

# ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 Issue 6

Ohiari:ha/June 2020

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## MCA EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROVIDES THOUSANDS OF MEALS TO FAMILIES DURING PANDEMIC



Since March 16, staff and volunteers from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne have been providing Emergency Food Packages to over 900 families per week. The EFP's contained basic pantry supplies for a family and fresh foods, based on supplies received. The final distribution was held on May 15th. An alternative for families with continued need will be announced shortly.

Niawenko:wa to all front-line staff who worked hard to ensure that community members received the Emergency Food Packages.

[Read more on page 5.](#)

## UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

### District and General Meetings

- Please be advised that there are no district or general meetings for the month of June.



# MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2018-2021

## **Grand Chief**

Abram Benedict

## **Kana:takon District**

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

## **Kawehno:ke District**

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

## **Tsi Snaihne District**

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

## **Administration**

Heather Phillips  
Executive Director

Daryl Seymour  
A/Director,

Department of Technical Services

Joyce King  
Director,

Akwesasne Justice Department

Charmaine Caldwell  
Director,  
Department of Housing

Heather Phillips  
A/ Director,  
Department of  
Community and Social Services

Keith Leclaire  
Director,  
Department of Health

Donna Lahache  
Director,  
Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board  
of Education

Shawn Dulude  
Chief of Police,  
Akwesasne Mohawk Police  
Service

Kylee Tarbell  
A/Director,  
Tehotiiennawakon

# WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS



She:kon/Wat'kwanonhwera:ton,

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

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

## FIVE THINGS

### OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS & IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- 1** Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, various services have taken precautions to ensure the safety of community members. One area that has to follow strict guidelines are funerals. We express our deepest condolences to all community members who have lost a love one. It is difficult under normal situations, but even more so during these trying times. To read more of the social distancing requirements, please see page 3.
- 2** All of Akwesasne is currently under a non-essential travel advisory. Please do not travel beyond 50 miles/80 km of Akwesasne and if you must, please self-quarantine for 14 days following. To find out more about the current State of Emergency, please read more on page 4.
- 3** If you have an emergency matter or require essential items, please contact the MCA & SRMT Emergency Operation Centers.  
MCA EOC: 613-575-5005, 613-575-2331, or [eoc@akwesasne.ca](mailto:eoc@akwesasne.ca)  
SRMT EOC: 518-320-0019 or [eoc@srmt-nsn.gov](mailto:eoc@srmt-nsn.gov)
- 4** Since March 16, every week the food distribution crew packaged and delivered over 900 Emergency Food Packages to community members. We appreciate all the hard work displayed and assistance you gave to community members in need. To find out more, see page 5.
- 5** AMBE schools and daycares are closed for the remainder of the year. We thank all of the AMBE families who are supporting their children's online learning at home. For more information on the School Year for AMBE, please visit page 20.

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## AKWESASNE CONTINUES PRECAUTIONS DURING TIME OF MOURNING (JUNE 3, 2020)

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) express our deepest condolences to all community members affected by the loss of a loved one. The ongoing global pandemic makes it difficult to be able to express our heartfelt sympathies and console our fellow community members as we normally would.

The MCA and the SRMT is reminding our community that physical distancing and the gathering of large groups are restrictions that continue to apply, even in times of grieving. The recommended precautions are safeguards to limit your individual risk and exposure and ultimately the community at large against the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Funeral homes that service the Akwesasne community are governed by their respective licensing authorities and those authorities have instructed the funeral homes to follow strict guidelines to protect the families they serve and the staff of the funeral homes. We have informed local funeral homes that wake services in homes and elsewhere within the community are not allowed at this time. We respectfully request that the community of Akwesasne continue to support and adhere to the guidelines and restrictions in place.

"The funeral homes have an understanding of our community's customs and are doing their very best to accommodate our community members wishes during the pandemic however, large gatherings have made evident the need for additional protective measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Akwesasne. We ask that everyone continue to follow all prescribed guidelines to help keep the grieving family members and each other safe during their time of mourning," shared the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council.

The rapidly changing global pandemic has altered all of our lives and forced us to make unprecedented changes. We encourage our community to utilize the options offered by local funeral homes for live-stream viewing and providing online messages of condolences, as a way to express condolences to the grieving family.



# COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATES



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

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

SUBSCRIBE

# NEWS

## EMERGENCY MEASURES REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR AKWESASNE (MAY 27, 2020)

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) held a conference call on May 26, 2020 to discuss concerns related to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic.

At this time, we are reminding individuals that Akwesasne remains under a State of Emergency and all emergency measures taken continue to be in effect.

