480-4208**



Packages include basic food, supplies and essentials for a 14-day period for those who have no assistance or resources.

Service available to those residing in the northern portion of Akwesasne (Tsi Snaihne (Snye), Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island) or Kana:takon (Saint regis)).

**If exposed to COVID-19, be sure to quarantine full 14 days or as instructed by health care provider.**



# NEWS

## MCA STILL FOLLOWING MASK MANDATE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health (DOH) was provided notice on the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) statement that it was easing its guidance on mask-wearing for fully vaccinated individuals. MCA's Department of Health is reminding community members that we follow the Eastern Ontario Health Unit's (EOHU) mandates, and masks are still required under MCA's jurisdiction.

Regardless of your vaccination status, masks are still required when in public settings, such as MCA office buildings and businesses in the northern portion of Ak-

wesasne. Social distancing of up to 6-feet is still being followed when out in public as well. Please continue to adhere to the public health measures that have been put in place, as they were developed to keep our community safe.

Thank you/Niawenhkó:wa for your continued adherence to our public health and safety measures. For more information, please contact MCA's Emergency Operation Centre between the hours of 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at 613-575-5005 ext. 3704 or 613-575-2331 ext. 3702, or via email at [eoc@akwesasne.ca](mailto:eoc@akwesasne.ca).



**Niawenhkó:wa for doing your  
part to keep Akwesasne safe.**

**For the latest COVID-19 news visit  
[www.akwesasne.ca](http://www.akwesasne.ca)**





# HOW TO SPOT FALSE INFORMATION



## READ BEYOND

Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?



## ASK THE EXPERTS

Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site or official source (like the World Health Organization).



## CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Is there an author? Check out their credentials on relevant issues.



## LOOK BEFORE YOU SHARE

Don't share posts or stories that you haven't checked out first!



## CHECK YOUR BIASES

Consider if your own beliefs or concerns could affect your judgement.



## IS IT A JOKE?

If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the source to be safe.

## CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL TO RESUME SOME ELECTIVE SURGERIES

May 20, 2021

The Cornwall Community Hospital (CCH) has received approval from the Government of Ontario to gradually resume some non-emergency and non-urgent day surgeries and procedures.

The directive to pause these services was first put in place on April 20th by the provincial government to ensure that hospitals could accommodate increasing numbers of patients requiring hospitalization from COVID-19 without being overwhelmed.

Although provincial case counts and hospitalizations remain high, they are trending downward in several communities, clearing the way for hospitals with adequate resources and capacity, including CCH, to slowly resume day procedures which don't require patient stays.

Some examples of non-emergency and non-urgent elective day procedures could include cataracts surgeries, skin surgeries, gastrointestinal procedures, tonsillectomies, tendon and muscle repairs, etc. Emergency and urgent procedures for life threatening or urgent medical conditions were not disrupted by the provincial directive and continued throughout the third wave this spring at CCH.

It is estimated that over 2,000 patients are currently waiting for an elective procedure at CCH; however, the Hospital is confident it will be able to efficiently lower that number and catch up within the coming months, just as it has after each wave.

"We know that people could be eager or worried as they wait for surgeries," said Jeanette Despatie, President and CEO of CCH. "We have been carefully plan-

ning to ensure we are ready to resume non-urgent and non-emergency surgeries and procedures as soon as possible, while balancing the needs and pressures of the pandemic and other clinical services," she added. CCH continues to operate at near capacity levels, and resumption will be gradual and carefully considered to maintain the ability to rapidly respond to increases in COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations.

"We kindly ask residents to continue following effective public health guidelines and consider getting vaccinated to help mitigate community outbreaks of COVID-19, which could quickly overwhelm our Hospital, and so we can focus on safely ramping up non-emergency day procedures and eventually non-emergency inpatient procedures," said Despatie.

At this time, only eligible patients with a postponed surgery or procedure will be contacted by CCH to be rescheduled. Patients are encouraged to visit the CCH website at [www.cornwallhospital.ca/en/surgery](http://www.cornwallhospital.ca/en/surgery) for the latest updates.



Cornwall Community Hospital  
Hôpital communautaire de Cornwall



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



### MAY 3, 2021

- Legal counsel provided Council with an update on the continued implications of a decision made by the Akwesasne Review Commission and the measures being taken to mitigate.
- Council discussed the current challenges with the Bank of Mon-

trepreneurial on reserve mortgage program. Further research will be done on options.

- An update was provided on the efforts to pave the district walking trails.
- Council discussed fishing within the territory and agreed that due to the pandemic, no permits will be issued at this time. A press release will be issued jointly with the SRMT.
- An overview was provided on the protocols and ethics for addressing issues with Council.
- Council discussed the concept of vaccine incentives and deter-

mined that this is not an exploratory option.

- A briefing and update was provided on the current occupation at Hopkins Point.
- **MCRs passed:** Approval of renewal of mortgage with CMHC; Approval of service agreement for the development of a 5-year strategic plan for special needs; Approval of 2 housing update loans; Approval of amendment to Community Support Program Funeral Assistance Policy; Approval of funding application to ISC for Wade Lafrance Memorial Road.

### MAY 17, 2021

- Representatives from MCA's Nation Building Program and consultant NVision Insight Group provided Council with an update on the ongoing review of the Akwesasne Justice Department.
- Legal counsel briefed Council on a criminal court case regarding charges under the Cannabis Act.
- An update and overview were provided on the draft Finance Committee Charter. Feedback from Council was requested by the end of the week.
- Council received an update on the need for MCA's Office of Vital Statistics to create a position

to assist with island lease compliance.

- An update was provided on a recent discussion at the AFNQL regarding the upcoming AFN election and the debate about postponing it. However, the AFN election will proceed as originally planned.
- Council discussed water connection services that cross over to other jurisdictions and agreed that arrangements will remain status quo.
- The agenda for the next General Meeting was set. The meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2021 at 6:00 pm via zoom.

- Council agreed that no meeting will occur next week, due to the Victoria Day holiday on Monday, May 24.

- A concern regarding the current status of the Council of Elders was raised and is being addressed by administration.
- Council discussed the annual flooding concerns in the district of Tsi Snaihne and passed a motion for administration to explore options for a study to be conducted, for Council's future consideration.
- A concern regarding the Intoxicants By-Law was discussed.
- Council discussed a concern re-

*continued on page 17*

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT

- garding the wait time being encountered by community members wishing to access lawn care through our Home Care/Home Support program. Administration will follow up.
- A request for the purchase of MCA land was discussed; further information will be sought.
  - **MCRs passed:** Approval of amendment to MCA pension plan to allow savings plan, Approval of (3) 2021 island lease amendments; Approval of purchase agreement to purchase a medical van for MCA health; Approval of mortgage guarantee for community members bank mortgage; Approval of funding agreement for legal clinic; Approval of funding agreement for Program Development Officer; Approval of funding agreement for NILO program; Approval of allotment of land to community member (loan paid off).

## MCA'S CURRENT COVID-19 GUIDELINES



**SOCIAL GATHERING LIMIT:**  
**INDOORS: 10 PEOPLE**  
**OUTDOORS: 25 PEOPLE**



**CURFEW:**  
**11 P.M. - 5 A.M.**



**TRAVEL RADIUS:**  
**100 MILES/160 KILOMETRES**  
**(EXCLUDING MONTREAL)**

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE APRIL 2021 UPDATES



**Portfolio:** Justice, Public Safety, Executive Services

**Month:** April 2021

**Committee:** Finance, Governance, Cannabis Working Task Group

### All Meetings Listed are through the "Zoom" technology

The month of April Council continues to operate thru technology utilizing "Zoom" software for our meetings. Our meetings consisted of Council meeting, Council COVID Update, Border Update meeting which includes the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Leadership all held on a weekly basis. Leadership Meeting with Tribal Leadership is held on a bi-weekly meeting schedule.

The focus for Council was and continues to be the COVID 19 crisis. As of June I began working again within my portfolios and existing projects again.

- Weekly - Monday Council Meetings to conduct MCA business. Program Offices continue

to open and closed based on current situations. Appointments are required to meet with staff. Over the past couple of months our offices have had to restrict community members and lessen the amount of employees in facilities to try and curb the spread of the virus.

- Weekly - Tuesday Border Update Meeting with CBSA/US Customs/Leadership are held to maintain an update on potential changes and restrictions. Border remains closed to non-essential travel.

- Weekly - Wednesday Council COVID 19 Update Meeting is held to provide updates on areas surrounding Akwesasne and discuss issues of concern. Vaccination Clinics have begun with Walk-In welcomed. We need to stay home, social distance, wear masks. I received my second vaccine shot on April 28th I am fully vaccinated.

