



OFFICE OF THE GRAND CHIEF

Tsiothohrko:wa/January 28, 2020

Watkwanonhwera:ton/Greetings,

I hope you are well this beautiful January 2020 day. I'm pleased to provide you with my last two monthly reports, covering my activities in November and December of 2019. The last report I distributed covered my October activities and that one was distributed at the November 2019 General Meeting. There was no General Meeting held in December due to the holiday season.

The attached reports were distributed at the January 2020 General Meeting in Kana:takon. The elected board trustees from the Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) attended the General Meeting to introduce themselves, and informed the community about the mission of the AMBE. Community members were invited to attend AMBE's regularly scheduled board meetings the first Wednesday of every month from 6:00-6:30 pm, held at the AMBE schools, on a rotating schedule within the districts. Following the introduction of the AMBE trustees, the Director for the Department of Health Keith Leclair introduced himself and the Program Manager for the Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits (ANIHB) Program. The Program Manager and the Supervisor provided an overview of the ANIHB program and community members were able to ask questions about the program. After the two presentations, we provided an update on border issues and the recent Akwesasne Mohawk Court decisions regarding the Dundee referendum. It was also announced that the entire February General Meeting agenda will be dedicated to the presentation of the MCA budget. The entire recording of the General Meeting can be found at <https://youtu.be/b7mfVkgpvHk>.

Recently an announcement was made regarding the Indian Day School Settlement. Many of our community members will be eligible to receive compensation for the treatment while attending these schools. I encourage you to visit www.indiandayschools.com to receive additional information on the settlement. As well, please keep a lookout for information sessions coming up for you to attend and ask questions of the representatives.

Finally, I hope you have a beautiful month ahead.

Sken:nen

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Abram Benedict'.

Abram Benedict
Grand Chief



Grand Chief Monthly Activity Report Kentenhkó:wa/November 2019

NOVEMBER 4, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

-) The Director of the Akwesasne Justice Department and the Director of the Department of Community and Social Services provided Council with an overview of a proposal to Canada to establish an Akwesasne Family Advocacy Program.
-) Representatives from the Canadian Coast Guard briefed Council on the initiatives the Coast Guard has conducted over the past year and highlighted the steps going forward.
-) Council agreed to extend an invite to Susan Aglukark to attend a community breakfast on November 16.
-) The Executive Director briefed Council on the concept of connecting the SRMT and MCA main waterline between St. Regis and Hogansburg in case of an emergency. Further research will be done.
-) Council agreed that the Ontario First Nations Technical Institute could host a conference on Managing Drinking Water Systems in Akwesasne.
-) The General Meeting agenda was set and Council agreed the meeting will take place on Saturday, November 16 on Kawehno:ke at 12 noon.
-) Council agreed that no Council meeting will be held on December 2, 2019 due to the AFN Special Chiefs Assembly occurring at the same time.
-) A briefing was provided to Council on the recent community information session on the proposed natural gas expansion project.
-) Council agreed to provide a letter of appreciation to the Port of Johnstown and to extend an offer to collaborate on possible initiatives.

J MCRs passed: Acceptance of amendments to the Ministry of Long Term Care funding agreement; Approval of (3) Housing upgrade loans to community member(s); Acceptance of draft audited OFNLP financial statements and authorization to Welch LLP to issue in final form; Approval of funding proposal submission to ISC for Akwesasne Family Advocacy Program

NOVEMBER 4, 2019 AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET REVIEW

On the afternoon of November 4, 2019 members of our Council met with senior administration for the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) to discuss the post secondary student support program. AMBE had asked for a meeting with members of our Council to discuss the possible budget overruns in the post secondary program. It was explained to Council that currently the budget for post secondary was approximately \$4.2 million and that AMBE was anticipating that the budget would be a few hundred thousand dollars over. It was further explained that the AMBE board trustees had made some policy changes and increased the travel rates which may have affected the overall budget. The policy and rate changes had been made in response to increased funding received from Canada that could have resulted in a surplus. It was agreed that the post secondary spending would be continuously monitored and that the AMBE trustees would meet to look at additional policy modifications to mitigate the impacts.