Community members are asked to continue adhering to all the preventive and protective measures authorized by our respective Councils.

Some of these measures include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A community curfew is in place from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. throughout Akwesasne. Community members are required to stay home and off the roads during these hours.
- It is recommended that community members remain within a 50-mile/80-kilometer radius of Akwesasne.
- Community members who travel outside this radius are required to quarantine (if they have no symptoms) or isolate (if they have or develop symptoms) for 14 days upon their return.

- For the safety of our entire community, it is best that you not travel outside the 50-mile/80-kilometer radius during the State of Emergency.

Both MCA and SRMT indicate that the State of Emergency will continue until COVID-19 no longer poses a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of our community.

For any COVID-19 related emergency matter, please call your respective Emergency Operations Center (EOC) from Monday-Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by phone:

- MCA's EOC (613) 575-5005 or (613) 575-2331
- SRMT's EOC (518) 320-0019.



# NEWS

## EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION—SPECIAL THANKS

Since March 16, the need to assist our vulnerable community was identified and employees from different programs came together to provide food boxes for AMBE families, elders, and community members for pick up in all three districts.

The food distribution crew packaged and delivered over 900 boxes a week!

A special thanks to:

- Burnbrae Farms for their donations of eggs
- CKON
- Native Trading Associates
- Tarbell Management Group
- Thompson Land Works

- United Way
- Various Akwesasne businesses and community members who donated PPE to staff

Niawenhkó:wa to all of the staff from the following departments and programs who stepped into different positions to help support our community. We appreciate all of the efforts to help Akwesasronon:

- AMBE
- Department of Technical Services
- Community Health
- Economic Development
- Environment
- Mohawk Government
- Tsiionkwanonhso:te



*Lots of hard work and love went into each Emergency Food Package.*



*Staff worked hard to organize the food for community members.*



*Staff preparing for delivery.*



*Service with a (masked) smile!*

# NEWS

## APPLICATION ASSISTANCE FOR THE CANADA EMERGENCY STUDENT BENEFIT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to inform post-secondary students and recent graduates attending a college/university in Canada or abroad (i.e. United States) that beginning Friday, May 15, coronavirus aid applications will be available for submission. Students are being asked to submit their applications for the new benefit program over four days, depending on the month of their birth. To be eligible, you must be a registered Indian through Indigenous Services Canada or a Canadian Citizen.

The Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) is aimed at assisting those students who are unemployed or making less than \$1,000 a month due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible students and graduates include those who are currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution, have graduated since December 2019, or are enrolling in a post-secondary program that begins before February 1, 2021.

Students who have already applied and are receiving Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) or

Employment Insurance (EI) are not eligible to receive CESB. For those not eligible to CERB, they can apply for the student aid program through the Canada Revenue Agency to receive payments of \$1,250 per month between May and August. Individuals who have disabilities, children under 12, or other dependents may be eligible for \$2,000 per month. Applicants can expect their payments within three to five business days once deemed eligible if they are set up for direct deposit.

Akwesasne Career & Employment Support Services (ACCESS) will be providing assistance to those who want to apply for the Canada Emergency Student Benefit. For assistance, please contact Youth Coordinator Nathan Sunday. Nathan will be available by appointment only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. To reach Nathan during those hours, phone 613-575-2626.

Please be advised that all students who make appointments must respect and follow all safety protocols for COVID-19.

## STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



@MCAKWESASNE



MOHAWK COUNCIL  
OF AKWESASNE



@MCAKWESASNE



MOHAWK COUNCIL  
OF AKWESASNE

# NEWS

## KAIENTHÓHSERA — AKWESASNE GARDEN INITIATIVE UPDATE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to thank the community for their interest in the Kaienthóhsera - Akwesasne Garden Initiative! We received an overwhelming response and are looking forward to moving ahead with this project and delivery of the garden boxes.

Due to the response, MCA has decided to expand the initiative to provide more Akwesasronon, who previously filled out the survey, with garden beds! The first 200 recipients have been contacted and our employees are working hard to finalize and contact community

members for our “second wave” of recipients. At this time, we ask for and appreciate your patience as our dedicated team works to deliver the garden kits to households across Akwesasne.

If you have any questions, please email [garden@akwesasne.ca](mailto:garden@akwesasne.ca) or call 613-936-1583 (ext. 1).

For more information, please visit the Kaienthóhsera - Akwesasne Garden Initiative Facebook page, or our website at: [www.akwesasne.ca](http://www.akwesasne.ca)



## COMMUNITY PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to remind the community that all park amenities, including playgrounds, are closed until further notice.