- Weekly - Thursday is my scheduled day to be in the office. I attend and work from our office on this day the rest of the week I work from home. Our office is now located at Admin I. I have had limited attendance when office closures happen due to COVID.

- Bi-Weekly Friday Leadership Meeting with SRMT.

A District Meeting was held on April 22nd. Great dialogue with the attendees. We had received numerous questions. The District Chiefs

provided answers to the questions and had the Q&A document sent out to the attendees of this meeting.

General Meeting was held this month on April 29th the agenda included the MCA Organizational Budget.

### Work in Progress:

1. This month the Strategic Plan Goals I now sit on two committees: Host a Community Recreation Forum and Take Care of the Vulnerable.

- The Recreation Forum (Non-Sports Events). We decided it would not be feasible to move forward with this Forum at the present time, even to plan for virtual events is difficult. We put the Forum on hold for 30 days to revisit. With the "stay at home order" we decide to extend the "on hold" for an additional 30 days.

- The Take Care of the Vulnerable committee. The committee post the request for proposals and received proposal and conducted and interview. The successful candidate when to Council for acceptance by resolution. The successful candidate is now being engaged to discuss the contract.

2. Council has started meetings with staff to work on strengthening communication and processes.

*continued on page 20*



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE APRIL 2021 UPDATES

*continued from page 19*

I met with my Executive Assistant weekly to update my calendar and discuss issues of concern.

3. Justice Portfolio meeting was held on April 13th. We also met on April 20th to discuss the Terms of Reference for legislative development.

4. The WTG on Cannabis has met this month on April 16 and 30th we are reviewing additional applications. A summary of activity was requested and will be presented at the May General Meeting.

5. Membership Review WTG met this month on April 20th, this committee is reviewing the documents associated with the Membership Code & Residency Law. Application forms and processes are being discussed, we hope to move onto

regulations soon. I had asked for a timeframe to complete this work as it has been ongoing, but productive. These forms and processes will help form the regulations.

6. HAVFD Station #3 Building Design. The Station #3 in Tsi Snaihne is in need of a new facility. This project is ongoing and work continues to bring the design to 99% completion.

7. Governance Committee WTG, this committee of chiefs met on April 1st, 7, 14 & 28th. We are currently working on the Portfolio System and the Orientation of Council.

8. The Akwesasne Waterways Committee reconvened their meetings this month. We met on April 6th and 20th to review the work we completed and discuss the work ahead.

9. I attended the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission meeting, as public safety portfolio. We heard the monthly report from the Chief of Police, concerns from district representative and provide comments on our concerns community members.

10. A meeting of the CBSA/MCA Community Relations Working Circle was held April 7th and 21st. The meeting on the 21st was our final meeting until fall with a new Council. We had discussion on the development of an Emergency Planning Working Circle, reviewed the Domestic Lane Pilot Project overall positive. We spoke of the upcoming MCA General Election, additional meeting on this file will not be scheduled until September/October.

11. I worked at the Mass Vaccination Clinics this month, April 15, 16,

*continued on page 20*

## EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE

📞 613-575-5005

📞 613-575-2331

✉️ [EOC@AKWESASNE.CA](mailto:EOC@AKWESASNE.CA)



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE APRIL 2021 UPDATES

*continued from page 19*

and 23rd. Certainly was an interesting experience. Great Job by all involved.

12. I attended the Recognition Awards of our Community Members in the field of entertainment. Congratulations to all recipients it was absolutely well deserved, great event.

13. I took the time to listen in the AFN presentation with regards to the federal budget. The federal budget 2021 pledges 18 billion towards Indigenous community and relevant programs over the next 5 years. That will be between 624 First Nations, and the Inuit and Metis communities

### **Collaborative Opportunities:**

1. Member of the Finance Committee

2. Member of the Benefits Committee

3. Member of the Governance Committee

4. Member of the Working Task Group on Cannabis

5. Member of the MCA Leadership Committee re: CBSA

6. Member of the AFN Chiefs Committee on Emergency Management - AFNQL Rep

7. Member of the AFN Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal – AFNQL Rep

8. Member of Working Task Group Committee for Emergency Management Law Dev.

9. Member of Working Task Group Strategic Goal –Hosting a Recreation Forum

10. Member of Working Group Strategic Goal – Taken Care of the Vulnerable

11. Member of Working Commit-

tee on Membership Review.

Financial Status/Lobbying Progress  
To update on any lobbying initiatives, positive outcomes or Financial gains.

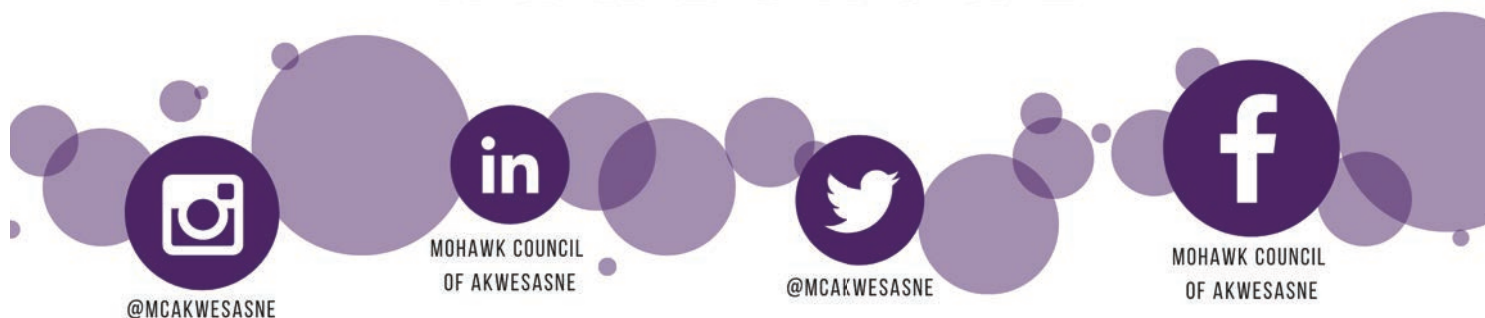
- Funding for Design Phase of HAVFD – Station #3 Lobbied to have this funding approved by Council for the consultant contract to design the facility.

- Court Proposal – Funding for Training of Justice – This was part of the Akwesasne Court Funding Proposal lobbied with federal and provincial levels. While we did not receive all the funding sought we did receive training dollars that was identified in the proposal.

- Continue to lobby for funding of the Compliance Program.

- Continue to lobby for funding and recognition of the Akwesasne Court.

## STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF VANESSA ADAMS UPDATES



Portfolios consist of Department of Health, Department of Community and Social Services, Public Safety and OVS. Working Task and Committees: Governance, Cannabis Working Task Group, Emergency Law Development, Akwesasne Waterways, CBSA Domestic Lane, Economic Development and Communications, Community in Quarantine Food Distribution/delivery and Homeless/Vulnerable initiatives.

We have recently resumed District meetings and these have been virtual on the Zoom platform if you require information on how to get online to join a meeting in your District, please email [meetings@akwesasne.ca](mailto:meetings@akwesasne.ca) or call the Mohawk Government Office at 613-575-2250

**Health Portfolio:** Niawenkowa to our Healthcare workers, first responders and front line essential workers for your continued work to care for our community. We appreciate you all. Health Portfolio

has been busy keeping up to date and informed from Covid-19 precautions, protocols to vaccine roll-out and Bi weekly EOC Updates with SRMT/MCA departments and meeting at the national and provincial levels to ensure our healthcare and services can operate without issue. Current Vaccine statistics total as of today 1973 or 1001 1st doses and 972 second doses. Just a reminder to please keep your appointments to receive your second dose if you've chosen to receive a vaccine. If you choose to get vaccinated or would like more information, please call community health to make an appointment. MCA Community Health reports current covid19 spread has been linked to gatherings so please try to remain in your own households as the new variants and cases are involving our children occurring from sleepovers and birthday parties we all must continue to do our part to stop the spread and keep families safe.

**DCSS:** Food security remains a top priority you can still register bi-weekly for our local Food Security Programs established in Tsi Snaihne to serve Tsi Snaihne and Kanatakon. Kawehnoke Food Pantry serves Kawehno:ke and Akwesasronon residing in Cornwall. Good nutritious foods, fresh fruits, meats and vegetables distributed bi-weekly to our

community members in need who register to pick up a box. Delivery is available to those who cannot pick up. Our priority is to serve Elders, low income family and those in need please do not hesitate to call to register 613-936-1548 ext. 1300. Community in Quarantine: Food security initiative to assist members with Food and Basic needs in the event that they have to Quarantine due to Covid 19 illness or exposure. This program is for those advised to quarantine and not if you have travelled outside the radius for vacation. To register please call after Community Health advises you to quarantine 1-800-480-4322 or 613-937-4322. The Cornwall Healing Centre is set to open in a couple weeks. The centre is designed to house and support Akwesasronon and other First Nations people ages 16 and older, who experience insecure housing, are post-detox, released from incarceration and on their healing journey. If you have any questions, please contact Catherine Lelievre at [catherine.lelievre@akwesasne.ca](mailto:catherine.lelievre@akwesasne.ca).