NOVEMBER 5 & 6, 2019 IROQUOIS CAUCUS

On November 5 and 6, 2019 I travelled to Ottawa to attend the quarterly Iroquois Caucus (IC) meeting. The caucus discussed and reviewed the follow up items from the past two meetings. The IC coordinator reviewed the IC budget and administration issues with the leadership. The IC leadership held a lengthy discussion on how each community interacts with their traditional councils, the Assembly of First Nations, the Chiefs of Ontario, and the AFNQL. Each community explained that they had varying levels of interaction with each of those partners and some were stronger relationships than others. Updates were provided to the leadership

on the following: IC Harvesting Working Group; IC Joint Working Group on Radioactive Waste; and Cannabis. Wrapping up the first day of the meetings the IC leadership representatives provided individual community updates on new happens, challenges, and positive news.



On the second day Robert Porter from the Capital Hill Policy Group provided the leadership with an update and overview of the Northern Tribal Border Alliance and the lobbying efforts they have been doing in Washington DC to ensure American Indians are not required to show 50% blood quantum letters. Robert also spoke about the need to work with the Iroquois Caucus to lobby Canada to recognize that American born Indians are given entry rights in Canada similar to Canadian born Indians going into the US. Representatives from Kahnawake outlined the steps they look to lobby the Federal Government on the implementation of Bill S-3 the amendments to the Indian Act for Indian Registry. The Next IC meeting is scheduled to take place in January in Tyendinaga.

NOVEMBER 7, 2019 CITY OF CORNWALL

On the morning of November 7, 2019 I met with the Mayor and the CAO for the City of Cornwall, a representative of the Cornwall & the Counties Community Future Development Corporation (CFDC), and our legal counsel to discuss the Akwesasne Cornwall Harbour. We

discussed the need to move forward with the formation of a committee to oversee the obligations resulting from the transfer of the harbor to Akwesasne and Cornwall, as joint owners. The development of a community engagement strategy to discuss future development is a priority. We agreed that we will continue to examine options to engage a facilitator to assist Akwesasne and Cornwall on this initiative.

NOVEMBER 7, 2019 COMMUNITY BUSINESS MEETING

On the morning of November 7, 2019 I met with our legal counsel and an Akwesasne business to discuss the Akwesasne company's requirement to collect the harmonized sales tax (HST) on sales. Under Canadian law any product from an Akwesasne business that is shipped off the territory is subject to the HST, meaning the company should charge HST. We discussed MCA's other experiences with Akwesasne businesses filing tax returns and the obligations to continue to file. We advised the community business owner that they must make their own business decisions to support the business, but the MCA takes the position that our people and community are tax free.

NOVEMBER 7, 2019 TSI SNAIHNE WASTEWATER PLANT

On the afternoon of November 7, 2019 I met with our Department of Technical Services administration, portfolio, our legal counsel, and representatives from EVB engineering. Our administration requested the meeting to review our contract with the main contractor for the refurbishment of the Tsi Snaihne wastewater plant project. We discussed and assessed the current delays being experienced, the next steps for the completion of the project, and a potential dispute with the main contractor.

NOVEMBER 12, 2019 COUNCIL RETREAT FOLLOW UP

Following the Council retreat that took place this past fall, Council met on November 12, 2019 to discuss follow-up items identified at the retreat. We reviewed the current MCA Procedure Regulations that Council uses to govern our Council Meetings and community meetings. The procedure regulations also set out the rules for

passing resolutions at a Council Meeting. Council also discussed the communications protocol for the Mohawk Government program and the administrative supports for the District Chiefs. The Chiefs agreed that they will continue to work on communication with each other and the staff of Mohawk Government.

NOVEMBER 13, 2019 CHIEFS COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

On the afternoon of November 13, 2019 I met with the Environment Director for the Chiefs of Ontario in Toronto. We hosted a conference call with the Chiefs Committee on the Environment, who have been meeting with Canada to discuss the application of the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act fuel charge on reserve. The Environment Director provided the committee with an overview on the meetings that had taken place prior to the federal election in October. The Chiefs discussed the impacts that the fuel surcharge has had on the community and the infringement of our tax exemption rights. The Chiefs agreed that another follow up meeting would be set up with Canada to continue the conversation about exemptions on reserve. After the conference call, we discussed other Chiefs of Ontario files.