The following recreational areas are closed and will have signage displayed to notify community members:

- District recreation centres
- District daycares
- AMBE school playgrounds
- Tennis courts (Kawehno:ke)
- Lacrosse boxes (Kana:takon & Tsi Snaihne)

These measures are being taken as a precaution for the health and safety of Akwesasronon. MCA encourages everyone to stay home, except for essential travel, and continue to practice physical distancing. Social distancing as it applies to COVID-19 is defined as “remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance (approximately 6 feet or 2 meters) from others when possible.”

Nia:wen to our community members who are doing their part to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

# NEWS

## GRASSE RIVER PROJECT INFORMATION SESSIONS CANCELED

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) are informing the community that, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the public informational sessions held by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the Grasse River Project will not be held, in accordance with social distancing requirements.

The presentation that Arconic would have given at the public meetings has been uploaded to the website, [www.thegrasseriver.com](http://www.thegrasseriver.com), under the "What's New" tab. The presentation includes a project overview, review of work completed in 2019, planned 2020 activities, plans for air and water monitoring, and boating and swimming safety.

The Grasse River Project has been delayed and will commence later this month however, with the COVID-19

Pandemic, EPA is taking additional precautions and Arconic developed a comprehensive COVID-19 Project Health and Safety Plan. A summary of the plan will also be posted on [www.thegrasseriver.com](http://www.thegrasseriver.com) website prior to the in-river construction commencing in mid-May.

The schedule for future U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Open-House Information Sessions on the Grasse River Project will be shared once determined.



*An aerial shot of the Grasse River in Massena, NY.*

## REMINDER: KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE — TIE UP YOUR LOOSE DOG

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne received multiple reports of dogs being allowed to run loose, which has resulted in community members being bitten by dogs while the person is walking, or jogging on the roadway.

At this time, to protect and maintain the safety of the community, the Conservation Program will be instructed to capture any dog that is seen running loose.

Due to COVID-19, community members are unable to enter community buildings and staffing capacity is limited.

Please be notified that any animals picked up by the Conservation Program will be immediately sent to the pound: dogs will not be returned to their owners, nor will owners be contacted.

We want to keep our animals safe and ask you to do the same. We want to ensure that community members remain safe and not injured due to avoidable animal bites. We are looking to the community and pet owners to be part of the solution. Please tie up pets to ensure everyone remains safe.



# ABORIGINAL RIGHTS AND RESEARCH OFFICE

## FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION COMMUNITY UPDATE

· If you need a guarantor for your claim form, you may call 613-575-2341 ext. 2205 to make arrangements.

· **Call:** Gowling WLG at 1-888-221-2898. They can answer questions, help you fill out the claim form, send you a claim form, and give you legal aid at no charge.

· **Go Online:** The claim form can be found at the website [indiandayschools.com](http://indiandayschools.com) under "Claim Form". A step-by-step video on how to complete the application on your own can be found at [indiandayschools.com/en/resources](http://indiandayschools.com/en/resources). The form can be completed and emailed to Indian Day Schools Class Action Claims Administrator, c/o Deloitte at [indiandayschools@deloitte.ca](mailto:indiandayschools@deloitte.ca) to be processed right away.

· **Email:** Gowling WLG at [dayschools@gowlingwlg.com](mailto:dayschools@gowlingwlg.com) or through their Facebook page: McLean Class Action on Indian Day Schools. You can watch a web

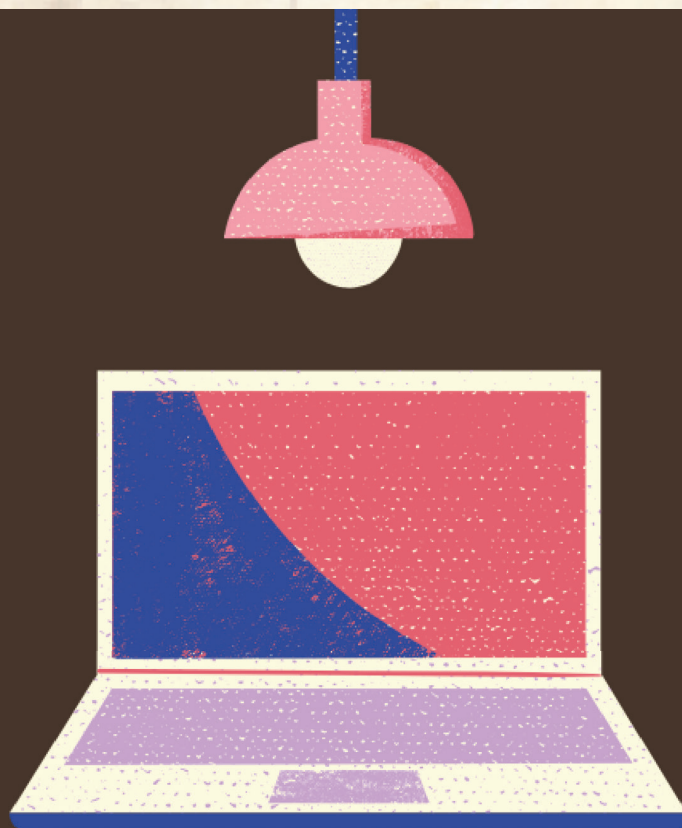
conference that will take you through the claim process, too. Details can be found at [indiandayschools.com/en/contact/presentations/](http://indiandayschools.com/en/contact/presentations/).

