

ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 11 Issue 3

FREE

Enniskó:wa/March 2022

IN THIS ISSUE:

COMMUNITY
SETTLEMENT TRUST
CALL-OUT

HYDRO-QUEBEC
CONDUCTING
VEGETATION
INVENTORY
WITHIN THE
COMMUNITY

ONTARIO
LIFTS VACCINE
REQUIREMENT

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH UNVEILS
NEW MOBILE CLINIC
MEDICAL UNIT

RETIREMENTS IN
THE ORGANIZATION



MCA CONTINUES PARTNERSHIP WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AS NEW FAMILY HOME NEARS COMPLETION



In just a short time, the Saucier-Leaf family of seven will open the door to their brand-new Cornwall home, a result of the generous work of the Habitat for Humanity non-profit organization. The new home is receiving its final interior finishes, and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) chiefs were hands-on painting and assisting during their volunteer "Build Day" on February 28, 2022.

Habitat for Humanity relies on partnerships and volunteer work to help families experience the dream of home ownership. Last year, MCA was approached by the Cornwall Habitat for Humanity and a member of Akwesasne requesting a partnership. MCA was proud to help by donating a parcel of off-reserve land to the project. The home is expected to be completed in April.

UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

GENERAL MEETING

The March General Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting in person and via Zoom on March 24, 2021 at 6 p.m. at the Kawehno:ke Recreation. All in-person attendees must show proof of vaccination.

Please send an e-mail to meetings@akwesasne.ca to receive a link to watch the meeting.

You can also send any questions you may have to meetings@akwesasne.ca as well.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2021-2024

Grand Chief

Abram Benedict

Kana:takon District

Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell

Chief Ryan Jacobs

Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

Chief Tim Thompson

Kawehno:ke District

Chief Vanessa Adams

Chief Jackie Benedict

Chief Edward Roundpoint

Chief Vince Thompson

Tsi Snaihne District

Chief April Adams-Phillips

Chief Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo

Chief JoAnn Swamp

Chief Dwayne Thomas

Administration

Donna Roundpoint

A/Executive Director

Heather Phillips

Department of Finance and
Administration

Leslie Papineau

A/Director,

Department of Infrastructure,
Housing & Environment

Joyce King

Director,

Akwesasne Justice Department

Joseph Morin-Lauzon

Director,

Department of
Community and Social Services

Amber Montour

Director,

Department of Health

Donna Lahache

Director,

Akwesasne Mohawk Board
of Education

Shawn Dulude

Chief of Police,

Akwesasne Mohawk Police
Service

Kylee Tarbell

A/Director,

Tehotiennawakon

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.

FIVE THINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS &
IMPORTANT MESSAGES

1

The MCA Department of Health recently unveiled a new Mobile Clinic Medical Unit to the community. If you would like to learn more about this mobile clinic unit, see page 25.

2

Please be reminded that all visits to the MCA organization must be made by appointment only. MCA have had limited public access since January 3, 2021. On March 4, 2022, the situation will be reassessed and the community will be advised of any changes.

3

Check out akwesasne.ca/employment for an up-to-date listing of all programs that are hiring in the organization!

4

The MCA Community in Quarantine Program assists community members who have to quarantine. To receive assistance, please call 613-936-1548 ext. 1300 during regular business hours or 613-577-6556 after hours, on weekends, or holidays. For more information see page 7.

5

Akwesasne Court Dates were announced for 2022. If you would like to see the full list of scheduled dates, see page 29.

OTTAWA DROPPING PRE-ARRIVAL PCR TEST FOR FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELLERS

Fully vaccinated travellers entering Canada will no longer be required to take a pre-arrival molecular test (PCR) as of February 28th. Travellers will still be required to take a pre-arrival test, but can opt for an authorized rapid antigen test instead. The rapid antigen test must be taken no more than one day before arrival to your scheduled flight or land border.

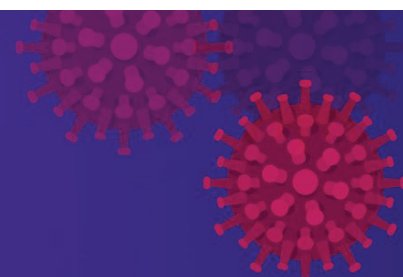
Currently, travellers entering Canada must show proof of a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of their departing flight or planned arrival at the land border.

Fully vaccinated travellers may be randomly selected for a PCR test upon arrival, as the testing program will remain in place, but as of February 28th, travellers will no longer be required to quarantine while waiting for their test results.

The government also announced plans to lift its current advisory against non-essential travel abroad; these changes are due to improving pandemic conditions. Should conditions continue to improve, further testing measures could be dropped, such as testing requirements for Canadians visiting the U.S. for short trips under 72 hours. However, the government has made no mention of dropping its rule for air passengers who test positive while abroad and must wait at least 10 days before entering Canada.

The government also announced that after February 28th, international flights will be allowed to land at any international Canadian airport; previously, the government had barred international flights from landing at some airports due to the pandemic.

To read the full article, please visit www.cbc.ca.



OTTAWA DROPPING PRE-ARRIVAL PCR TEST FOR FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELLERS

NEWS

ONTARIO LIFTS PROOF OF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT *CAPACITY LIMITS IN INDOOR SETTINGS LIFTED AS WELL*

Effective on March 1st, Ontario has lifted its proof of vaccination requirement for indoor non-essential settings. Businesses are no longer be required to ask patrons for proof of at least two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine for entry. Businesses can, however, choose to keep the mandate active.

Vaccine requirements in healthcare settings and long-term care facilities will remain in place for now.

Capacity limits in all other indoor public settings are also lifted as of March 1st. The mask mandate will re-

main in place, with that mandate expected to be lifted sometime in March, as well.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne recognizes the lifting of these mandates is a welcome relief for many. MCA still advises community members to practice public health measures to ensure COVID-19 numbers don't increase within the community, and we remain vigilant in the protection of our vulnerable populations.

ONTARIO LIFTING PROOF OF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

CAPACITY LIMITS FOR INDOOR SETTINGS LIFTED AS WELL



NEWS

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT MCA

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne currently has multiple employment opportunities available!