NOVEMBER 14, 2019 OKT LAW

As part of our research and next steps for the Ontario Akwesasne Tobacco Pilot project, I hosted a call with Jaclyn McNamara of OKT Law to discuss the approach her firm is recommending to their First Nation clients who are exploring cannabis regulations and how they were approaching working with Ontario. On November 14, 2019 I spoke with Jaclyn and she explained that many of the communities she is working with are doing co-licensing of cannabis retail stores for their community. I explained to Jaclyn that because Akwesasne is in two provinces, it is difficult to work with the provinces and explained that our Council has taken the position that the provinces don't have jurisdiction in our community. The information Jaclyn shared was helpful to better understand the approaches other communities are taking.

NOVEMBER 14, 2019 ONTARIO TOBACCO PILOT PROJECT

On the afternoon of November 14, 2019 Chief Edward Roundpoint, Chief Tobi Mitchell, the Acting Director of Tehotiiennawakon, and I met with representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and Ontario Ministry of Finance to discuss the Akwesasne Tobacco Pilot project. Earlier in 2019, following the community consultation on the pilot project, Council determined that the pilot project would be placed on hold. At the November 14 meeting, we discussed with Ontario the possibility of hiring a third party to review the pilot project and make recommendations for possible next steps. Ontario agreed to support the review and requested a proposal be provided to them. The Acting Director of Tehotiiennawakon will follow up with Ontario on our agreed approach for a review.

NOVEMBER 14, 2019 CIBC WOOD GUNDY

Recently the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne approved the transfer of investment from the Bank of Montreal to CIBC Wood Gundy. On November 14, 2019 I hosted a call with representatives of CIBC Wood Gundy to discuss the investment transfer and the Akwesasne Financial Administration Law. The Akwesasne Financial Administration Law contains provisions that restrict the type of investments MCA can make. On the call on November 14 the CIBC representatives explained their strategy for our investments, in compliance with the Akwesasne Financial Administration Law.

NOVEMBER 15, 2019 CALL WITH TNG LEADERS

On November 15, 2019 I hosted a call with TNG Leaders to discuss next steps on a review of the governance structure and documents that support the Chief and Council. Earlier in October 2019 I spoke with TNG Leaders about a revised proposal for our consideration. On the November 15 call I informed TNG that Council had agreed to the review and that we would like to bring in the representatives from TNG to meet Council and conduct interviews. After the initial meeting and follow-up interviews take place, further work will take

place. It is anticipated that a final report will be completed by March 31, 2020.

NOVEMBER 15, 2019 TRANSPORT CANADA & CANADA LANDS COMPANY

On the afternoon of November 15, 2019 members of our Council met with representatives from Transport Canada and the Canada Lands Company. We had already met with Transport Canada prior to this meeting to discuss surplus lands that Canada was looking to sell or otherwise dispose of. The meeting on November 15 was to introduce us to representatives of the Canada Lands Company (CLC) and for them to share information about who the CLC is and what they do. Robert Howald the Executive Vice President of Real Estate provided an overview and power point presentation on the mandate of the CLC and the projects they've been involved in. Robert explained that the CLC is a crown corporation and is independent of the Government of Canada but is accountable to the government. The CLC is a self-financing company that transforms former government lands and properties and reintegrates them back into communities. The reintegration approach used ensures that the property becomes sustainable to the community and supports long term viability. The CLC has commercially and residentially developed lands to meet the needs of the community. Their previous and current projects have included partnering with First Nation communities to ensure growth and capacity development. Following the presentation on November 15, our Council will meet and discuss possible next steps with Transport Canada and the CLC.

NOVEMBER 16, 2019 GENERAL MEETING

On the morning of Saturday, November 16, 2019 Council hosted the monthly General Meeting at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Centre. The meeting began with business from the floor where community members were able to raise questions to Council and discuss many subjects. Following the lengthy business from the floor discussion, representatives from the Department of Technical Services provided a presentation on the department's upcoming capital priorities. The

entire recording of the General Meeting can be found at:
<https://youtu.be/7kdBcXnJx5o>