**Public Safety:** Curfew, emergency law development and work with US Customs and CBSA for MCA Health/DCSS Department and community member concerns. Public safety meets bi-weekly with SRMT/USCBP/CBSA to receive updates



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF VANESSA ADAMS UPDATES

*continued from page 21*

on Border issues, closures and requirements. Funeral and Wake Protocol development and with MCA EOC/ SRMT EOC we have developed working relationship with Donaldson/Lahaie & Sullivan Funeral Homes to be able to adjust our needs to follow their State and Provincial guidelines. The changes have been difficult but have been necessary to stop the spread of Covid-19.

**Governance Committee:** In our new Virtual workplace and meetings we have worked with our committee to keep current and on updating Council documents to

include items such as Virtual meetings, trainings and to ensure Council is prepared to operate seamlessly in this new virtual environment.

**CWTG:** Licenses issued for community businesses review of Draft law completed worked with committee members Chief Connie, Chief Edward and Chief Carolyn and Economic Development to review Cultivation and Retail License submissions.

*continued on page 23*

## COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATES

Subscribe to our e-newsletter to receive updates, announcements and resources twice a week from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

Visit [akwesasne.ca/signup](http://akwesasne.ca/signup).



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF VANESSA ADAMS UPDATES

**OVS** – A reminder that services are available by Appointment/Satellite offices to serve our community in order to get status cards, land transfers and leasing information please call 613-936-0760

**Akwesasne Waterways Committee:** Pamphlets have been mailed to community households and will be available at local businesses and marinas for boaters, signage and psa video completed to encourage Covid-19 safety and a recognition of our Akwesasne waterways no wake zones and overall safe practices. We will be out on the waters to install No Wake zone signs set in place for the 2021 boating season please watch for signs and be mindful of you wake in these areas to help keep everyone safe. We look forward to another safe and healthy boat season. If you have any questions about our Waterways, please call 613-575-2250 and ask for a Waterways Committee Member we are all there to answer questions and provide information. CBSA Domestic Lane Communications and Economic

Development: Pilot project for our CBSA Domestic Lane communications, signage and driver pamphlet to educate our community about CBSA and our Akwesasne Remission Order as it's been a few years since moving off Kawehno:ke maintaining our working relationship is vital. Working towards a smoother process of reporting and consistent questioning of our Akwesasnoron. The domestic Lane Pilot project has been extended to May 2022. We have wrapped up discussions until the Fall when they are set to resume. Please see the MCA website to view the CBSA & Mohawk Council of Akwesasne summary of the Domestic Lane Pilot Survey results.

If you have questions or concerns - Please do not hesitate to call, text or email see my contact information below.

Truly my honor to serve and support our community. Niawenhko:wa, stay safe and stay healthy.

**Are you sick with a fever, cough, or other symptoms of COVID-19?**

**Don't travel or cross borders while sick.  
Stay home and isolate.**

*Community members residing in the jurisdiction of MCA, MCA employees, and the household members of MCA employees are reminded that if you've traveled outside of MCA's 100-mile radius, you are required to quarantine for 14 days upon your return to Akwesasne. If you develop symptoms at any time during your quarantine period, please notify your healthcare provider as soon as possible.*

**To make an appointment for COVID-19 testing, call MCA Community Health at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.**



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF CAROLYN FRANCIS APRIL 2021 UPDATES



**Portfolio:** DCSS & Education

**Committees:** Governance Committee, Cannabis Review Working Group, Akwesasne Waterways Working Task Group, CBSA Community Relations Working Circle, MCA/CBSA Domestic Lane Working Circle, MCA/CBSA Community Relations Working Circle, First Nations Women's Caucus, Governance Chief's Working Group, Special Needs Chief's Working group.

### Monthly Notables:

1. Interview with consultant for 5 year strategic plan for Special Needs. Successful candidate TBA.
2. Accepted donation of food, hygiene and school supplies from Third Pillar a Toronto based group, on behalf of the community of Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.
3. Assisted with the successful Vaccination Clinic's on Kawehnoke.
4. Street lights on Kawehnoke are installed and maintained by Cornwall Electric. Anyone can phone in directly to their office at (613) 932-0123, to report any issue with street

lighting. If you are aware of a street light that is out, please call the office. I had to do this for Kawehnoke Apartment Road, there were 13 lights that were out, since there were no numbers on the poles, I drew a map of which ones were out and which were working. They were here the next day of reporting, fixing the lights.

5. Held our first Kawehnoke District Zoom Meeting. We will be holding another one in the month of May.

6. Attended a leadership meeting with MNCC and SRMT.

I have attended the weekly meetings of Mohawk Council, COVID update meetings, bi-weekly leadership meeting with SRMT/MCA as well as being in the office at Admin #1 every Thursday.

Grand Chief Benedict, Chief's Carolyn Francis and Vanessa Adams, DCSS Director Karen Hill with Three Pillars representatives

### Works in Progress:

1. Strategic Goal #7 **Taking care of the Vulnerable**, Chief's committee, consisting of Chief's Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Connie Lazore and myself. Our goal is to provide financial resources and ensure that there is a 5 year plan ready to address Special Needs in the community. Due to COVID it was set back (we had planned on having this complet-

ed by December 2020). We now have set a new date for December 2021. We sent out an RFP (request for proposal) to hire a consultant to pull our information together to help develop our strategic plan for the vulnerable and those with special needs. It is a large and very important project where we needed to find someone to assist us in pulling this all together. We have interviewed and will announce the successful candidate within the next few weeks.

2. **MCA/CBSA Domestic Lane Working Circle:** The Domestic Lane Pilot project has been extended until May 2022. We cannot get an accurate account of the lane's efficiency due to the borders being closed and regular traffic not able to go through.

We have several items on the table in discussion, regarding This pilot project, and the circle is appreciative of responses to the community survey that was done, we will be reviewing and identifying action items to be further explored.

-Currently working on a pilot for the presentation and reporting relief for MCA employees and vehicles.

### 3. Akwesasne Waterways Working Task Group:

This Chief's Task Group was established 2020 summer due to all the

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF CAROLYN FRANCIS APRIL 2021 UPDATES

complaints and concerns with the activity happening on the waters. Our mandate is to bring respect to our waters that includes health protocols and safety measures for our community. This group consists of Chief's Connie Lazore, Carolyn Francis, Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Vanessa Adams and April Adams-Phillips with our technical support from Kuyra Chaussi, Executive Assistant and Communications Staffer, Waheshon Lazore.

-Video was produced which showcases our beautiful waterways, and our need to keep our community members safe while utilizing the waters, ie. Swimmers, kayakers, floaters, etc.

-Brochures developed that also talks about the waters, COVID safety as a reminder to continue to implement, laws that require members and non-members to adhere to water safety, border restrictions.

-No Wake Zone signs were put up in the Snye Channel. Many complaints of boaters, sea doo's were not adhering to the No Wake zone and posing hazards to our community members who live by the channel, swim, kayak, etc. there were many community members that were appreciative of 'something finally being done' and we heard many scary

stories of boaters not slowing down in this area.

Our work is not done as we review inventory of supplies, order more signs, floating bouys. We hope to get these up by 2021 boating season.

### Governance Chief's Committee

This committee is reviewing how we govern ourselves internally. We had reviewed and updated the Council meeting procedural regulations, brought to council for MCR with the

new changes. We had not only updated, revised repetitive sections, we also added a section on virtual meetings. We have also reviewed and revised the portfolio system and finalizing the Fundamentals of Governance document.

### MCA/CBSA Community Relations Working Circle

-We have developed, along with communications, a new driver's booklet to distribute to all households and port of entry. This is information to educate our young



Grand Chief Abram Benedict, Kawehno:ke Chief Carolyn Francis, Kawehno:ke Chief Vanessa Adams, DCSS Director Karen Hill with Three Pillars representatives.



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF CAROLYN FRANCIS APRIL 2021 UPDATES

drivers and when the time allows, visitors to our community, on the protocol of going through the border. What ID is expected, how to report, etc.