To view the postings, please visit www.akwesasne.ca/employment.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is hiring for the following positions:

- Personal Support Worker •
- Class "A" Truck Driver/Equipment Operator •
- Mental Health Therapist •
- Administrative Assistant •
- Program Manager •
- Registered Dietitian •
- Recreation & Leisure Aide •

VIEW THE JOB DESCRIPTIONS AT:

www.akwesasne.ca/employment



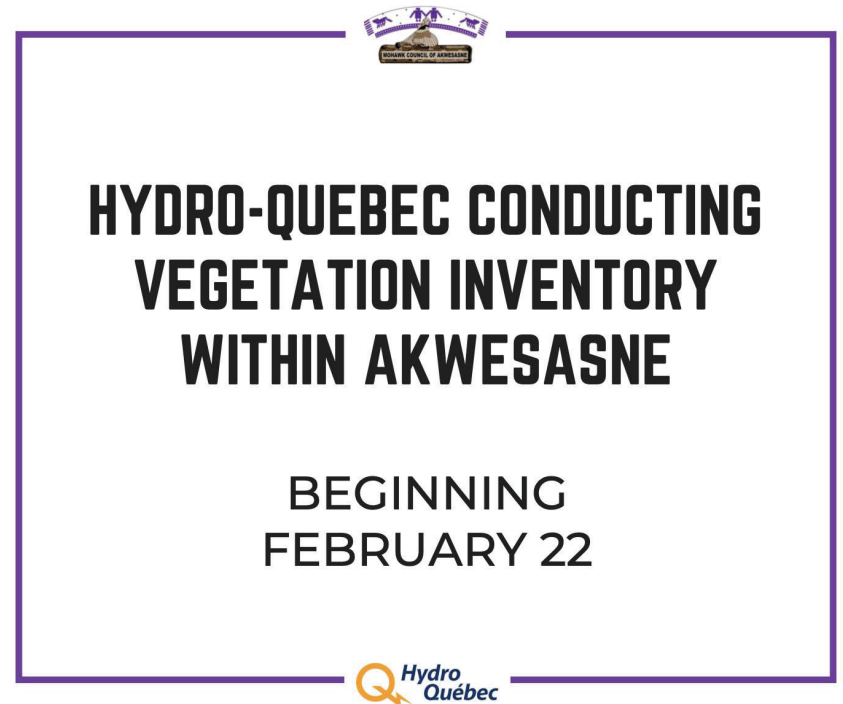
NEWS

HYDRO-QUEBEC CONDUCTING VEGETATION INVENTORY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

To ensure public safety, minimize the risk of power outages and guarantee the proper functioning of the electricity network, Hydro-Québec ensures a clearance distance between its lines and the vegetation found near the distribution network.

Beginning February 22 and continuing into early March, two Hydro-Québec forestry technicians will be completing the inventory of the required work in Akwesasne for 2022.

If you need clarification, you can consult the Hydro-Québec website or call the Hydro Quebec customer service department, at 1 866-268-9484.



MCA VOICES OBJECTIONS TO PROTEST AT ENTRYWAY TO BRIDGE CROSSING (FEBRUARY 15)

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne continues to actively monitor the "Freedom Convoy" protests taking place throughout Ontario. These gatherings included the day-long protest held this past Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022 at the end of Brookdale and the Three Nations Bridge Crossing in the City of Cornwall. Police continue to monitor the area.

We do not support roadblocks and protests that hinder access to basic needs, and we will not allow for our community safety to be jeopardized. Akwesasne will not tolerate non-Akwesasne members blocking any road access to any part of our community. We are opposed to any return of protests that place a burden on our community members traveling to and from Akwesasne.

The international border was placed through our community because of bad government policy, and today we continue to be hindered by it. We support the right to protest, but not at the risk of community safety and mobility.

As an indigenous community, we are very aware of the purpose of protests and of voicing concerns to the government. However, these protests must take into account the impact on uninvolved communities. Akwesasne community members make up more than 70 per cent of the users of this border crossing.

A demonstration in and near the roads leading to Akwesasne will not give vaccine-mandate protestors the results they are seeking from Canada.

NEWS

COMMUNITY IN QUARANTINE PROGRAM INFORMATION

The MCA Community in Quarantine Program was established to assist community members who have been directed by a healthcare provider to quarantine due to exposure to a COVID-19 positive person, or they have tested positive for COVID-19.

- Information Required: Caller Name (First & Last), Address, Contact Number, # of Individuals in Household, End Date of Isolation/Quarantine, COVID-19 positive or awaiting test results?
- Weekend Call Times: Start on Fridays at 5:00 PM &

end on Sundays at 9 PM.

- Delivery: Completed by Truck Stop #9

To receive assistance, please call 613-936-1548 ext. 1300 during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.), or 613-577-6556 after hours, on weekends, or holidays. If staff are unavailable at either phone number, please leave a voicemail with the information required, and staff will get back to you as soon as possible. Delivery or pickup directions will be provided to you by staff.



COMMUNITY IN QUARANTINE PROGRAM

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

TO ORDER SUPPLIES:

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8 A.M.-5 P.M.

613-936-1548 ext. 1300

AFTER HOURS/WEEKENDS

613-577-6556



Information Required: Caller name (First & Last), Address, contact number, # of individuals in household, end date of isolation/quarantine, COVID-19 positive or awaiting test results?

Service available to those residing in the northern portion of Akwesasne (Tsi Snaihne, Kawehno:ke, & Kana:takon).

If exposed to COVID-19, be sure to quarantine as instructed by health care provider.

NEWS

MCA OFFICES CONTINUE TO BE OPEN TO COMMUNITY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to inform the community that our offices will continue to be open to community members by appointment only.

MCA offices have had limited public access since January 3, 2022, due to the increased COVID-19 cases and presence of the Omicron variant in our community and surrounding areas.


To access any MCA public offices or health facilities, community members will be required to schedule an appointment with that program/service.

MCA will reassess the situation on March 4, 2022 on the necessity of this measure, and will advise the community on any changes in this policy.

MCA encourages community members who haven't

received their first, second, or third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, to contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 and schedule your appointment.

MCA OFFICES CONTINUE TO BE OPEN TO COMMUNITY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY





KEEP OUR ELDERS SAFE.





DON'T VISIT IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS.

NEWS

MCA OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY OF DAVE "BOZO" BENEDICT, FORMER MCA KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF

It is with a heavy heart that the Mohawk Council has learned of the passing of former Kana:takon District Chief Dave "Bozo" Benedict.

Dave served on Council for three terms, which included: 1982-1984; 1984-1986; and 1986-1988.

The MCA offers our condolences and expresses our sympathies to his family and friends as he makes his journey to the spirit world. Photo: Dave Benedict standing last on the far right side.



AKWESASNE HEATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2021-2022 WINTER SEASON UPDATE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is once again pleased to have provided the heating assistance program for the 2021-2022 winter season to our community members who are registered under the Akwesasne Band Membership Code and residing in any of the three districts (Kana:takon, Kawehno:ke, and Tsi Snaihne) and in the City of Cornwall.

We are excited to announce that there was an increase for the 2021-2022 winter season, in which MCA allotted an extra \$200 for Akwesasnon 59 years of age or less and an extra \$300 for elders age 60 and older. Recipients in the age 59 and under category were provided \$700 and elders received \$1100.

This year continued to be a challenge for Akwesasne due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as we remained under emergency measures, and as we struggled to get through this together as a community. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne continues to provide services to our community members in which we hope we can make each of your lives and those of your families a little less stressful.

MCA would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to the Mohawks of Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust for their continued support of this important community assistance fund. Niawenhkó:wa!