NOVEMBER 18, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

- J Council discussed a proposal to resource a train-the-trainer on a firearm safety/permit course; the requestor will be notified to discuss their proposal with community training agencies.
- J A briefing was provided on concerns raised at the recent Tsi Snaihne District Meeting.
- J Council discussed and debriefed issues that had been raised at the General Meeting on Saturday, November 16 at the Kawehno:ke Recreation.
- J A concern regarding non-insured health benefits was tabled and referred to administration for follow up.
- J MCRs passed: Approval to proceed with phase one of the amendment process for the Akwesasne Election Law; Acceptance of the 2018 Special General Meeting voting results for the amendments to the Akwesasne Election Law; Approval of report for the Ministry of Children and Youth, ACFS Child Welfare program; Approval of report for the Ministry of Children and Youth, Generic Child Welfare program; Approval of 2018 annual report for Tsiionkwanonhso:te to Ministry of Health and Long Term Care; Approval of (2) amendments to Akwesasne-Canada funding agreement; Approval of allotment of land to community member (loan paid off).

NOVEMBER 19, 2019 ENTEWATATHÁ:WI (NATION BUILDING)

On the morning of November 19, 2019 members of our Council met with the Entewatathá:wi staff to discuss a number of items. We reviewed the lines of authority and decision making process for the technical committees and how the decision making process supports the main negotiations table. The staff for Entewatathá:wi provided an update on their draft self government agreement, specifically on the chapters related to the border; the governance code; and additions to reserve, as well as the possibility of

expanding estates administration. The team discussed the timelines for the entire negotiations table and discussed a strategy for getting outstanding issues addressed with Canada so the negotiation process can be finalized. A number of other issues were discussed including: Canada's international obligations, border solutions, the Akwesasne Legislative Commission, and fiscal relations. Following the morning long session, the Entewatathá:wi team had a better understanding of portfolio and Council expectations on making further progress on the negotiations with Canada.

NOVEMBER 20, 2019 MCA FINANCE COMMITTEE

On the afternoon of November 20, 2019 I attended the MCA Finance Committee Meeting. The committee discussed the possibility of financing the replacement of the Hamilton Island Bridge and the ability to repay a loan through lease payments. The committee decided that further research on financing options will be done. The committee discussed the MCA honorarium policy and the travel policy and agreed that these policies need to be modernized to be more reflective of current organizational realities. The committee tasked the Assistant Executive Director to draft the amendments. The Acting Comptroller provided an update on the 2020/21 MCA budget process.

NOVEMBER 25, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

- J Representatives from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) presented on their project titled "Assessing Health Impacts & Vulnerabilities due to Climate Change within the EOHU" and explained the purpose of the upcoming engagement session.
- J MCA legal counsel provided an overview of the agreement between the Department of Human Resources & Skills Development Canada and Akwesasne regarding OAS and GIS overpayments and explained the limitations of the agreement.
- J The Executive Director for the MCA provided a presentation on the "Re-establishment of MCA's Commitment to Change".
- J Council discussed and agreed that the Akwesasne Legislative Commission should reduce the number of priorities for law

development from ten to five and the priorities should coincide with the term of Council.

- J A request was made to administration to research and consider the implementation of a 'members only' portal on the MCA website.
- J The Cannabis Working Group presented to Council on the possibility of establishing a maximum number for licenses to be issued, for discussion purposes only.
- J A complaint regarding a community member's failed septic system encroaching on their neighbor's property was discussed and referred to administration for follow-up.
- J Council discussed the upcoming budget cycle and will delegate finance Chiefs to work on Mohawk Government's proposed budget.
- J A request for the expansion of the benefits boundary area for the Akwesasne Heating Assistance Program was discussed and Council agreed that the boundary will not be expanded this year.
- J Council discussed the options of putting existing non reserve lands held by the MCA into the current Additions to Reserve (ATR) process, or delaying until a MCA specific process can be negotiated. Further research will be done.
- J MCRs passed: Approval of (3) Housing Upgrade Loan to Community Member(s); Approval of Fibre expansion from International Road to Peace Tree Plaza; Approval of lease with Bank of Montreal for Peace Tree Mall unit.
- J MCRs denied: Approval of revised organizational chart for the Ahkwasasne Mohawk Board of Education.

NOVEMBER 25, 2019 ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

Back in October 2019 I met with Jean Aubry-Morin the Vice President for the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) who had invited me to tour the St. Lawrence Seaway control centre at the St. Lambert Lock. On November 25, 2019, I attended the St. Lambert and St. Catherine locks located on the

south shore of the Montreal to tour the SLSMC control room. The director of operations for the control centre provided me with an overview of the operations of the lock system operated by the SLSMC and explained the policies on traffic disruption and security protocols. Jean explained that there are employment opportunities at the SLSMC for engineers, operators, and security. Jean expressed to me that he would ensure that we continue to communicate on issues effecting Akwesasne.