· **Fax:** Completed forms can be sent to Indian Day Schools Class Action Claims Administrator, c/o Deloitte by fax at 416-366-1102.

· **Mail:** Completed forms can be mailed out to Indian Day Schools Class Action Claims Administrator, c/o Deloitte at PO Box 1775, Toronto, ON, Canada, M5C 0A2. Gowling WLG notes that are mailed may take longer than emailing or faxing the forms.

The Hope for Wellness hotline is always available to help if you are feeling anxiety and/or distress about memories that can come with filling out these claims.

Call 1-855-242-3310 or reach them online at [www.hopeforwellness.ca](http://www.hopeforwellness.ca).



# Federal Indian Day School Claim Form

[www.hopeforwellness.com](http://www.hopeforwellness.com)

# SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

## FACEBOOK STATS



### Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in May

1. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Brenda Francis (Photos)
2. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Issac McDonald (Photos)
3. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Mel Jacobs (Photos)
4. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Leah Tarbell (Photos)
5. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Dennis Bero (Photos)

### Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in May

1. Bear Sighting — 11,668 reached
2. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Dennis Bero — 6,773 reached
3. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Brenda Francis — 6,295 reached
4. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Tom Herne — 5,591 reached
5. NATIONAL EMS WEEK — MEET THE AMA: Issac McDonald — 5,440 reached

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## TWITTER STATS

### Top Tweet in May



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne  
@MCAkwesasne

MCA & @srm\_tribe would like to remind Akwesasronon that our community remains under a State of Emergency and all emergency measures taken continue to be in effect.

Read more at: [akwesasne.ca/emergency-meas...](https://akwesasne.ca/emergency-meas...)

12:16 PM · May 28, 2020 · [Twitter Web App](#)

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## YOUTUBE STATS



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

1. Long Term Care Facility Update with Tobi Mitchell
2. Nursing Spotlight: Community Health Program and Contact Tracing
3. CKON Community Update with Grand Chief — May 12, 2020

# EXECUTIVE SERVICES

## COMPLIMENTS & APPRECIATIONS

The week of May 11-17 was Nurses Appreciation Week. On behalf of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne I would like to thank all nurses employed with MCA. Our community is healthier and safer with you here. Thank you for caring for our children, elders and all those who need you. Your work and dedication to the community does not go unnoticed.

"There is nothing in this world that can compensate for the dedication and care put in by nurses...."

Best wishes on Nurses Appreciation Week.  
-Heather Phillips, MCA Executive Director

The Canadian Nurses Association celebrates National Nursing Week from the Monday to Sunday of Florence Nightingale's birthday, May 12. The theme this year is Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Nursing the World to Health. This theme was developed by the International Council of Nurses to showcase how nurses are central to addressing a wide range of health challenges.

The World Health Organization has designated 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife in honor of the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health recognizes the passion, dedication, and professionalism of the nursing team who have and continue to maintain essential services for the Akwesasne community in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nia:wen for your service to Akwesasne!



Nia:wen to the staff and all of the amazing Personal Support Workers at Iakhihsohta. We appreciate all that you do to keep our Tota's safe. During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it has been stressful, but know that we appreciate all you do!



**NIA:WEN TO FBCL & SIBC!**

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to extend its gratitude to the Federal Bridge Corporation Ltd. — *nia:wen* to the FBCL and the Seaway International Bridge Corporation for their donation and delivery of hand sanitizer to be used in MCA facilities!

Niawenhko:wa to the staff that made the Emergency Food Packages available for community members. Everyone is very thankful for the hard work you have put in!

DEAR TEACHERS,

**WE  
APPRECIATE  
YOU!**

Nia:wen'kowa for your endless patience and kindness for our community. You are truly amazing. Happy Teachers Week!



# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Can you find the five differences between these two gardens?