-Discussions on proper signage for those coming into the community and do not know that they have to report to CBSA, if coming from NYS. We do not want anyone getting their vehicles taken at the border unknowingly.

### DCSS (Department of Community Social Services)

Food Distribution program to our residents. It has been successful and the staff that have been working on this project are doing an excellent job.

### Akwesasne Healing Center.

Completion of new flooring and painting is done. There is a need for this type of facility by our people in the city of Cornwall and we are able to collaborate services with Cornwall as well as with our MCA services.

### AMBE Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education

AMBE Continues to operate as best as they can in the pandemic. Teachers have been in training on Wednesdays, as the children are not in school. Utilizing Zoom and phone calls to remain in contact with post secondary students. Buses continue to deliver school packets to students on Wednesdays.

### Daycare

- Child Care re-opened for essential worker's children on March 29th, four classrooms open with 3-6 children in each.
- Centers run with limited hours between 8-4pm and remain closed Wednesdays for extra cleaning.
- Enrollment will slowly increase with early June being the target date for full operation based on need, staffing and Covid19 rates.
- Zero 2 Six Program continues with full remote programming, zoom literacy, activity and snack kit distribution.

### Collaborative Opportunities:

1. CBSA
4. MNCC
2. SRMT
3. First Nations Women's Caucus

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF CAROLYN FRANCIS MAY 2021 UPDATES

### Monthly Notables:

1. Special Needs Strategic 5-year Plan consultant has been selected and awaiting for the contract to be signed. They have started preliminary work in this area.
2. Chief's meeting on reporting relief pilot project for MCA employees.
3. Attended the first meeting of the AMBE structural readiness steering committee
4. Governance Chief's committee,

currently working on Chief's orientation program. Completed the Council meeting procedure regulations. These are the guidelines to regulate our council meetings.

5. Held our second Pandemic Kawehno:ke District meeting via Zoom; we will be holding another one in the month of June. We had a presentation from Phillip White-Cree on the updates of Land Claims, I reported on AMBE mitigation plans and we took questions.

6. Waterways Chief's Committee meetings. We have sent out 'Akwesasne Waterways' brochures to the homes in Akwesasne Northern District and will be distributing to local Marina's for customers. We are working on getting more signage for the waters to caution marine craft of swimmers, kayaker and canoe-ers.

7. I have attended the weekly meetings of Mohawk Council, COVID update meetings, bi-weekly lead-

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF CAROLYN FRANCIS MAY 2021 UPDATES

ership meeting with SRMT/MCA as well as being in the office at Admin #1 every Thursday.

### Works in Progress:

**1. Strategic Goal #7 Taking care of the Vulnerable:** Chief's committee, consisting of Chief's Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Connie Lazore and myself. Our goal is to provide financial resources and ensure that there is a 5-year plan ready to address Special Needs in the community. Due to COVID it was set back (we had planned on having this completed by December 2020). We now have set a new date for December 2021. Update: A consultant firm has been selected and will begin work. We will announce formally, once the contract has been signed by both parties.

**2. MCA/CBSA Domestic Lane Working Circle:** The Domestic Lane Pilot project has been extended until May 2022. We cannot get an accurate account of the lane's efficiency due to the borders being closed and regular traffic not able to go through. We have several items on the table in discussion, regarding this pilot project and the circle is appreciative of responses to the community survey that was done. We will be reviewing and identifying action items to be further explored. Currently working on a pilot for the

presentation and reporting relief for MCA employees and vehicles.

### 3. Akwesasne Waterways Working Task Group:

This Chief's Task Group was established in the summer of 2020 due to all the complaints and concerns with the activity happening on the waters. Our mandate is to bring respect to our waters that includes health protocols and safety measures for our community. This group consists of Chief's Connie Lazore, Carolyn Francis, Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Vanessa Adams and April Adams-Phillips with our technical support from Kuyra Chaussi, Executive Assistant and Waheson Lazore, Social Media Editor, Communications Unit.

- Akwesasne Waterways brochure has been mailed to residents of the Northern portion of Akwesasne. Please note: Although most of the information is up to date, the information regarding border crossing is still in effect, as they continue to extend the border crossings.

- We are currently working on ordering water buoys for the no wake zone area's. This is to help protect our community members who are swimming, kayaking, floating, and/or fishing. No wake zones and low wake zones also protect the animals in the marsh area's.

We are encouraged by our people

that have expressed gratitude in helping to slow marine traffic in high traffic areas.

### Governance Chief's Committee

This committee is reviewing how we govern ourselves internally. We are currently working on Chief's orientation program. This is an orientation for the new Council that is coming in 2021. Once orientation is done with the new Council, the work for the community can begin in a timely manner. We have completed the Council meeting procedural regulations. These are the guidelines to regulate our council meetings.

### MCA/CBSA Community Relations Working Circle

We are currently on pause with this working circle until the new council is elected and orientated to their new positions.

### AMBE (Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education)

AMBE mitigation plans for the new school year 21/22:

- It is important to remember that the entire world is in the same education circumstances that Akwesasne is in. The Province of Ontario is also meeting and discussing how they will make up for this lost time.
- We must also realize the social/emotional toll this has had on our children and families. We are not



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEF CAROLYN FRANCIS MAY 2021 UPDATES

going to try to pack 2 years of interrupted learning into 1 year. We are developing long range plans with Individualized programs where necessary.

- Partnering with Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club to provide summer support by training staff on reading intervention tools.
- Reducing class size and providing extra supports for upcoming school year.
- Increasing staff in the inclusion services. Lynda Brown is now the New inclusion supervisor. AMBE will be hiring 2 resource teachers

for the 'English schools' and hiring resource supports for the Mohawk immersion school. Additional hiring of support teachers and EA's that will work with small groups.

- The month of May, AMBE is administering CAT4 online assessments for K-8 to gather more data to better prepare for targeting supports.
- Repeating Grade – This is a larger discussion and will be considered in partnership with the individual parents. AMBE does not support retention unless they have clear evidence that it will increase student success.

• Programming Enhancements – AMBE has purchased and trained staff on several new math and reading tools, we will continue to utilize these tools to support students.

- Afterschool and/or weekend math and reading camps – This option is also being explored as a way to target supports through interaction.

### DCSS (Department of Community Social Services)

Meeting scheduled for May 25th. Update will be in my next report.



On May 5, Native Women Running hosted the 2021 MMIW Virtual Run. May 5th is the National Day of Awareness of Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls and on that day, people all across the world were invited to join Native Women Running for the Virtual Run and to wear red to honor missing and murdered Indigenous women who have been lost. Mohawk Government Program Manager Chelsea Francis, Kawehno:ke District Chief Carolyn Francis, Tsi Snaihne District Chief Connie Lazore, and Tsi Snaihne District Chief Tobi Mitchell (not pictured) all participated in this run, along with 25 other Akwesasronon to make up the Akwesasne (s)Heroes. Nia:wen to all that made this event possible.

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## MOHAWK COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

MCR #218 Upgrade Application  
– Rescind Approval Renovation  
Loan

Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #219 Shaping with the Shift:  
Climate Change in Akwesasne

Moved by: Chief Tobi Mitchell  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #220 Akwesasne Legislative  
Commission Selection of Member

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR F#221 Accept and Approve  
the Indigenous Services Canada  
(ISC) Amending Agreement for:  
Agreement No. 1920-ON-000024  
–Amendment No. 0004

Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Vanessa Adams

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #222 Agreement between  
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne  
and the Eastern Ontario Health  
Unit

Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Vanessa Adams

**For: 6 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #223 Lease Amending  
Agreement with Dr. Daniel Hovse-  
pian – Dental Clinic

Moved by: Chief Vanessa Adams  
Seconded by: Chief Theresa Jacobs

**For: 6 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #224 Kana:takon Duplex  
2019

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #225 Recommendation for  
MCA to pay off On-Reserve Hous-  
ing Loan #3862-500141

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #226 Housing – Upgrade  
Application

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Theresa Jacobs

**For: 11 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #227 Lease – Lot 29  
Colquhoun Island West

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

**For: 10 Against: 1**

**CARRIED**

MCR #228 Accept and Approve  
the Indigenous Services Cana-  
da (ISC) Amending Agreement  
for: Agreement No. 1920-ON-  
000024-Amendment 0005

Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

**For: 11 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #229 Contract to Jp2g-Snye  
School HVAC/Boiler Control De-  
sign

Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson  
Seconded by: Chief April Phillips

**For: 0 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #230 Award Contract Jp2g  
SCADA Integration Upgrades  
WWW Infrastructure

Moved by: Chief Vanessa Adams  
Seconded by: Chief April Phillips

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #231 Wade Lafrance Memo-  
rial Road Project