NOVEMBER 26, 2019 ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

On November 26, 2019 I participated on a conference call with the St. Lawrence College (SLC) President Glenn Vollebregt to discuss the upcoming board meeting on December 10, 2019. Glenn provided me with an overview of the agenda for the meeting and explained his presentations to the board. Earlier in 2019 I had been elected as the Vice-Chair for the SLC board and had now been asked to chair the December 10, 2019 meeting as the Chair of the board was going to be absent. Glenn also explained that the board would be going into an in-camera session and would be reviewing the annual performance appraisal for the president.

NOVEMBER 27, 2019 DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE (DTI)

As part of the ongoing Design Thinking Initiative (DTI) implementation work that our Council has been participating in, in collaboration with the Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA), I requested a meeting with the Mohawk Government Staff and MCA communications to receive an update on the DTI implementation work. On November 27, 2019 the staff provided me with an update and explained some of the barriers they have been facing while trying to assist the Chiefs in the implementation. I explained that staff should continue to support the work and that I would be meeting with the Chiefs to receive an update from them and request their continued cooperation.

NOVEMBER 29, 2019 SIX NATIONS OF THE GRAND RIVER



On the evening of November 29, 2019 I travelled to Six Nations of the Grand River to attend a retirement dinner for Chief Ava Hill. I was honoured to be able to share in the celebration and offer some congratulatory remarks to the community and Chief Hill on behalf of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.



Grand Chief Monthly Activity Report Tsiothohrha/December 2019

DECEMBER 2, 2019 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE ACTION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

On the afternoon of December 2, 2019, I travelled to Ottawa to participate in an Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment (ACE) meeting. The afternoon meeting began with roundtable updates provided by each province on the current climate changes in their region and the initiatives they have undertaken to mitigate climate change and its negative impacts. Chairperson Regional Chief Adamek provided the committee with an overview on the upcoming Chiefs Assembly and requested the support of the communities on upcoming environment resolutions. The AFN environment staff gave an overview of the upcoming resolutions and explained what the next steps would be if the resolutions are approved. The committee discussed the National Climate Strategy & Climate Gathering scheduled for March 3-4 in Whitehorse, Yukon. The committee discussed the proposed themes for the gathering and provided input into the draft agenda. The Director gave an overview of the new federal cabinet mandates and discussed the opportunities to lobby the government for more resources to support climate change action in many more communities. Updates were provided on the ACE strategy and planning session scheduled for January 22 & 23, 2020 in Wakefield, Quebec.

DECEMBER 3-6, 2019 AFN SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY

From December 3-6, 2019, I attended the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Special Chiefs Assembly in Ottawa at the Westin Hotel. The Assembly began with an opening address from National Chief Perry

Bellegarde who provided a reflection of the past year, noting the accomplishments of the AFN. The National Chief also outlined the joint accomplishments made by the Government of Canada and First Nations. The National Chief commended the government for the enactment of the Indigenous Languages Act, and the First Nations, Inuit and Metis Children, Youth, and Families Act. Over the course of the three days, the Chiefs received a number of updates from the Regional Chiefs on their respective portfolios, which included education, environment, woman's file, social, as well as other AFN portfolio areas. Marc Miller, the newly appointed Minister of Indigenous Services Canada addressed the Chiefs and spoke about his commitment to continue the good work that the previous minister had started and to press forward on new initiatives to promote economic development in First Nation communities. Many of the Chiefs in Assembly questioned the Minister on Canada's decision to appeal a recent decision on child welfare; the Minister committed to reviewing the actions of the department. A presentation was provided to the Chiefs on the Assembly of First Nations Charter review. The AFN Charter outlines the roles and responsibilities of the National Chief, the role of the AFN Executive Committee, and the powers and responsibilities of the Chiefs in Assembly. The review was discussed at length and many Chiefs expressed frustration with the process and the lack of engagement with communities. Wrapping up the three days of presentations and deliberations, the Chiefs considered a number of resolutions that provided the AFN and the National Chief with direction for the upcoming year. In preparation for each day's assembly, I also participated in the Ontario Regional Chiefs Caucus meeting, which was held each morning.