1. Cloud on upper left is slightly larger in second photo. 2. Tomato is missing in row on the right. 3. Extra strawberry on the first plant. 4. Missing leaf on the very top of plant on right. 5. Boys left sock is slightly higher.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT PLANTS

- More than 85% of plant life is found in the ocean.
- Cabbage has 91% water content.
- Oak trees do not produce acorns until they become 50 years old.
- A cucumber is actually a fruit as it has seeds.
- Apples, onions and potatoes have the same taste. Test this by closing your nose while eating them.
- Dandelion can be eaten whole, right from its roots up to the petals...and is a good medicine.

## YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

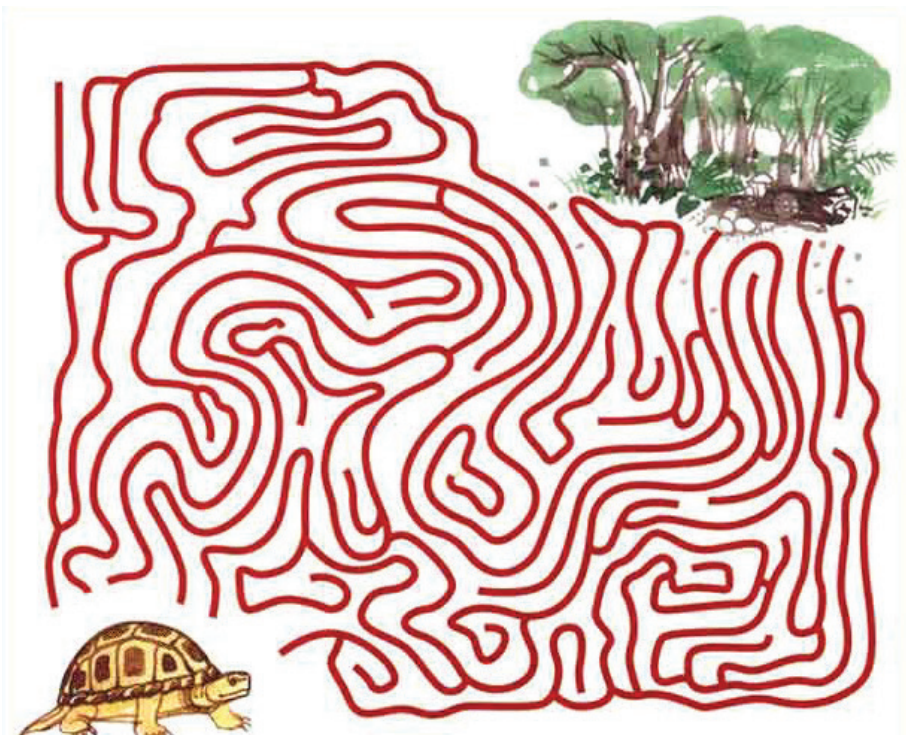
What did the buffalo say when his son left?



Bison!

## SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

Help the turtle get home!



# CHILDREN'S PAGE

COLOUR ME!



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## AKWESASNE MOHAWK AMBULANCE CELEBRATES EMS WEEK Pandemic: EMTs on the Front Line

To help the Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance celebrate the 46th Annual National EMS Week during the week May 18-22, 2020 and to get to know the members of the Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance Unit, EMT's were featured on the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Facebook Page.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance unit has grown since last year with a number of new emergency medical technicians joining the team. The last few months have been a stressful time to work on the front lines and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health values the work being done by the EMS team.

Nia:wen for your service to Akwesasne!

### Members of the Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance:

- Dennis Bero
- Ed Cook
- Clint Cole
- Daryl Diabo
- Brenda Francis
- Teioshontathe Herne
- Tom Herne
- Naomi Hill
- Melanie Jacobs
- Ryan Jacobs
- Brooklyn Johnson
- Kaitlyn Lauzon
- Sherril Lazare
- Aidan Lazore
- Isaac McDonald
- Randy Montour
- Aubrey Phillips
- Cole Phillips
- Arnold Printup
- Chanelle Smoke
- Eric Sunday
- Autumn King-Tenasco

## HAPPY NATIONAL EMS WEEK

TO THE AKWESASNE MOHAWK AMBULANCE UNIT!



NIAWENKO:WA FOR YOUR DEDICATION

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## MCA LONG TERM CARE FACILITY TESTING PROTOCOLS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health manages two long term care facilities – Tsiionkwanonhso:te Longterm Care Facility and Iakhihsohtha Lodge. The MCA Department of Health follows the directives issued by the Ontario Ministry of Long-Term Care for COVID-19 protocols that are implemented in each home. The Ministry released a directive to conduct COVID-19 testing on all residents and staff working in long term care facilities, even if they are asymptomatic.