CALL OUT FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR USE OF AVAILABLE TRUST FUNDS

The Mohawks of Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust ("Trust") is seeking proposals for the use of funds available from the Trust for Community Projects and Community Benefits. Project proposals should be prepared based on the guidelines provided in the "2022 Trust Handbook" and use the actual form provided ("2022 Project Funding Application Form"). The Project Funding Application Form is available in fillable PDF format and in MS Word format and the budget schedule is also available in MS Excel format. The documents are available from the akwesasnetrust.com website, the Trust's Facebook page or by emailing info.akwtrust@gmail.com.

You are invited to submit your project proposals by Tuesday March 22, 2022 at 5:00 pm by email at applications.akwtrust@gmail.com or at the mailing address noted in the 2022 Trust Handbook.

The Trust will be holding a virtual information session on Wednesday February 23, 2022 from 6pm to 8pm. You are invited to attend this session; however, attendance is not mandatory in order to submit a project proposal. If you wish to attend the information session on February 23, 2022, please request a link to the workshop from applications.akwtrust@gmail.com.

If you have questions or require any additional assistance with your application, please feel free to contact the Trust at applications.akwtrust@gmail.com or any of the Trustees:

Trustee Name	E-mail	Phone contact
Patricia Adiaconitei	adiaconitei@xplornet.com	613-551-4681
Amanda M. Jacobs	nutjac_22@yahoo.com	518-651-1982
Hilda King	hildamking1953@gmail.com	315-600-7913
Patricia Oakes	Mohawk27@sympatico.ca	613-360-3283
Marie Seymour	cleoz4@yahoo.com	315-323-2841
Wendy M. Thompson	wendy.thompson16@hotmail.com	315-705-5429

Please note that this Call Out for Project Proposals is administered only by the Mohawks of Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust.

****MCA is not involved in this process and will not answer questions related to proposals or this process. Proposals should not be dropped off at MCA.****

Respectfully submitted,

Your Trustees – Amanda, Hilda, Marie, Pat, Patti, and Wendy

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



JANUARY 31, 2022

- Representatives from VIA Rail and AECOM presented and updated Council on the High Frequency Rail project and committed to keep Council updated as the project progresses.
- An update was provided on the

research and preparation for a staff lunch initiative.

- Council discussed a request for assistance on reporting to the Ontario sunshine list and will follow up with the organization requesting assistance.
- An update was provided on an upcoming meeting regarding detox and treatment in Akwesasne.
- Council agreed that Chiefs Adams, Phillips-Jacobs, Francis-Mitchell and Roundpoint will be the committee to work on the renewal of the Canada-Akwesasne Political Protocol and the Akwe-

sasne-Quebec Protocol.

- **MCR's passed:** Appointment of two community members in-principal to Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust Overseer position, Approval of Indigenous Marine Liaison Officer agreement with Canadian Coast Guard, Approval of upgrade loan to community member, Approval of amendment to Akwesasne – Canada funding agreement, Approval of appoint of youth the Akwesasne Youth Council for a 2-year term. March 2021.

FEBRUARY 7, 2022

- A briefing was provided on the upcoming replacement of Council's surface pros and the process to transfer over.
- Council agreed to put forward a team for the Habitat for Human-

ity Build Day, a date will be scheduled.

- **MCR's passed:** Approval of (4) amendments to the Akwesasne-Canada funding agreement; Approval of (2) allotment of land to community member; Approval of

additional funding allotment for Housing Elders Emergency Fund; Approval of lease agreement with Wild Oakes for AMBE Zero to Six program;

FEBRUARY 14, 2022

- The Acting Executive Director for the MCA presented to Council a proposed change to the General Personal Policy (GPP) regarding vacation time/carrying overtime; further reaching and data will be done and presented back to Council.

- Council discussed and set the agenda for the upcoming General Meeting of February 24, 2022.
- A request to use office space at CIA was discussed and it was determined that Districts Chiefs will use boardroom space for meetings and the space can be assigned to a program.

- Council agreed that due to the upcoming holiday there will be no Council meeting the week of February 21, 2022.
- A request to schedule regular meetings (outside of COVID) with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chief was discussed and agreed

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

- to.
- Council discussed re-summing in-person meetings and will begin the preparation for District and General Meetings in person in March. A hybrid model will be used for General Meeting.
- A request for follow-up and response made at the General Meeting regarding the Department of Health was discussed and will be followed upon.
- Council discussed a request for a letter of support from the Department of Community and Social Services to partner to provide detox services, the letter of support was approved.
- A briefing was provided and discussed on the recent protest at the end of Brookdale and Walter Street in the City of Cornwall. A full debrief session will be scheduled with AMPS, EOC and Council.
- MCR's passed: Approval of amendment to 2021/24 Council portfolio & committee listings, Approval of MOU with Roger Telecommunications regarding the construction of a cell phone tower in Tsi Snaihne; Approval of an amendment to Akwesasne – Canada funding agreement; Approval of (2) mortgage renewal with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; Approval of collective agreement between Akwesasne Police Association and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.



**WE'RE
HIRING!**

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION:**

[AKWESASNE.CA/EMPLOYMENT](https://akwesasne.ca/employment)

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF SARAH LEE DIABO UPDATES



Portfolio Selections: Ahkwesahne Board of Education; Department of Health; and Department of Justice

Monthly Notables:

- Continue to have joint COVID biweekly updates with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council on the safety protocols, procedures and upcoming vaccine clinics and rapid test distribution dates.
- Strategic Planning session with A2Z consulting. The focus was on Social Development Priorities and the vision for the future based on drivers, obstacles, temptations, and stressors. One key component was to ensure equity, inclusion, and respect by addressing the needs of the vulnerable population.
- Participated in the Government Action Plan renewal with Quebec Minister Ian Lafreniere, who is responsible for Indigenous Affairs of the National Assembly of Quebec. Main topics were issues and challenges indigenous wom-

en face, holistic development, Indigenous health and wellbeing, socioeconomic conditions, and social inclusion. There were 70 First Nations from the province of Quebec that attended virtually.

- Handed out 250 Rapid Tests to the community on January 7, 2022, at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation from 10am to 2pm.
- Met with the Community Settlement Trust, went over the 2021 Community Benefits projects and the process of the selection of projects was based on 20 criteria.

Committees/Working Groups **Akwesasne Mohawk Justice**

Justice Oversight Committee: The oversight committee continues to meet on a regular basis. Update on each law; Cannabis law, Emergency Response Law and Election Law is in the review and revision stage. Once completed the laws will be reviewed by legal counsel and then community review and a referendum will be held. A call out for a TsiSnaihne Representative for the Justice Oversight Committee and to sit on the Election Law working task group.

Emergency Response Law Working Task Group (WTG)

Continue to take part in the work-

ing task group of the Justice Emergency Management Law, revising, editing and legal recommendations. The next steps are line by line review with Council and MCR to proceed.