DECEMBER 3, 2019 INTERVIEW WITH EARNSCLIFFE

On the morning of December 3, 2019, a representative from Earnscliffe Strategy Group interviewed me. Earnscliffe was retained by the Ontario Power Generation (OPG) to conduct research on the relationship OPG has with its community stakeholder partners. The interview consisted of questions about our existing relationship,

including its strengths and the identification of areas that could be improved upon. The interview also covered how changes and challenges in the electricity sector in Ontario affect our existing relationship.

DECEMBER 3, 2019 ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS PARLIAMENTARY RECEPTION



On the evening of December 3, 2019, I attended a holiday parliament reception hosted by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Perry Bellegarde at the National Art Centre. AFN Chief Bellegarde welcomed the guests to the event and thanked all the Members of Parliament and the

Senate of Canada for attending the event along with First Nation leadership.

DECEMBER 2019 HOLIDAY DINNERS WITH COUNCIL



Council hosted three holiday dinners, one in each district, during the month of December. On December 5, we hosted our first holiday dinner at the Kana:takon Recreation Center. Over the course of the evening, Council served over 100 turkey

dinners to the community. Families who came out were able to have photos taken with Santa and their names were entered into a draw for some great door prizes just for attending. The second holiday dinner was hosted in Tsi Snaihne on December 12 and the third and final holiday dinner was hosted on Kawehno:ke on December 18. Niawenko:wa to the community for joining us for a wonderful meal and to our Council for serving up such delicious hot meals.

DECEMBER 9, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

-)] Representatives from the Akwesasne International Powwow Committee presented to Council on their concerns about the MCA's proposed arena ground leases and requested that the MCA annual contribution be increased to the amount that was previously provided. Further follow up will take place with the committee.
-)] A presentation and update was provided to Council from the Friends of the National Wildlife Reserve of Lake St. Francis Visitor Center on the center's current projects and future plans for 2020.
-)] Representatives from Vibrant Communities presented their "Our Safety Our Well-Being Plan" to Council and explained the collaborative development of the plan. Council agreed to provide a letter of support for the plan.
-)] Council discussed a request from a community organization to explore the possibility of joining the MCA pension; Council determined that the request is not feasible.
-)] A briefing was provided on the progress being made by the various working groups formed as part of the CBSA design thinking initiative; a request was made that other stakeholders be involved on the working groups. Further follow up will take place.
-)] Council was briefed was on a recent tour with Indigenous Services Canada and discussed concerns with formatting, for future tours.
-)] A briefing was provided on an ongoing dispute regarding a right-of-way in the community.
-)] Council passed a motion that all automobile dealers in the area will be required to provide notification to the Mohawk Council of non-member vehicle deliveries to Akwesasne.
-)] MCRs passed: Acceptance of proposal submission to Jordan's Principal for Enhanced Services Coordination; Approval of

amendments of MOHLTC (Health) Community Care Access Centre funding agreement; Approval of amendment to funding agreement with Ministry of Community and Social Services for Healing and Wellness Strategy; Approval of allotment of land to community member (loan paid off); Approval of contract award to Napier-Reid for filter replacement at wastewater treatment plant; Approval of contract award to KWC Planning for the review of the Office of Vital Statistics; Approval of Access to Territory for business financing purpose.

DECEMBER 9, 2019 DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE

As part of our ongoing Design Thinking Initiative (DTI) implementation work that Council has been doing, in collaboration with the Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA), I met with the identified Chiefs working on the various committees on December 9, 2019. I requested to meet with the Chiefs to receive updates on their committee work. It was explained that the domestic committee has been working on the line of domestic questioning and was working through the technical aspect of the implementation of a domestic lane. The committee working on the CBSA liaison position reported that the MCA was still working to identify resources to support the position; it was also reported that the CBSA was working to identify possible resources to support the MCA position. Our administration reported that they had been working with CBSA leads on ensuring that committee work is being reported back via the use of a reporting template. The commercial committee reported that they were concerned about the mandate of the committee and requested clarification on the mandate and possible realignment of the committee. The information received will assist me at the upcoming CBSA Leadership Meeting in January 2020.