Moved by: Chief Joe Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #232 Access to Territory  
Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson  
Seconded by: Chief Vanessa Adams

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #233 Accept and Approve  
Council Meeting Minutes dated  
Seskehko:wa/September 9th,  
2019

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #234 Accept and Approve  
Council Meeting Minutes dated  
Seskehko:wa/September 16, 2019

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis  
Seconded by: Chief Joe Lazore

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #235 Accept and Approve  
Council Meeting Minutes dated  
Seskehko:wa/September 23rd,  
2019

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis  
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

**For: 9 Against: 0**

**CARRIED**

MCR #236 Accept and Approve  
Council Meeting Minutes dated



# NEWS

## MOHAWK COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Seskihko:wa/September 30, 2019  
Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #237 Accept Audits of the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service – Police Service  
Moved by: Chief Joe Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Theresa Jacobs  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #238 Accept Audits of the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service – Joint Investigation Task Force  
Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Vanessa Adams  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #239 Accept audits of Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership (2008) Schedule of Receipts and Disbursements  
Moved by: Chief April Phillips  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #240 Accept audits of various CMHS Section 95 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019  
Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief April Phillips

**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #241 LOA Authorizes Ex Director  
Moved by: Chief Joe Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson  
**For: 7 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #242 Kanien'kéha/ Mohawk Language Digitization Project – CREO  
Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #243 Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Transformation Initiative  
Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson  
Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #244 Allotment – Lot 200-3 Cornwall Island  
Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson  
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #245 Lot 21 Block C Hamilton Island – Assignment of Lease  
Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore

Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #246 Allotment – Lot 141 Parcel 63 St. Regis Village  
Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson  
Seconded by: Chief Theresa Jacobs  
For: 9 Against: 0  
**CARRIED**

MCR #247 Funding Proposal for Justice Partnership and Innovation Program  
Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore  
**For: 9 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #248 OLGC- Council Fund  
Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson  
Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis  
**For: 8 Against: 1**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #249 Re-Establishment of MCA's Commitment to change  
Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
**For: 8 Against: 1**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #250 Amendment to the MOHLTC Champlain Community Care Access Centre Amending Agreement 2019-2020

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore  
**For: 8 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #251 Housing – Upgrade Application  
Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore  
**For: 8 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #252 Housing – Upgrade Application  
Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore  
**For: 8 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #253 Housing – Upgrade Application  
Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore  
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson  
**For: 7 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

MCR #254 Accept the revised audits of Ontario First Nation Limited Partnership (2008) schedule of receipts and disbursements and rescind MCR #239, 2019-2020  
Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs  
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson  
**For: 7 Against: 0**  
**CARRIED**

# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - "WE WILL GOVERN"

## WHY AKWESASNE WILL NOT BECOME A MUNICIPALITY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Entewatatha:wi Program would like to provide information to the community regarding questions our office has received about self-government. We will be addressing the questions through our communiques to the community. Since each question is unique we will address the topics on an individual basis over the coming months.

### Will Akwesasne become a Municipality?

**Mohawks of Akwesasne will not become a municipality.** The Mohawks of Akwesasne have a unique structure for the delivery of services and operations. The MCA receives federal and provincial funding and provides services to the community, that range over federal, provincial and municipal type service areas. This is over and above a municipal type of government. A municipality is only created under a provincial jurisdiction.

### The services currently provided to the membership of Akwesasne are delivered through the following departments:

- Executive Services - Government support, ARRO, Employment Programs, Nation Building, Office of Vital Statistics, and Reception;
- Department of Social Services – Akwesasne Child and Family Services,
- Community Support, Akwesasne Family Wellness;
- Finance & Administration – Finance, Human Resources, Communication, Information Services;
- Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board Of Education – Iohahi:io & Post Secondary, Student Services, 3 Local Schools, Child Care, AMBE Administration;
- Akwesasne Mohawk police Services (Public Safety) – Compliance, AMPS, Joint Investigation Team, Marine Unit, Dispatch, Ambulance;
- Department of Health Akwesasne - Non Insured

Health Benefits, Community health, Home Support/ Home care, Iakhihsohtha, Tsiionkwanonhso:te, Holistic health & Wellness;

- Department of Justice – Akwesasne Community Justice Program Akwesasne Court, Akwesasne Representatives & advocacy, Civil Remedies;
- Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment – Maintenance & facilities, Road, Water & waste Water, Capital Project, Housing Administration (rentals), Environment,
- Economic Development - Arena, Peace tree Mall, Thompson Island, Tobacco;

These services are more than what a municipality provides. A municipality only provides a fraction of the services that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne provides.

The Akwesasne - Canada Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement is a government to government relationship. It is Akwesasne's inherent right to have Self Government, removing itself from parts of the Indian Act. This agreement does not create a municipality.

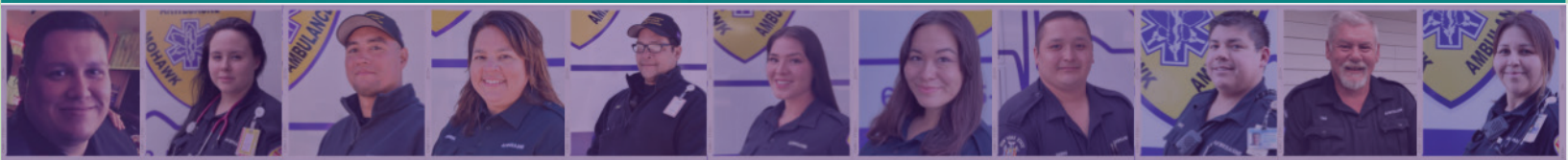
The services currently identified as community needs and presented in the operations budget are being delivered by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and will continue. An expanded jurisdiction and authority in some areas of services will be gained by the Mohawks of Akwesasne, once the membership approves the Akwesasne - Canada Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement.

If you have questions for further articles regarding the Akwesasne-Canada Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement contact the Coordinator Peter Garrow at 613.575.2341 ext: 3194 or by emailing him at [peter.garrow@akwesasne.ca](mailto:peter.garrow@akwesasne.ca).



# EXECUTIVE SERVICES

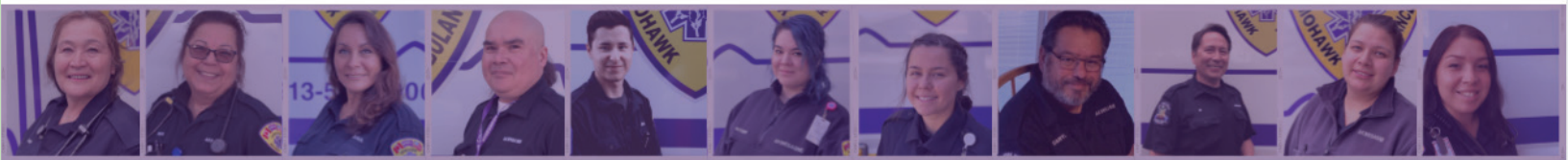
## COMPLIMENTS & APPRECIATIONS



## NIA:WEN TO OUR EMT'S!



**NATIONAL EMS WEEK MAY 16-22**



# SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

## FACEBOOK STATS



### Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in May

1. National EMS Week: Quick Questions with AMA Driver Kharlene Garrow
2. National EMS Week: Quick Questions with EMT Dennis Bero
3. It's A Family Thing: Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance
4. Tour of the AMA with EMT Chanelle Smoke (Video)
5. Mother's Day 2021 at Iakhihsohtha Lodge

### Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in May

1. AMPS Warns Community Not to Use St. Regis Point Diving Board — 6,374 reached
2. Join the Community Health Program's Just Garden Club — 3,058 reached
3. MCA General Election 2021: Unofficial Nominees — 3,920 reached
4. COVID-19 Vaccine Walk-In Clinics — 2,904 reached
5. Mother's Day 2021 at Iakhihsohtha Lodge — 2,341 reached

## TWITTER STATS

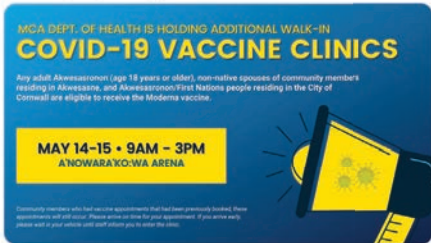
### Top Tweet in May



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne  
@MCAKwesasne

Join us tomorrow for the last of this week's walk-in clinics and receive a Moderna COVID-19 vaccine!

The clinic is open to adult Akwesasronon, non-native spouses of community members, & Akwesasronon/First Nations people living in Cornwall, Ontario.