Justice Portfolio Meeting

Participated in the Chiefs and Technician Committee held virtually. The key discussion was the Federal Policing Legislation; a draft workplan was created with 3 engagement processes: the AFN (Assembly of First Nations) policing task force, Public Safety Canada Engagement and the Regional Input and Process. Each engagement process is separate and distinct. Reviewed the Duty to consult guiding principles and engagement checklist. This is to encourage and educate the Ontario Minister and the consultation process.

Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education

The 3 schools will be giving parents an option of in person or remain online for grades 1 through 12. EOC has provided proper PPE and N95 masks.

Reviewed the AMBE Policy 7-Planning and read aloud the Policy 14 and Policy 17, first reading. Resolutions were passed for the acceptance of Policy #7 and ACCP agree-

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF SARAH LEE DIABO UPDATES

ment with ACFS.

Department of Health

Continue to monitor the positive COVID Cases and host vaccination clinics throughout the month of January. Will provide assistance on the delivery of the rapid tests to the elderly.

Collaborative Opportunities:

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) COVID Biweekly Meetings:

January 7:

MCA is put back on staggered schedules and 50% capacity of employees. Continue to monitor, provide vaccine clinics and handout rapid tests for community mem-

bers. EOC will be providing Personal Protective Equipment such as hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, face shields and masks to each of the schools. Will keep track of the cases, expect to increase due to the Christmas break.

SRMT is having weekly COVID testing and will continue to have vaccine clinics. Continue to monitor the hospitalizations, positive active cases and tracing.

January 21:

- MCA and SRMTs issued a joint press release on extending the home wakes restriction until February. Emergency Operations Center will continue to track the

positive results from a PCR test. Will continue to distribute at home rapid tests for the community in all 3 districts.

- SRMT has seen an increase in positive Covid cases in St. Lawrence and Franklin counties - tripled since last week. Will continue to monitor the positive cases and do contact tracing.

Financial Status/ Lobby Progress

- Continue to sign EFTs and checks on a weekly basis or as needed.
- Had a consultation meeting with Cumberland Strategies, a lobbying firm from Ottawa on funding opportunities and strategies in the federal government.

KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF JULIE PHILLIPS-JACOBS UPDATES



Portfolio Selections: Justice; Public Safety; Ahkwesasne Mohawk Board of Education

Portfolio Updates:

Justice Portfolio-Banishment law

was discussed. Gaps with AMPS exist in utilizing this law. Discussed the Justice review draft. The new program under Justice, Akwesasne Advocacy Program, will have an open house in March.

AMBE continues to meet once a month and has also had community meetings via Zoom.

Public Safety will meet once every quarter, but committees will meet as needed. Police Commission is

scheduled to meet on Feb 28, 2022. The next meeting of the Community Watch is March 1st.

Committee Selections: Finance; Special Needs Committee

Committee Updates:

- The Finance Committee is currently meeting monthly.
- Conflict of interest forms will have the sections of the law added to the back for reference.
- Discussion on community mem-

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF JULIE PHILLIPS-JACOBS UPDATES

ber seats and how the honorarium policy may be a contributing factor. Call out still open till filled

- Claims coordinator position update
- Update on Budget presentation

Monthly Notables

- The working group finished a line-by-line review. A few grammatical errors will be fixed, and we will do one more read of the document at the next meeting and then it will be sent for a legal review.
- Our final review and reading of this law were completed and it will now go to legal review.
- A review of the laws being worked on was presented to the oversight committee. Cannabis and Emergency law are near completion. They will go to the community in the new fiscal year. Election law is being worked on and will take some time as they review all information on this law. There are no Chiefs in the Election Law working group.
- Due to Valentine's Day and wanting to give our staff and community time with their loved ones, we had our meeting on a Tuesday. We had no one attend our meeting but this gave the District Chiefs time to catch up.
- Fiber to the Home project is still on going. Kanatakon numbers

of those signed up are still low. If you have not signed up with Economic Development, you are encouraged to do so by emailing allie.om@akwesasne.ca.

- If you would like the link to District meetings the email is meetings@akwesasne.ca. Send an email and they will send you the link.
- General meetings can be viewed on our akwesasne.ca website. To get the agenda, chief reports and the link for the meeting send an email to meetings@akwesasne.ca
- The council has discussed having General meetings in person beginning in March if numbers continue to decline.
- The political protocols between Akwesasne and Quebec and Akwesasne and Ontario were read word for word. The protocol with Quebec ends this year. It was suggested that we ask for a one-year extension of the current agreements. Grand Chief will be asked to send a request so that we can fully negotiate a new protocol with Quebec to be completed by 2023. The Ontario protocol expires in 2024 so notice will be sent next year to Ontario with the intent to renegotiate with Ontario.
- Actions to be taken collectively to ensure that our rights and self-

determination are respected – Proposed strategy - Decision by the Chiefs of the AFNQL

- A look back at the AFNQL-Government of Quebec relationship since 2018
- Chiefs' political direction on interventions to prioritize during the provincial election campaign
- Meeting with Minister Lafrenière - Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs
- Appeal for unconstitutionality (initiated by the Conseil de la Nation Atikamekw) Ms. Jacinthe Ledoux (resolution)
- Meeting with Minister Hadju – Indigenous Services Canada (TBC)
- Meeting with Minister Miller - Crown-Indigenous Relations.

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF CINDY FRANCIS-MITCHELL UPDATES



Portfolio Selections: Department of Community and Social Services; Department of Infrastructure Housing and Environment; Government Secretariat; Justice & Economic Development; Entewatatha:wi –Nation Building

Monthly Notables:

- Attend all Monday Council Meeting, General Meeting, & District Meeting all via zoom platform.
- Community Covid rates have been extremely high during this period after the holidays, we are hitting an all-time high with PCR and rapid testing. If you have tested positive, we ask that you please follow the protocols in place for quarantining.
- Met with Hydro Quebec on Presentation from Maire Francie Simard, Lucille Leary on Social Responsibility Directives including Greenhouse gas emissions, economic vitality of Quebec promoting entrepreneurships, and the fight against poverty.
- Akwesasne Care Center Up-

date by DCSS Director, J. Morin-Lauzon.

- Ambulance Update by S. Dulude and L. Tarbell, what is on the horizon for the Ambulance service within the community?

- The Council received a Report on Fentanyl drug abuse in the community from S. Dulude, Chief of Police.

- Fuel Allotment discussion.
- Quebec Registry for Covid 19 Vaccines access issues discussed.
- Presentation by Canada Lands Company

Kanatakon District Meeting:

- Community member requests information on Hydro Quebec
- Contributions to Health Services Fund, why are we getting charged from Quebec?
- Why can't community members go into any other district meetings, it used to be if you were invited you could go?
- We were happy to have a community member participate in our Kanatakon District meeting. To receive the link to any of the virtual meetings, please email meetings@akwesasne.ca (And specify which district meeting you would like to attend). If you have any questions, please contact Mohawk Government at 613-575-2250.