DECEMBER 10, 2019 ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE

On December 10, 2019, I traveled to Brockville to participate in the monthly St. Lawrence College (SLC) Board of Governors meeting. The monthly meeting began with a report from the President & CEO of the college, followed by reports from the executive team. The

President provided an overview of the Downtown Kingston Centre of Excellence Project. The President explained that the City of Kingston was looking to provide some property to the college, based on possible development that will enhance the downtown area. The committees of the board each provided updates and proposed motions for the board's consideration. The board went into a closed session to receive in-camera updates and to elect a new board chair and vice chairs and discussed the Presidents Annual Performance Appraisal. The next meeting is scheduled for February 2020.

DECEMBER 11, 2019 CLAIRE ISABELLE



On December 11, 2019, Council welcomed Claire Isabelle, member of the National Assembly of Quebec for Huntingdon with the Coalition Avenir Quebec Party, to Akwesasne. Back in January 2019, I had met with Claire in Dundee and extended an invitation for her to tour our community. At the December 11, 2019 meeting, we shared a

luncheon with Claire and provided a brief presentation on our community. We also discussed in detail the challenges we face with attracting various professionals to Akwesasne, due to the Quebec professional accreditations requirement for the professional to speak French. Chiefs explained to Claire that the MCA faces very unique challenges in attracting doctors who can practice medicine in Ontario and Quebec, and can speak French. In Akwesasne, in order to be able to practice medicine, you must have a Quebec and an Ontario license. Claire committed to continue to work with Akwesasne and the Quebec Health Minister to find solutions.

DECEMBER 13, 2019 BANK OF MONTREAL

On December 13, 2019, I hosted a call with our legal counsel and representatives of the Bank of Montreal. We explained to bank representatives that we were concerned with the bank having

adequate mortgage paperwork for mortgages in Akwesasne, Quebec. The bank committed to share its processes and paperwork with us to ensure that the templates they use meet the needs of Akwesasne. This research was initiated to ensure that Council and the community's interests are protected in the event of any defaults on housing loans through the Bank of Montreal that have been guaranteed by Council, in order to assist community members in obtaining these loans.

DECEMBER 16, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING



Eric Duncan, Member of Parliament for Stormont, Dundas and South Glengarry, introduced himself to Council at the December 16, 2019 Council Meeting and provided highlights of his vision for assisting Akwesasne in his role as MP.

-) Representatives from TNG Consulting Inc. provided an overview on the Governance Review they will be conducting a review of Council and the processes that support them.
-) Council discussed the proposed content of congratulatory letters to be sent to the newly appointed Ministers for the Government of Canada.
-) A briefing was provided on a concern received about Council involvement on child welfare matters.
-) Council discussed the need to ensure that positive communication is occurring between Council, Portfolio Chiefs, and departmental administration.
-) MCRs passed: Acceptance of 2018/19 audit for Healthy Living Program; Acceptance of 2018/19 audit for Home and Community Care Program; Acceptance of 2018/19 AIDS

annual reconciliation report; Acceptance of 2018/19 audit for Community Support Services Program; Approval of service contract for Pharmacy Services provided to Iakhihsohtha; Approval of an upgrade loan to a Community Member; Approval of an amendment to a housing loan MCR to increase loan amount; Approval of a contribution agreement with Cornwall & the Counties Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) to research and set-up a development corporation; Approval of a lease on Clark Island; Acceptance of 2018/19 audit for Aboriginal Healthy Babies Program.

DECEMBER 16, 2019 NAV CANADA & GS5 CORPORATION

On the morning afternoon of December 16, 2019, I met with representatives of Nav Canada and the GS5 Corporation, who specialize in virtual reality. The Director of International Training for Nav Canada had invited me to learn more about GS5 and their distance-learning platform. The representatives from GS5 explained that they use Virtual Reality (VA) to provide programs and teach courses to their students. Nav Canada and GS5 are looking at the possibility of offering aviation courses at the Nav Centre in Cornwall using VA technology. Should the program become available at the Cornwall Nav Centre, GS5 would look to attract Indigenous students from remote northern fly-in communities. Akwesasne would look to assist with this initiative through hosting and recruitment of other First Nations people.

DECEMBER 17, 2019 – JANUARY 2, 2020

From December 17, 2019 through January 2, 2020, I was away from the office for the holiday season.