## YOUTUBE STATS



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

1. A Message for Our Healthcare Heroes
2. Tour of the Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance
3. MCA General Meeting — April 29, 2021



# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCES!

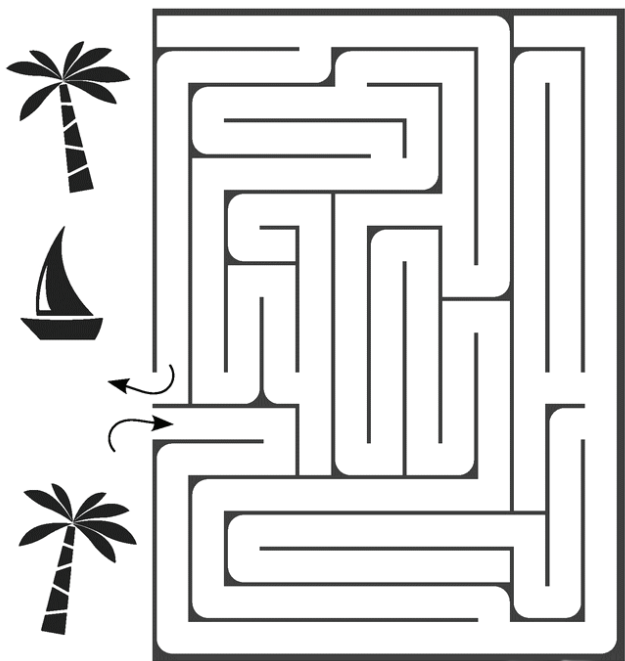
Can you spot the 5 differences between these two beach photos?



1. Girls pigtail rubber band is purple in the second picture. 2. Cloud to the left of boy on right is different in second picture. 3. Bird is missing from second picture. 4. There is an extra sand hill to the left of the picture. 5. The ball has a green stripe in second picture and blue in the first.

## SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

Find your way through the beach maze.



## YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why does the seagull fly over the sea?  
If it flew over the bay, it would be a bagel.

What animal is always at a baseball game?  
A bat!

How do you know the ocean is friendly?  
It waves!

What did the little corn say to the mama corn?  
Pop-corn!

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## NON-INSURED HEALTH PROGRAM PROVIDES CRITERIA FOR CUSTOM-MADE FOOT ORTHOTICS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Non-Insured Health Benefit Program (ANIHB) is informing the community that custom-made foot orthotics are a benefit provided through their program. Pre-approval is required in order to be eligible through ANIHB.

Please note: each client is allowed one (1) pair every two (2) years.

When a request for custom-made foot orthotics comes in to NIHB, staff will ensure the client's request meets the following criteria:

1. Must be prescribed by any of the following:

- Doctor of Podiatric Medicine
- Physician
- Nurse Practitioner
- Chiropodist

2. The foot orthotic must be provided by one of the following:

- Certified orthotist

- Certified Prosthetist Orthotist

- "Technicien en orthèses et prothèses" certified by the Canadian Board for the Certification of Prosthetists and Orthotists (CBCPO) or by "l'ordre des technologues professionnels du Québec (OTPO)" (Quebec only)

- Podiatrist (doctor of podiatric medicine)

- Chiropodist registered with provincial or territorial regulatory bodies

- Canadian Certified Pedorthist

- Certified Pedorthist or BOC Pedorthist (BOCPD) registered with the Pedorthic Footcare Association (PFA) Canadian chapter

If you have any questions regarding any NIHB benefits, or to ensure your out-of-pocket expense is reimbursable, please contact their office at 613-575-2341 ext. 3340, and speak to a Benefit Analyst, who will advise on benefit coverage. Failure to do so may result in non-payment to the individual.

# JOIN OUR TEAM

## MCA IS HIRING

TO VIEW THE POSTINGS, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.AKWESASNE.CA/EMPLOYMENT](http://WWW.AKWESASNE.CA/EMPLOYMENT).





# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## KANONHKWA'TSHERI:IO ENTRANCE AND SERVICE PROCEDURES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health (DOH) is reminding the community about the entrance procedures when accessing services at the Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility. Due to COVID-19, the health facility's entrance procedures need to be adhered to, as we strive to maintain the health and safety of our community and staff members.

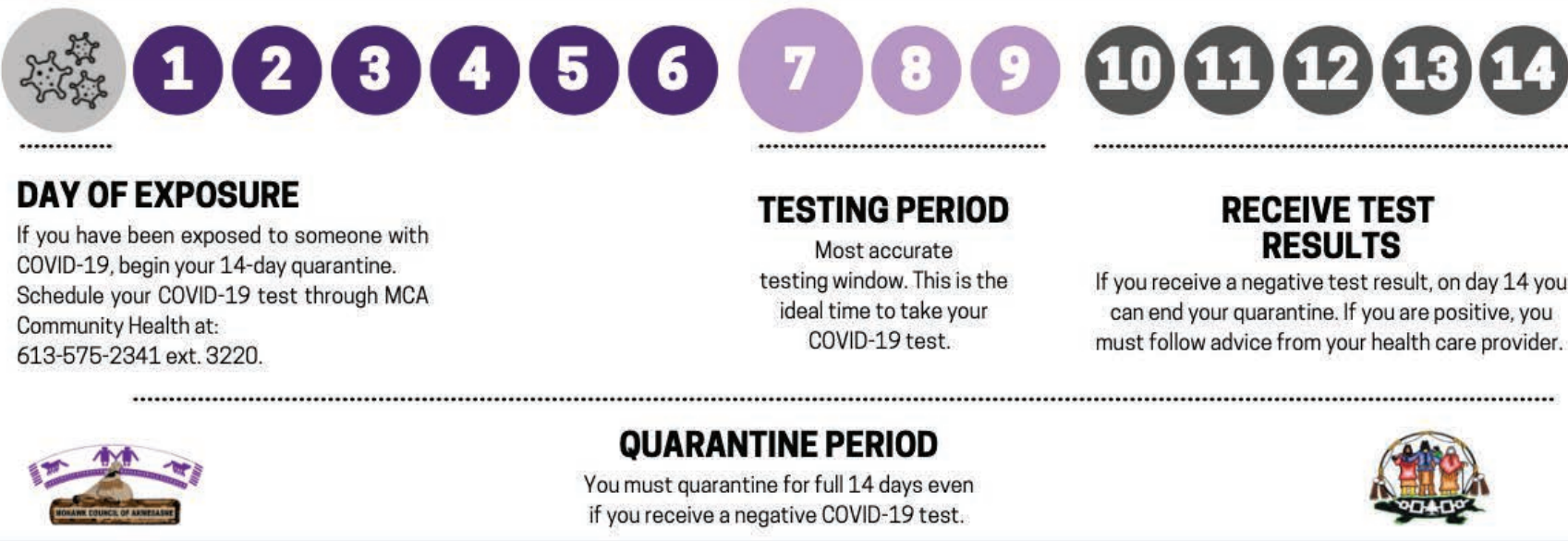
When arriving at Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io for your appointment, please follow the guidelines listed:

- Schedule your appointment with your provider, who will do a COVID-19 screening over the phone.
- When arriving at Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io, please park in the designated parking spots (#1-15). Please arrive on time for your appointment. Should you arrive early, please remain in your vehicle.
- Call your provider to notify them of your arrival at 613-575-2341. Inform them of the make and model of your vehicle, and the numbered spot in which you are parked. Do not wait in the Waiting Area inside the facility. Please remain in your vehicle until your

service provider has informed you to enter or has come outside to greet you and escort you into the building.

- When entering the facility, you will be screened for COVID-19 at the reception area. It is VERY IMPORTANT that you answer the screening questions HONESTLY AND TRUTHFULLY.
- You will be escorted by your provider to your scheduled appointment.
- Only one patient will be allowed in the facility at a time, however, if the patient requires assistance, they may be accompanied by ONE support person/parent/guardian.
- When entering the health facility, wearing a mask is REQUIRED. Please maintain social distance of 6-feet from others around you.
- Upon completion of your appointment, please wait to be escorted back out to your vehicle. Please don't loiter or visit within the facility, as we are ensuring a healthy, safe environment for our community members and staff.