Work in Progress:

Committees/Working Groups Justice:

Cannabis Law Review: Connie Lazore

- Review section of Cannabis Law Sections 1-8.

- Review the current law in sections, commit to a schedule.

- Specific chapters that need to be reviewed prior to the next phase of law enactment procedures.

- Sections 9-17.

- Justice- Cannabis Law Working Task Group cont.

- Review the Cannabis Law Draft #2 Phase 1, and the most recent copy with additions that were made from the previous weekly meeting.

- Comments on suggested changes submitted by Justice Director Joyce King also were addressed.

Oversight Committee-Connie Lazore

- Update on Legislative Development files- Where Cannabis Law, Election Law, and Emergency Management Law is at for review. Updates provided.

- Update on Legal Counsel- Bonnie Cole contracts being drafted.

- Call out for TsiSnaihne Rep posted, deadline of Feb 10.

- Next meetings scheduled for Feb 22, March 29, April 26.

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF CINDY FRANCIS-MITCHELL UPDATES

Entewatatha:wi Self Government Portfolio Update -Peter Garrow, Program Manager

- MCRS are going forward to Council, common assault, governance code, fiscal working group, 50% capacity of workforce in office, will revisit in January 14.

- Communication Position sent HR for posting.

- Review with A2z on Strategy, Updates from Council provided.

- Border issue to be brought back to table for further discussion.

- Fiscal Management, Blue Book/Green Book on Harper promises, will be sent to us for review.

- Meeting minutes of December 5 will be forwarded to the team for review.

- Upcoming meetings: Prep meetings scheduled/reviewed for Jan 11, 18 and with Canada on Feb 1 & 2. /22.

Entewatathá:wi Self Government: PM Peter Garrow

Prep Sessions for Main Table:

- Ongoing review of where we are at with the negotiations.

- Review of meeting minutes, Recommend reviewing political protocol with Ontario/Quebec as it is due to expire in 4 months.

- Continued Discussions on Akwesasne's Undertakings:

- UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indige-

nous Peoples), Chapter 26:, Access to Information and Privacy, Review Canada's response, dated January 17, 022,Implementation, Discuss Activity Sheets (create sub-table), Future Sectoral Agreements (Future Negotiations) i.e., Ec. Dev., International Border Matters Chapter.

- Preliminary Discussion, Formation of sub-table, New Business, Next Meetings discussed for February Main Table.

Nation Building Discussion Priorities– Grand Chief Abram & Portfolio

- Areas of review, ATR, Access to Land, Taxation, No expropriations of lands.

- Review lobbying strategies with Jon Telch from Cumberlands Strategies, firm that did a presentation at our strategic plan.

- Presented many options on how to proceed with lobbying efforts, will work on submitting a proposal to us for this purpose of moving forward with government officials directly, cut out the middleman and move this discussion along.

- Time is of the essence, many of these files have been ongoing for many years now.

A2Z Consulting Strategic Planning session with Council/MCA

- Happy New Year everyone! We look forward to continuing our work together on the MCA strate-

gic plan.

- We will recap recent work and results from the last months.

- Share with you the MCA resolution to gather more voices around the emerging priorities and work with you to begin to develop goals for each of the priorities.

- This session we will work on developing GOALS for each priority area, small break-out sessions held, group came back together to review priorities overall.

- Look forward to seeing the plan all roll together.

DCSS- Community Support Policy Review- Joey Morin-Lauzon-Director

- Line by line review and review of comments made from previous discussion.

Finance Committee Meeting:

- Conflict of Interest Acknowledgement and Disclosure Form Budget Update/ Projected Completion Date for MCR (Mohawk Council Resolution) Approval

- Update from Alain Gravelle – P. Valiquet

- Finance Policy update.

- Accept Finance Meeting Minutes of December.

Co-Owners Committee Meeting:

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF CINDY FRANCIS-MITCHELL UPDATES

- Trillium Insurance verification, CAO Maureen Adams: grass cutting and snow removal.

- Project Manager Update: Easement Agreement Resolution, HST Update, WSP Quote: Phase II ESAM.

- TC lands around the Port Lands, Community space, spring 2022 c. Information: Private Investor Interest, name survey, ACC Futures new staff.

Government Action

Plan: Chiefs Prep-Meeting

Message from Minister of Indigenous Affairs, Ian Lafrenier, Quebec

- Action Plan pre meeting discussion on public inquiry commission on relations between indigenous peoples, ongoing renewal of the implementation of the 2017-22 plan.

- The Quebec government is hoping to take advantage of our input and expert knowledge to identify key areas that will be prioritized.

- Calls to action have yet to be implemented in key areas.

- Issues and challenges for indigenous women.

- Holistic development for children and families

- Indigenous health and wellbeing.

- Social economic conditions and social inclusion.

- Indigenous language and cultures.

- Justice and security.

- Reconciliation, social cohesion, the fight against racism and discrimination.

- Identify 3 key areas that we feel need to be included & why?

- Specific Actions to respond more effectively to problems in areas

- How would you like to contribute and be informed of progress in the implementation of an action plan over the coming years?

- Government Action Plan, Quebec Consultation Meeting with other First Nations of Quebec.

- Introduction to Minister of Indigenous Affairs, Ian Lafrenier, Quebec on the progress that has been an undertaking for the past 5 years if not longer. The next phase of planning is one that included First Nations input into how we can accomplish these action items.

- Chief April Adams Phillips gave an excellent overview of what the community of Akwesasne has been faced with regarding many of these challenges and that the consultation process is not being addressed adequately.

Ec Dev Portfolio- Kylee Tarbell Director

- Proposed review of how we want information to flow from

her program via briefing notes and Power Point presentation.

- Understand that there may be changes to structure coming up with possible portfolio changes.

- Fibre to the homes ongoing, applications are still ongoing but will be stopped December 31/22.

- MCR to go to table for Quebec funding.

DIHE Portfolio Update- Leslie Papineau Acting Director

- Infrastructure: Capital Projects.

- Receipt of previous meeting Minutes: October 28, 2021 (issued in December's General Meeting) minutes reviewed in file.

- Environment Updates - Abraham Francis.

- Housing Updates- Charmaine Caldwell.

- Updating the 20-year Capital Plan – quick overview- Leslie.

- FNIIIP review, Update on the Traffic Study – (funds allocation request)

- Admin 2 Site.

- Grant applications underway, Next steps Lobbying Strategy for funding.

- New Business / Other. DIHE: Beautification Project Proposal (Ontario)

- Portfolio met with DIHE

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF CINDY FRANCIS-MITCHELL UPDATES

to discuss beautification project and its application process & support letter from Council.

- A lot of good ideas have been put forth for the corridor of Kawehnoke
- Recommend separating the project into two areas,
- Karla & Leslie will be preparing the project and will consult with Kylee/Troy from Ec Dev to see where they are at with projects they started.