MCA's Community Health Program has requested an additional 190 test kits from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit to accommodate this directive. Families of the residents and staff working at both facilities are being notified of this requirement. This community notice is being provided to assure the community that this is a precautionary step directed by the Ministry to reduce the risk of an outbreak.

Tsiionkwanonhso:te Longterm Care Facility and Iakhihsohtha Lodge staff are prepared with personal protective equipment (e.g. masks, gowns, gloves) and isolation protocols if a resident does test positive for COVID-19. All results from testing are protected information and will not be released to the public.

### HOSPITAL REFERRAL PROTOCOLS FROM LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

Each Akwesasne long term care facility requires different levels of care and skillset of health care workers. On rare occasions during overnight hours if a resident requires medical care beyond what is available at the facility, a physician may advise that the resident be transported to a local hospital for radiology or other treatment. If that happens, the resident of a long term care facility being transferred to a Cornwall hospital will be tested for COVID-19 even if the referring physician

does not suspect COVID-19.

The Ontario Ministry of Health COVID-19 directives being implemented by the Eastern Ontario Health Unit help to screen people who are suspected or confirmed of having COVID-19 throughout the health care system. First Nations are considered a high-risk population for COVID-19 because of the high rate of individuals with respiratory issues (e.g. asthma), heart disease, and diabetes. Long term care facilities are also considered a high-risk population for COVID-19 because of the age of residents, proximity within homes, and pre-existing medical conditions.

This precautionary measure to test all residents of Akwesasne's long term care facilities for COVID-19 when they arrive at a hospital in Cornwall is a standard practice. In Ontario of the 1,300 reported deaths from COVID-19 cases, 927 deaths happened in a long term care facility. The MCA Department of Health continues to implement internal precautions along with public restrictions to long term care facility property to limit the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak.

If you have questions for either of the long term care facilities, please call:

- Tsiionkwanonhso:te Longterm Care Facility: 613-932-1409
- Iakhihsohtha Lodge: 613-575-2507



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## MCA LONG TERM CARE FACILITY RESIDENTS ENJOYING WARMER DAYS

### Help Respect and Protect our Elders

Warmer weather is on the horizon and the residents of both Tsiionkwanonhso:te Longterm Care Facility and Iakhihsohtha Lodge are looking forward to enjoying their outdoor spaces. The healthcare workers at both facilities have been working hard to implement the ever-changing guidelines for long term care facilities. Allowing residents to sit on their verandas while maintaining physical distancing is a welcome activity that our elders are looking forward to.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health is expanding restrictions of visitors for both long term care facilities to include no visitors on the property surrounding the buildings, effective immediately.

The expanded restriction prohibiting visitors on the

property includes visits through windows. Visitors coming onto the property of the long term care facilities limit the ability of residents to use their outdoor spaces. This restriction is being implemented to protect residents and staff working in each home. Help our elders by respecting this restriction so they can benefit from good weather and fresh air.

Family members of residents can still see their loved one using virtual services like FaceTime and Zoom video conferencing. Both Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-term Care Facility and Iakhihsohtha Lodge have iPads and tablets available to make those arrangements on request. Virtual meetings are the best way to interact at this time without compromising the health and safety of residents, and is highly encouraged at this time.



*The following image indicates the restricted area for Iakhihsohtha Lodge.*



*The following image indicates the restricted area for Tsiionkwanonhso:te Longterm Care Facility*

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## HOW TO CARE FOR PETS AND OTHER ANIMALS

### IF YOU HAVE COVID-19 OR YOU OR YOUR PETS HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO COVID-19

There have been limited reports of animals becoming infected with COVID-19. There is currently no evidence that pets or domestic animals play a significant role in the spread of COVID-19. If you are sick, it is recommended that you avoid contact with pets and other animals, just like you would other people, until more is known.

#### Keep your pets in your home

- If you are sick, ask someone else in your home who is not sick to care for your pets.
- If everyone in the home is sick or you live alone, it is still best.



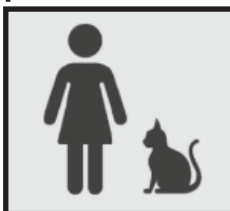
#### Consider this if pets must be moved to another home

- Individuals at higher risk for severe COVID-19 illness (people over 65 years or with underlying health conditions) should avoid being temporary caregivers to exposed animals, if possible.
- Keep the pets isolated to one area of the home in order to minimize contact with other animals or people, if possible.



#### Avoid close or prolonged contact with pets

- Try to avoid the following as much as possible: snuggling them, kissing them, letting them lick you, sharing food with them, or letting them sleep in your bed or sit on your lap.