## WHEN SHOULD I GET A COVID-19 TEST AFTER EXPOSURE?



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## COVID-19 COMMUNITY SITUATION REPORT

(MAY 27, 2021)

### MCA

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| TOTAL TESTS          | 2,165 |
| TOTAL POSITIVE CASES | 359   |
| ACTIVE CASES         | 3     |

*This information was provided by the MCA Community Health Program.  
Data was updated as of May 27, 2021.*

### SRMT

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| TOTAL TESTS          | 9,527 |
| TOTAL POSITIVE CASES | 338   |
| ACTIVE CASES         | 1     |

*This information was provided by the SRMT Emergency Operations Center.  
Data was updated as of May 26, 2021.*

**TOTAL DEATHS 10**

### SURROUNDING AREAS

|                  | ACTIVE CASES | TOTAL CASES | TOTAL DEATHS | TOTAL TESTS |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| EOHU REGION      | 130          | 4,776       | 103          | 139,286     |
| FRANKLIN CO.     | 13           | 2,604       | 16           | 91,735      |
| ST. LAWRENCE CO. | 85           | 7,476       | 96           | 327,099     |

*This information was provided by the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (updated May 27, 2021), Franklin County Public Health (updated May 27, 2021), & St. Lawrence County Public Health (updated May 27, 2021).*

### PROVINCIAL, NATIONAL & GLOBAL

|           | TOTAL CASES  | TOTAL DEATHS |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| ONTARIO   | 527,180      | 8,697        |
| CANADA    | 1.36 million | 25,361       |
| WORLDWIDE | 168 million  | 3.49 million |

*This information was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health, Health Canada, & the World Health Organization.  
Data was updated as of May 27, 2021.*




# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## WHOLISTIC HEALTH ANNOUNCES RETURN OF SPECIALISTS ON-SITE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne’s Wholistic Health & Wellness Program is informing the community that Dr. Levac has returned to provide on-site services at Kanonhkwa’tsheri:io Health Facility as of Thursday, May 20, 2021. Additionally, Dr. Saylor has returned to Kanonhkwa’tsheri:io as of June 1, 2021 to provide on-site services as well. To schedule appointments for either Dr. Levac or Dr. Saylor, please contact the Akwesasne Medical Clinic at 613-575-2341.

**B.E.F.A.S.T. IS A WAY OF THINKING ABOUT SIGNS OF A STROKE. IT IS ALSO MEANT TO REMIND US TO ACT QUICKLY WHEN A STROKE IS SUSPECTED.**


## HOW TO SPOT A STROKE



**B.**

**BALANCE**


Have they had a sudden loss of balance?



**E.**

**EYES**


Have they had a sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes?



**F.**

**FACE**


Does their face look uneven?



**A.**

**ARM/LEG**


Is their arm or leg weak or hanging down?



**S.**

**SPEECH**



Do they have slurred speech? Do they have trouble speaking or seem confused?



**T.**

**TERRIBLE HEADACHE**

Do they have the worst headache of their life?



**IF YOU SUSPECT SOMEONE IS HAVING A STROKE, IMMEDIATELY CALL THE AKWESASNE MOHAWK AMBULANCE AT 613-575-2000.**

Page 38

ONKWE'TA:KE

JUNE 2021

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION FOR YOUTH (AGE 12-17)

### What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is an infection caused by the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). COVID-19 is mainly passed from an infected person to others when the infected coughs, sneezes, talks, or breathes. Infected people can spread the infection even if they have no symptoms of COVID-19.

### Symptoms of the COVID-19 virus include (symptoms can range from mild to severe):

- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fever
- Chills
- Tiredness
- Loss of smell or taste

### How do vaccines protect against COVID-19?

All vaccines work by presenting your body with something that looks like the infection, so your immune system can learn how to produce its own natural protection. This natural protection helps to prevent future illness if you come in contact with COVID-19. You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is a two-dose vaccination, and to achieve long-term protection, it is important to receive both doses.

### Who can receive the vaccine?

The Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is currently authorized for anyone 12 years of age and older.

### Who should wait to receive their COVID-19 vaccine?

Anyone who has received another vaccine (not a COVID-19 vaccine), in the previous 14 days should wait to receive the Pfizer vaccine. People with symptoms of an illness (runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever, chills, nausea/vomiting) should wait until their symptoms

have resolved/gotten better to avoid any complications from the vaccine. Anyone who has been advised to self-isolate by public health due to possible exposure to COVID-19 must wait for their isolation period to end before attending any community vaccine clinics.

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

Like all vaccines, the COVID-19 vaccine may cause side effects, and some may not experience any side effects at all. Those who have experienced side effects mostly report mild side effects within 1-2 days after vaccination. The most commonly reported side effect has been pain/swelling/redness at the injection site, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, joint pain, chills, and mild fever. Serious side effects are found to be extremely rare. Emergency medical services are on-site in case of any allergic reactions or severe side effects immediately following receiving the vaccine.

### Your healthcare provider should be contacted if you are experiencing any of the following after your vaccination:

- Hives
- Swelling of the face and mouth
- Trouble breathing
- Serious drowsiness
- High fever
- Convulsions or seizures
- "Pins and needles" or numbness

If you have any questions regarding the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, or to register for the next clinic, please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19. WHAT DO I DO?

If you were notified of an exposure by a public health authority, call the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 for screening and advisement of your isolation period.

It is recommended to self-isolate for 14 days or until cleared or resolved by your health care provider.



### STAY AT HOME

DO NOT go out for groceries or other items. Have a designated person to do your essential shopping. Stay in a designated room away from your immediate family and use a separate toilet/bathroom if possible. Continue to wash your hands frequently and sanitize your home.

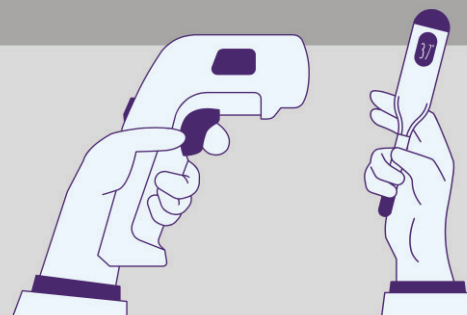


### GET TESTED

Call ahead to make an appointment (do NOT just show up) through the MCA Department of Health. The COVID-19 testing site has recently been relocated to Third Street in Kana:takon. Please note that this should be the ONLY time you leave your home during self-quarantine. If you need immediate medical care, call Central Dispatch at 613-575-2000.

### MONITOR YOUR SYMPTOMS

Make sure that you take your temperature regularly (high fever is anything over 100°F), and monitor COVID-19 symptoms, which include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and fatigue. If symptoms worsen, call your medical health provider.



### KEEP A LOG

Make a list of those that you have been around recently in the case you are positive. It is helpful to keep a daily log and keep of list of people and locations you were around if needed by any public health authority.



# ENVIRONMENT

## SECOND DIVE CONDUCTED TO REMOVE OLD NAVIGATION BATTERIES

On May 6, 2021, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's marine liaison officer participated as an observer to the second battery removal near Cornwall Harbor. The objective was to have a dive team, ODS Marine, hired by the Canadian Coast Guard, come to our area to remove a cache of aids to navigation batteries from the St. Lawrence River.

ODS Marine worked off their boat and used it as a transfer platform to take batteries from the water to the boat, then carried to the dock and loaded into the Coast Guard trailer.

The process was very efficiently done and saw the successful removal of roughly 14-15 batteries (one was broken open), a microwave, and a bicycle. The materials were hauled off for proper disposal.

MCA would like to thank the assisting agencies, Cornwall Dive Club and Canadian Coast Guard, for their commitment to ensuring our rivers are clean and safe, and thank you for including MCA Marine Liaison Officer Dillon Point in the operation.



*Removing a battery near Cornwall Harbor with the Cornwall Dive Club and Canadian Coast Guard.*



# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION



AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

*le thi ha hon:nien - We make the road for them*

## Noteworthy Dates June 2021

**June 11, 2021**

Last Day of Student Instruction (Hybrid/Remote)

**June 25, 2021**

Kana:takon School Ceremony for Grades 5/6

**June 28, 2021**

AMS Grade 8 Graduation

**June 29, 2021**

Tsi Snaihne School Grade 8 Graduation

**June 30, 2021**

AMBE End of Year Closing & Retiree Celebration

Language  
& Culture

Student  
Success

Relationship  
Building

Organizational  
Excellence

### 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



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## AKWESASNE FAMILY WELLNESS PROGRAM THANKFUL FOR DONATIONS

The Akwesasne Family Wellness Program would like to recognize two donations that we were so grateful to receive. The first donation was received from a donation drive that the Cornwall Starbucks put on for Mother's Day, they generously donated the proceeds to clients of our program.

The second donation was received May 20, 2021 by Leslie Moore whose wife resides at

Tsiionkwanonhso:te. His generous donation will be put towards our client activity fund for victims of domestic violence who are on their journey towards healing.

The staff here at AFWP would like to send a Niawenhko:wa to our donators for their thoughtfulness and support towards clients of the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program.