DIHE: Housing Authority Monthly Meeting – Charmain Caldwell, Director

- Minutes/updates/corrections from meeting dated December 1st, 2021.
- Monthly Report from Associate Director of Department of Infrastructure Housing and Environment- Housing Sector Updates.
- Upgrade Loan Applicants, BMO On Reserve Housing Loan Guarantee Applicant, Rent to Own.
- Policy and Lease Agreement, additional meeting items.

Collaborative Opportunities:

Akwesasne Trust Settlement – Trustee Meeting

- MCA Council first initial meeting with the Trust.
- Review of agenda, Consultation with Council, ITT and the

Overseers regarding the use of Trust Property for 2022.

- Discuss 2021 process and funded projects.
- Identification of Community Priorities for 2022 Community Benefits process.
- Discuss the views of Council and ITT regarding 2022 priorities.
- Discuss the views of Overseers regarding 2022 priorities.
- Discuss amounts to be allocated to the Land Acquisition Account in 2022.
- Discuss amounts is to be allocated to Natural Disaster Emergency Relief Fund ('NDERF') in 2022 Trust Administration.
- Present and discuss the 2022 Trust Operations Budget .
- Discussion on revised honoraria rates for Trustees.
- Discussion on Overseers positions and 2022 Trustee elections.
- Discussion on any other general Trust matters.

MCA/TRIBE Biweekly Covid Updates

- Updates provided by ED on all areas of organization.
- Concerns over growing Covid Cases continue to be an issue, PCR testing priority for high-risk cases only.

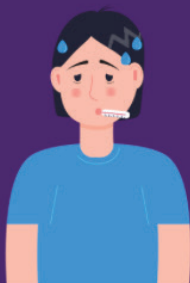
- 50% work capacity ongoing.
 - Test kits availability, and increase in rapid test cases.
 - EOC update on cases.
- Indigenous Service Canada: Covid Update
- FNIHB regional update by Michael O'Byrne.
 - Regional Operations update Ann Scotton.
 - Public Health Update Dr. Shawn Batise- shared most recent data on trends in first nations and province.
 - Covid19-Education Funding & PPE Updates, flow of funding and issues arising from inadequate supplies for schools.
 - First Nations communities shared their issues and I believe based on information given we are well ahead of the trends by promoting 50% work force in order to protect our workforces and community.
- Financial Status/Lobbying Progress:
- Consultations with Cumberland Strategies to discuss lobbying efforts and strategies on within the government access and adequate resources.

ATTENTION!!! AKWESASNE BEADERS

AMBE is looking to purchase beaded items such as popsockets, badge reels, and keychains. Interested? Please contact Lynn Roundpoint at lynn.roundpoint@ambe.ca or (613) 933-0409 by Friday, March 11, 2022. Nia:wen!



FEELING SICK?



STAY HOME & KEEP OTHERS SAFE.

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

COMPLIMENTS AND APPRECIATIONS

Thank you to our MCA Covid Testing Unit for being out there in the rain, snow and sun: Delia McDonald, Natalie Lucas, Tasha Thompson - and to Rachel and Ally for ensuring our swabs are delivered on time.

Niawen:kowa to Health Communications Officer Ryan King and the Communications Unit for keeping our community informed on all the latest health updates. Kudos to a job well-done!

Great job to the AMBE Principals and Admin staff for all that you're doing to keep our students and staff safe.

I would like to extend appreciation to Robert Mitchell and his Arena Maintenance staff for going above and beyond assisting me with preparing PPE requests for MCA staff during this pandemic.

Thank you to the EOC for recently assisting the Community Health Nurses with Covid related calls, much appreciated.



Huge thank you to the Akwesasne Child and Family Services and Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service for dropping off treats for the kids at the Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club Main Clubhouse!

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

FACEBOOK STATS



Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in February

1. Department of Health Unveils New Mobile Clinic Medical Unit
2. Happy Retirement Lisa Francis Benedict
3. MCA Offers Condolences to Family of Dave “Bozo” Benedict, Former MCA Kana:takon District Chief
4. Iakhihsotha Lodge Out of Outbreak Status
5. MCA Voices Objections to Protest at Entryway to Bridge Crossing 52

Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in February

1. February 2, 2022 AMPS SEIZE FENTANYL IN KANA:TAKON — 11,057 reached
2. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UNVEILS NEW MOBILE CLINIC MEDICAL UNIT— 4,831 reached
3. MCA VOICES OBJECTIONS TO PROTEST AT ENTRYWAY TO BRIDGE CROSSING— 4,259 reached
4. MCA OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY OF DAVE “BOZO” BENEDICT, FORMER MCA KANA:TAKON CHIEF— 4,203 reached
5. Pay it forward...even in prizes! — 3,572 reached

TWITTER STATS

Top Tweet in February



YOUTUBE STATS



Highest Viewed Videos on the MCA Youtube Channel for February

1. MCA General Meeting— February 24, 2022
2. MCA & CKON Live Talk Show: COVID-19 Omicron Variant Update
3. MCA General Meeting — January 27, 2022

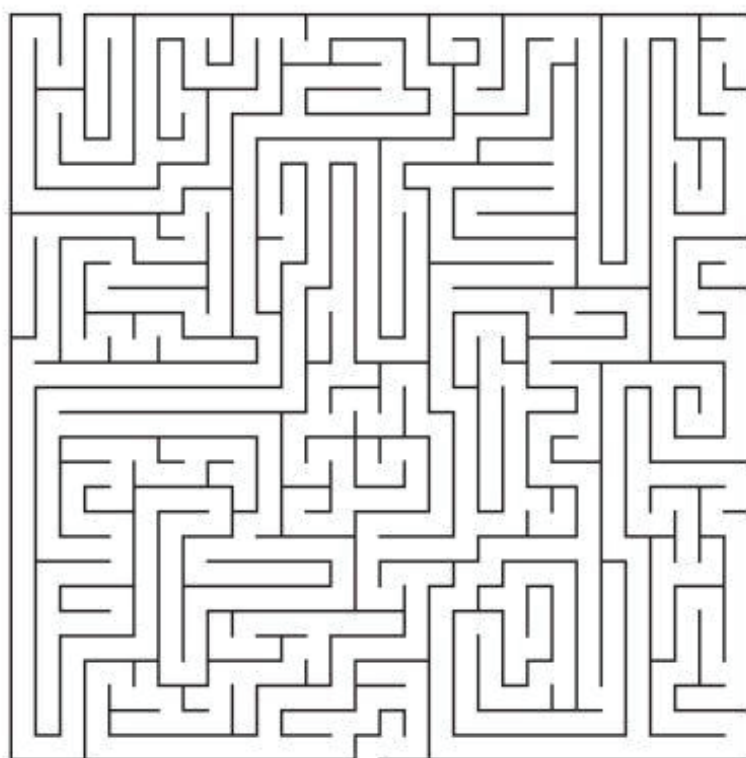
CHILDREN'S PAGE

COLOUR ME!



SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

Can you get to the gold?



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why Couldn't the Pony Sing a Lullaby?
She was a little horse!