#### Keep pets away from people and other animals

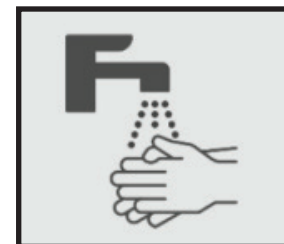
- Keep pets indoors as much as possible
- When dogs are outside, they should be on a leash and at least two metres



away from other people and animals.

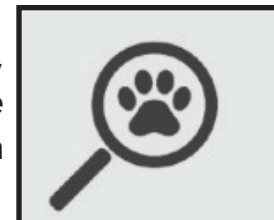
#### Take precautions when providing care for pets

- Wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub immediately before and after touching the pets, their food or supplies.
- Try not to cough or sneeze near the pets. Always cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue and clean your hands afterwards.
- Always avoid touching your face



#### Monitor your pets for any signs of illness if they have been exposed to COVID-19

- If your pet shows signs of illness, call your veterinarian to determine if your animal needs to be seen at a clinic or can be managed at home.



#### Prevent exposure to livestock and poultry

- Livestock producers should:
  - Follow all existing farm biosecurity measures
  - Limit contact with the animals to only contact that is needed to provide their care.
- If possible, do not care for animals if you have:
  - been diagnosed with COVID-19 or have symptoms of a respiratory illness.
  - been exposed to someone who is sick with a respiratory illness or
  - travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days.
- If you need to care for your animals yourself:
  - Follow basic infection prevention and control measures as outlined above and
  - Clean/disinfect any equipment you touch that will come into contact with the animals.

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## FULL BODY WORKOUT

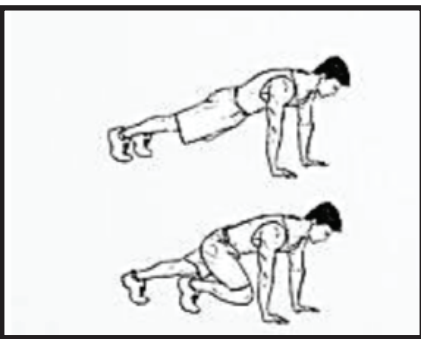
Complete 10-15 reps each.

Do as many reps as possible (AMRAP) in 20 minutes.

Take water breaks as needed.



Squats



Mountain Climbers



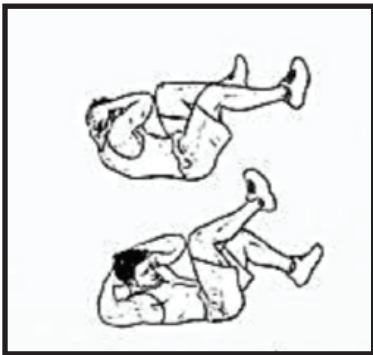
Push ups



Jumping Jacks



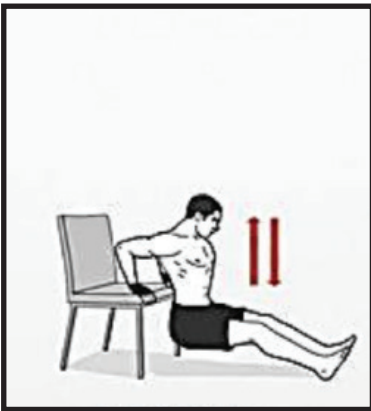
High Knees



Cross Crunches



Knee pull-ins



Chair Dips



Leg Raises

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## TRADITIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ORGANIZE UPLIFTING JINGLE & SMOKE DANCE COMPETITION

Traditional Support Services continues to support the community the best they can during the Pandemic while continuing to practice social distancing/quarantine.

After the Akwesasne's Children Pow Wow was cancelled, Vickie Horne, Traditional Support Worker, thought that the community could use a boost of positive energy and good medicine. That is when the idea came alive to have a Jingle and Smoke Dance Competition so the children could dance for the community and uplift the spirits of so many who were social distancing and perhaps feeling a little anxious and stressed about the whole pandemic.

The songs created good energy and a positive environment for all that participated, as well as being a good distraction from COVID-19.

When the competition concluded, there were a total of 38 participants and at the deadline for voting, there were 3254 votes (likes) and counting.