*Nia:wen to Leslie Moore who donated funds towards the AFWP activity fund for victims of domestic violence who are on their journey of healing.*



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## PRIDE MONTH

### The History of PRIDE Month

June 28th, 1969 was considered one of the most pivotal moments for the LGBTQ community. Although queer activism and uprisings had already been occurring throughout the United States since the 1950's, the night of the Stonewall Raid-turned-riot was a point in history when society could no longer tolerate the issues and injustice that were being perpetrated onto LGBTQ identified people. In the days leading up to June 28th, men could be legally charged for dressing in drag, and women could be arrested if they were caught wearing less than three pieces of clothing in which society deemed feminine appropriate. Because they could not identify themselves as straight, their rights and liberties were taken from them. In Canada homosexuality was even listed as a "disorder" in the manual of mental disorders right up until December 15th, 1973. Unfortunately, these are some of the many forms of oppression that the LGBTQ community faced and the fight for equal rights, visibility and representation continues today.

Some may refer to it as Freedom Day or Gay Liberation Day. That June night in 1969, everything changed for the better for LGBTQ communities around the world. The prevalence of the situations that occurred were far too absurd and unjust for people to just sit back and watch. A movement sparked. LGBTQ community and their allies joined together and stood in solidarity demanding justice, freedom, and the assertion of equal rights. Activists were seeking greater political activism, which they graciously received. The goal was to ensure the safety and equality for LGBTQ community members. Pride refers to the month long celebrations and protests alike, that today we continue to celebrate. We celebrate that the LGBTQ community was finally granted the freedom that they deserved.

The Rainbow Flag debuted in San Francisco, 1978 when artist Gilbert Baker symbolized sexuality as HOT PINK,

life by RED, healing by ORANGE, the sun by YELLOW, nature by GREEN, art by BLUE, harmony by INDIGO and spirit by VIOLET. The flag is used as a sense of Pride to this day. It is seen in many demonstrations and it is used by people are proud to come out or support the LGBTQ community. The flag is symbolic of individual freedom and diversity for the LGBTQ community.

In Canada the memory of the Toronto raids-turned-riot grew into the vibrant Pride festival we see today. Other important strides included May 14th, 1969, when Canada decriminalized homosexual acts between two consenting adults. In 1971 activists marched to Parliament Hill for Canada's first Gay Rights and Liberation Protest. On December 15, 1973 homosexuality is removed as a disorder from the list of mental disorders. And on December 16th, 1977 Quebec includes sexual orientation in its human rights code. Quebec was also the first province in Canada to pass a gay civil right law,



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## PRIDE MONTH

making it illegal to discriminate against gays in housing.

In the year 2000, President Bill Clinton officially dedicated the month of June for "Gay and Lesbian Pride Month". Which lead up to where we stand together today.

### Words Hurt

In an effort to address the microaggression or hurtful acts or comments directed towards LGBTQ people, we'd like to remind people that words do hurt. In a study done in the UK, gay youth reported depression that was linked to the homophobic language used by their straight peers. Phrases like "that's so gay" or "your so gay" may seem common, but they have the ability to have a negative effect on the self-esteem of those who identify as LGBTQ. Often times people use this homophobic, offensive language unconsciously, and although the intent may not to be malicious, homophobic language is still very hurtful. What we can do is challenge homophobic language and become an ally!

### 5 Things You Can Do to Become an Ally

1) Stay informed- Seek education to inform yourself of LGBTQ issues. Do your research. Offer support when things get rough and help celebrate when the achievements arise.

2) Be a good listener- Listening will help you to understand what it means to be an ally. Listening will also broaden your awareness so that you can help to achieve equality and freedom for the LGBTQ community.

3) Be open minded- Do your best to see from their perspective to help understand where they are coming from.

4) Be willing to advocate- Attend a rally, sign a petition, get a law passed!

5) Be inclusive- Be inclusive by including your

LGBTQ friends in your social activities and treating same gender couples the same as your heterosexual coupled friends.

ACFS, Community Support, Wholistic Health and Wellness and our partners will be offering Pride programming throughout the month of June! Follow us on Facebook @ Akwesasne Child and Family Services for program dates and details! All are welcome to join us in solidarity and celebration of Akwesasne's LGBTQ community.





# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## AMPS WARNS COMMUNITY NOT TO USE ST. REGIS POINT DIVING BOARD

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police and the Mohawk Council conservation officer are warning the community not to use the St. Regis Point diving board at this time due to concerns for safety.

Large rocks have been thrown into the water beneath the board and pose a risk of serious injury. We also ask the community to be mindful of one another and the work that has been done by volunteers to create a safe and fun swimming spot. Do not throw rocks or any objects into the river, especially in locations where community members swim.

Nia:wen for your understanding.



Large rocks under the board pose a risk to community members. Please do not use the diving board until rocks have been removed.

### April 2021 Statistics

|               |                              |         |                               |                        |                                |
|---------------|------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Total: 252    |                              | (other) | 3                             | 1041 Mental Health Act |                                |
| 1             | 023 Break and Enter-Premises | 5       | 1003 Assist Tribal PD         | 1                      | 1046 Crisis Intervention       |
| 1             | 027 Theft-Automobiles        | 35      | 1004 Assist Public            | 1                      | 1049 Medical Aid               |
| 1             | 028 Theft-Trucks             | 1       | 1006 Document Service         | 6                      | 1056 Hazardous Conditions      |
| 1             | 030 Theft-Other vehicles     | 4       | 1008 By law-Dogs              | 12                     | 106 Provincial Statutes-Other  |
| 1             | 040 Theft Under \$5000       | 2       | 1009 By law-Noise             | 13                     | 1063 Marine Patrol             |
| 1             | 045 Frauds-Other             | 1       | 101 Firearms Act              | 2                      | 107 Municipal By-Laws          |
| 1             | 063 Disturb the Peace        | 3       | 1011 By Law-Other             | 1                      | 205 Assault-Level 1            |
| 1             | 068 Obstruct Peace Officer   | 2       | 1012 Civil Disputes           | 3                      | 206 Assault Weapon/CBH-Lev-    |
| 3             | 072 Michief (prop damage)    | 12      | 1023 Judges Order (court)     | el 2                   |                                |
| under \$5,000 |                              | 1       | 1026 Property-Lost            | 1                      | 207 Aggravated Assault-Level 3 |
| 1             | 073 Criminal Code (other)    | 1       | 1027 Property-Found           | 1                      | 212 Assaults-Other             |
| 2             | 080 Cocaine-Trafficking      | 6       | 1029 Suspicious Persons       | 1                      | 6666 Assist Fire Department    |
| 1             | 087 Cannabis Possession      | 15      | 1030 Suspicious Vehicles      | 4                      | 705 Dangerous Operation MV     |
| 3             | 088 Cannabis-Trafficking     | 19      | 1031 Suspicious Circumstances | 2                      | 711 Impaired Operation MV      |
| 3             | 100 Immigration Act          | 1       | 1035 Warrant-Committal        | 1                      | 716 Drive MV Prohibited (CCC)  |
| 5             | 1001 Alarms                  | 6       | 1036 Warrant-Bench/First      | 2                      | 719 Drive Disqualified/License |
| 7             | 1003 Assist Ambulance        | 2       | 1037 Warrant-Search           | Suspended              |                                |
| 8             | 1003 Assist Cornwall PS      | 2       | 1039 Property-Recovered       |                        |                                |
| 9             | 1003 Assist Other Agencies   | 4       | 1040 Traffic Complaint        |                        |                                |

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## BOATING SAFETY TIPS

AMPS hosted Safe Boating Week from May 22-28. We know that this is just the start of people enjoying being out on the water, but we hope that everyone practices safety when doing so!

Please ensure that you follow the boating safety tips below whenever you are getting out on the water!

1. Check the boat engine and equipment before leaving.
2. Check the weather forecast before leaving.
3. Tell someone where you are going, and how long

you plan on being gone.

4. Avoid drinking alcohol while boating.
5. Never overload the boat.
6. Always keep an anchor, tailer, extra fuel, warm clothing and flares aboard your boat.
7. Keep a lifejacket suitable for each passenger on board and always wear them while out on the water.
8. Bring two working forms of communication.
9. Keep cellphones in a water-proof container or plastic bag.
10. Make sure to keep a first-aid kit on board.







WHOLISTIC HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAM



# FATHER'S DAY

## DAD SWAG PHOTO ACTIVITY

Post a pic of your Rakeni/Father figure rocking their favorite "dad fashion" outfit!

ALL PHOTO ENTRIES POSTED ON THE WHW PROGRAM  
FACEBOOK PAGE WILL BE ENTERED FOR A PRIZE!