What do you call a bear with no teeth?
A gummy bear!

What's a snake favorite subject in school?
Hiss-story!

How do you get a squirrel to like you?
Act like a nut!

HESITANT TO RECEIVE THE COVID-19 VACCINE?



**MCA'S DR. HORN ADVISES AKWESASRONON
TO RECEIVE THE COVID-19 VACCINE.**

"If you had a choice between the short-term, short-acting response to the COVID-19 vaccine vs. the long-term effects of COVID-19, it's a lot safer to take care of symptoms from the vaccine than the unknown long-term effects of the virus."

**TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO RECEIVE
YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE, CONTACT:**

**MCA COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM
613-575-2341 EXT. 3220**

**SRMT VACCINE CLINIC
518-333-0230**



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UNVEILS NEW MOBILE CLINIC MEDICAL UNIT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health (DOH) is unveiling the new Mobile Clinic Medical Unit to the community. The Mobile Clinic Medical Unit is a single-bed exam room that will enable MCA's medical providers to host various clinics within the three districts of Akwesasne.

The DOH recognizes the need for new approaches in healthcare within the community and feels the mobile clinic unit will greatly assist in moving in that direction. The vehicle will increase access to trauma-informed health care services such as Primary Care, Mental Health Services, and Addictions Services.

The mobile clinic unit will greatly assist in reducing

waiting room times and lineups for access to services, provide door-to-door services, will reduce the need for health workers being required to enter patient homes, provide mobile vaccination capability, and offer mobile mental health and counseling services.

The mobile unit is equipped with Wi-Fi capabilities, enabling medical providers to access medical records on-site, heat and A/C within the exam space, sink and tap water capable, and a single patient bed with mattress for exams.

The DOH is excited to offer this new service to the community and looks forward to more progressive health care services within the department.



Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs, Chief Tim "Dooley" Thompson and Chief Vanessa Adams in front of the new mobile clinic medical unit.

AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

STUDENT REGISTRATION

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Mark your Calendar!

AMBE Registration will begin on **February 22, 2022** and will close on **March 31, 2022** for the 2022 - 2023 School Year.

Our K3 has a limited enrollment in each district so you must register early and make sure to have all required documents submitted with the registration form.

AMBE has developed a new common registration form. Once you register for AMBE K3 or any other grade this year, you will not need to complete a new form for the next school year.

K3 and K4 Registration Requirements:

K3 - Applicants must be 3 years old by September 30, 2022 to be eligible and must also be fully potty trained.

Please note: If your child attended the Head Start program for this school year (2021-2022), they will need to complete a new registration form for 2022-2023 to go to K4.

K4 - Applicants must be 4 years old by September 30, 2022 to be eligible and must also be fully potty trained.

Registration forms are available at AMBE Schools, AMBE Administration Office, and www.ambe.ca. Please indicate the school of preference on the registration form. AMBE only provides inter-district bussing for Kana:takon School, our Mohawk Immersion School.

Submit the completed registration form along with all required registration documents to the school of preference or the AMBE Administration Office.

Required Registration Documents for K3 - Gr. 8:

- 2022-2023 Registration Form
- Copy of child's Immunization Record or Immunization Waiver
- Copy of child's Birth Certificate
- Copy of child's Certificate of Indian Status (Status Card)
- Copy of child's Health Card

Questions?

Please contact Elaine Thompson at (613) 933-0409 ext. 1410 or via email at elaine.thompson@ambe.ca. Nia:wen.

CONTACT US!

Tsi Snaihne School
(613) 575-2291

Kana:takon School
(613) 575-2323

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

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

Ahkwesahsne Mohawk School
(613) 932-3366

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COMMUNITY HEALTH REMINDS COMMUNITY MEMBERS ON SELF-ISOLATION PROTOCOLS FOR COVID-19 POSITIVE INDIVIDUALS

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Community Health Program (CHP) is reminding community members of the public health guidelines to follow should you or someone in your household test positive for COVID-19. Public health guidelines were enacted to prevent further spread of COVID-19 in the community and to protect our community and vulnerable populations from COVID-19 infection.

Should you or someone in your household test positive for COVID-19 via PCR or rapid antigen test, please follow the below guidelines:

- Stay at home except to get urgent medical care.
- Avoid contact with others in your household.
- Monitor COVID-19 symptoms. If symptoms are worsening, and you are concerned, contact TeleHealth at 1-866-797-0000 or your healthcare provider.
- If you are having difficulty breathing, chest pain, or experiencing other severe symptoms, call Emergency Dispatch at 613-575-2000, or go to a hospital emergency room immediately. Advise emergency services of your symptoms and inform them that

you've tested positive for COVID-19.

- While you are in isolation/quarantine, take all necessary steps to take care of yourself.
- Get plenty of rest and stay hydrated. Take over-the-counter medication as directed to help you feel better and alleviate symptoms.
- Keep your isolation area well ventilated, if possible. Open windows to allow air circulation and avoid tobacco or other smoke products.
- Stay connected via phone/computer.
- If you have tested positive via rapid antigen test, contact the Emergency Operations Center at 613-575-5005 or 613-575-2331. EOC staff will record your positive test and provide advisement.

If you've been directed to quarantine, and are in need of essential supplies, please contact 613-936-1548 ext. 1300 during regular business hours (M-F, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.), or 800-480-4208 after hours or on weekends. If staff are unavailable at either phone number, please leave a message, and staff will return your call as soon as they are able.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH
REMINDS COMMUNITY
MEMBERS ON SELF-ISOLATION
PROTOCOLS FOR COVID-19
POSITIVE INDIVIDUALS**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



CONGRATULATIONS TO LISA FRANCIS-BENEDICT ON HER RETIREMENT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Department of Community and Social Services (DCSS) staff would like to congratulate Lisa Francis-Benedict on her retirement.

For over 34 years, Lisa has worked within the organization in different capacities, most recently with DCSS.

Joseph Morin-Lauzon, the Director of DCSS noted that "Lisa is sincere, devoted, hard-working, and her dedication has not gone unnoticed throughout the organization and especially within the Department of Community and Social Services. Your contribution to MCA

has been instrumental in the growth of this agency and we sincerely thank you for this."

Lisa, we wish you health, love, and happiness in your retirement.

All those who have worked with you have enjoyed your company and camaraderie. Enjoy!

Join us in congratulating Lisa and wishing her all the best!



— HAPPY —
Retirement

LISA
FRANCIS-BENEDICT

We appreciate all of that you have done over the years within the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne organization! We wish you a very happy retirement!

AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

REMINDER: AKWESASNE TRAFFIC COURT DATES ANNOUNCED FOR 2022

In collaboration with the Iohahi:io Akwesasne Adult Education & Training Institute, the Akwesasne Justice Department is pleased to announce the Akwesasne Traffic Court will be held every other month in the District of Tsi Snaihne.

The court dates for the January 2022 – December 2022 year can be found below. Court is held the second Wednesday of every month.

Court starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. Court will be held at the Akwesasne Court (Cornwall Island Administration Building #3, 101 Tewesateni Road, Akwesasne, Ontario K6H 0G5) and at Iohahi:io (16 Iohahi:io Road, Akwesasne, Quebec H0M 1A1).

You can check the website to view the monthly traffic court docket at www.akwesasne.ca/justice/akwesasne-court. If you have any questions, please call 613-575-2250 ext. 1025 or 1026.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING & ELDER SAFETY

VICTIMS AWARENESS WEBINAR

The Akwesasne Community Justice Program will be hosting a virtual event on human trafficking & elder safety.

Join us in discussing community impacts, sharing resources for survivors, and spreading awareness on these two topics.

SAVE THE DATE:
MARCH 23-24, 2022

Speakers and presentations will be announced closer to the event dates.

Participants will be entered into a gift giveaway!
For more information or to register, please email:

communityjustice@akwesasne.ca

COURT DATES

March 9, 2022 at Iohahi:io
April 13, 2022 at CIA #3
May 11, 2022 at Iohahi:io
June 8, 2022 at CIA #3



July 13, 2022 at Iohahi:io
September 14, 2022 at Iohahi:io
October 12, 2022 at CIA #3
November 9, 2022 at Iohahi:io
December 14, 2022 at CIA #3



WANTED



ROAD KILL SKUNKS

SKUNKS NEED TO BE FRESHLY KILLED AND NOT FLAT!

For an upcoming skunk oil workshop

Please call Norman Peters at (613)551-0954 or Jessica Shenandoah at (613)930-3941 between the hours of 8:00am to 4:00pm and we will come pick it up. If possible, put the skunk in a garbage bag before we arrive.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SNOW SNAKE PRESENTATION

The Thompson Island Cultural Camp recently held a snow snake presentation for young men and boys. On day one of snow snake presentation, it was raining then it turned into a blizzard but the youth that attended listened to the history and reason of the winter activity of kahwenhtah. It had many other names depending on where you're from.

Sam Shenandoah shared his knowledge of the kahwenhtah and his family involvement in making and practise of skills for competitions.

Vince Rockwell and Johnson John helped build the track and demonstrate their technique of sending the kahwenhtah down the track.

If you have a chance in the future to attend a demonstration in the future, please do so, it is an educational experience.

If you have the correct spelling or know of another name for snow snake, please share.



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FIBER-TO-THE-HOME

Registrations are now open to Businesses!

If you haven't yet be sure to send in your info to us so we can get you on our list, we will need the following:

- Business name
- Civic Address
- Phone Number
- Contact person

Information can be sent to ftth@akwesasne.ca or call us at 613-575-2250 ext 1802

Keep in mind we are still working on a limited number of modems per district so be sure to get your info in to us before all the modems are spoken for.

If you have any questions or would like more information you can email anytime or call us Monday – Friday 8 am to 4 pm.



WORKING TOWARDS

A COVID-19 FREE

COMMUNITY

**Vaccines save
lives...register for
yours today!**



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MCA RECEIVES GRANT TO PURCHASE ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The MCA Economic Development Program is proud to announce that it has received a \$291,030 grant from Natural Resources Canada for the purchase of four electric vehicles (EVs) and four charging stations.

Canada's Zero Emissions Vehicle Awareness Initiative is committed to helping Canada reduce and eliminate vehicle exhaust and pollution.

"We're equipping Canadians with the awareness and knowledge they need to confidently make the switch to a Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV)," said Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson. "Ensuring easy access to ZEVs across Canada is a critical part of our plan to lower emissions and achieve our international climate goals. Through these and similar investments, we are putting more Canadians in the driver's seat on the road to a net-zero future."

MCA plans to purchase electric vehicles that can be utilized by the organization, with plans to purchase more in the future.

"This is one step MCA is taking to support the growth of environmentally-friendly practices in our organization and the community," said Grand Chief Abram Benedict. "As we learn more about new technologies and products that support the environment, we are in a better position to educate the community as a whole and reduce climate change."

Education is a main component of this project at MCA, as the goal is to encourage awareness of the benefits of electric vehicles and increase community members' willingness to convert to better environmental practices.

Some benefits of electric vehicles are:

- Safer for the environment: EVs have no tailpipe, so

they don't emit any exhaust gases, which reduces local air pollution

- Significant lower maintenance costs: no tune-ups or oil changes

- Cheaper fuel costs: \$500 per year for EV / \$2,000 per year for gas vehicle

- Vehicle efficiency: longer car life and less maintenance

- Instant heat, no need to warm up vehicle during winter months

- Less noise pollution: electric motors are much quieter and are capable of providing smooth drive with higher acceleration over longer distances

- Safer to drive: the EV's lower center of gravity makes them more stable on the road in the case of a collision, they are less likely to explode in the absence of combustible fuel/gas

- Better resale value than a gas-powered car

- Free parking: you can often find free, priority, or dedicated parking bays for electric cars, positioned with convenient access in mind

- Better driving: EV's have more responsive acceleration and regenerative braking when easing off the accelerator, lower center of gravity improves handling and comfort

MCA looks forward to providing more information on this project as it moves forward.



**MCA RECEIVES GRANT TO
PURCHASE ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

CONGRATULATIONS TO TIMOTHY SUNDAY ON HIS RETIREMENT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (DIHE) would like to congratulate Timothy Sunday on his chosen retirement date of March 4 2022, from the DIHE Building Maintenance Program.

DIHE Director, Portfolio, Management and Staff appreciates his years of dedication and hard work.

Timmy was employed as a Caretaker at Iakhihsohtha (Adult Care) for 28 years. His high quality of work provided a safe and comfortable environment for the staff and residents of Iakhihsohtha. Timmy was extremely valuable during the COVID-19 Pandemic. He was there through the entire pandemic as Essential Service, performing his work and going the extra mile.

His loyalty and dedication to his service and daily work ethic was a positive influence on his co-workers. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of working with him.

We are very thankful for his continuous hard work throughout his twenty eight years.

Congratulations Timmy, and enjoy your well-deserved retirement! Go Bruins!



CONTACT US!

Administration
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1003

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

Roads Department
Central Dispatch (613) 575-2340
or (613) 938-5476

Water / Wastewater Infrastructure
Emergency (613) 575-2000

After Hours Pager (518)404-3352
Office Hours Mon – Fri. 8AM-4PM (613) 933-4924
Solid Waste Management (Garbage and Recycling)
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1022

Housing
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2300

Environment
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1038

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

KINDNESS WEEK

AMPS would like to thank all the programs and community members who participated in the law enforcement boot hockey challenge held at Generatinos Park for kindness week.

Make sure that you practice kindness every day!





COMMUNITY HEALTH PRESENTS

VIRTUAL YOGA CLASS

Enjoy yoga in the comfort of your home.

CLASSES START ON JANUARY 17- APRIL 11,2022
7-8PM

Please call to register
613-575-2341 ext 3247