### Smoke Dance Competition Winners (and Parents)

#### Tiny Tots

- 1st Place Deyondihogwahs Mitchell (Mac and Monica Mitchell)
- 2nd Place Carmen Cathers (Ietakhe David)
- 3rd Place Tehorahkoion Thompson (Tsionatiio Thompson)

#### Youth

- 1st Place Roriwakaïen Lazore (Arisawe Lazore)
- 2nd Place Tsiawentiron Mitchell (Mac and Monica Mitchell)
- 3rd Place Haonhw'anjya'na:wen Thomas-Shanendoah (Kakwireiosta Hall)

#### Teen

- 1st Place Kaïenas Lazore (Arisawe Lazore)
- 2nd Place Isabelle Wilson
- 3rd Place Cortland Sunday (Sam and Cory Sunday)

### Jingle Dress Competition Winners

#### Tiny tots

- 1st Place Teiaohontsiastarahte (Lani Neff)
- 2nd Place Willow Johnson (Angello & Ashley Johnson)
- 3rd Place Melani Arquette (Keisha and Tony Arquette)

#### Youth

- 1st place Nelani Hopps (Cheyenne Hopps)
- 2nd Place Iakotahsenton Grayci George (Althea Lazore)
- 3rd Place Tewashokwatenies Jacobs (Tania Clute)

#### Teen

- 1st Place Isabelle Wilson
- 2nd Place Grayce Anderson (Mandi Bomberry)



*Some of the talented dancers collecting their prizes.*

# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

## AMBE CLOSED FOR REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

She:kon AMBE Families,

will be Friday, June 12, 2020.

Please be advised that due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic AMBE schools are closed to our students for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Chromebook collection dates will be announced in the upcoming weeks.

Online learning will continue until June. We extend our sincere appreciation to our AMBE families who have been supporting their children with online learning.

Report cards will be available by request after June 30, 2020. You can schedule a pick up of your student's report card by emailing [louella.lazore@ambe.ca](mailto:louella.lazore@ambe.ca) after June 30th. The alternative is to wait until September to pick up your child's report card at their school.

The last day of online school for students in K5 will be Friday, June 5, 2020.

Again, your cooperation and patience as we navigated living through a pandemic this school year is greatly appreciated.

The last day of online school for students in grades 1-8



# NIAWENHKO:WA

To our AMBE families who are supporting  
their children's online learning at home!

# AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

## AKWESASNE COURT UPDATE (MAY 26, 2020)

On March 12, 2020, the Akwesasne Justice Department and Akwesasne Review Commission jointly reviewed the COOP (Continuity of Operations Plan) with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This pandemic has resulted in many events being cancelled. Based on the guidelines established for prevention measures and to maintain the health and safety of our community and staff, it was determined that the Akwesasne Court would postpone all matters until September 2020.

**The Akwesasne Court will hold the next court session on September 9, 2020 starting at 5 PM.**

The Akwesasne Justice Department has engaged Her Worship, Stephanie Cross, from Kahnawake, QC to be

a sitting justice for the upcoming year. Justice Cross is appointed under Section 107 and has presided over numerous cases in the Akwesasne Court in the past.

**Fine payments are being accepted during this time through the following processes:**

1. Over the phone, by credit card. Call Tricia at the MCA Finance Department at (613)-575-2250 ext. 2168.
2. Sending a check or money order to the Akwesasne Court, Attention: Akwesasne Court Clerk, CIA #3, Tewesateni Road, Akwesasne, ON K6H 0G5
3. Sending a check or money order to the Akwesasne Court, Attention: Akwesasne Court Clerk, PO Box 489 Akwesasne, NY 13655.

We wish to extend a niawenhko:wa for your patience during this unprecedented time.

## ITINERANT VENDOR PERMITS ON HOLD

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is informing the community that until the Emergency Declaration has been lifted, all Itinerant Vendor Permits, which is a permit for non-members soliciting business door-to-door, will be put on hold.

Contractors for household improvements (i.e. plumbing, carpentry, electrical, etc.) would not require a permit. Contractors are only required to obtain a permit if they go door-to-door soliciting business.

We appreciate your cooperation. Nia:wen.



### CONTACT US!

Akwesasne Justice Department  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2400

Akwesasne Mohawk Court  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1026

Conservation / Animal Control  
and Compliance  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2415

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

Prologue: As of April 1, 2020, the Department of Technical Services (DTS) is now known as the Department of Infrastructure and Housing. More information will be provided about department changes in the July issue of the MCA Newsletter. For now, this month's article is dedicated solely to honour the late Director of Technical Services, Jay Benedict.

It was with great sadness that our department, the MCA organization, and the community learned of the passing of Jay Benedict.



Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his loving wife Lisa, his children Dorian and Janisa and their spouses, Jay's grandchildren Taeys, Ever, Kansas, Kennen and Indi Mae, his mother and father Pat and Buster, his brothers Keith, Billy, Willie, Quinn and their spouses, his many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. Jay was an institution in his own right in being a dedicated employee of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne within the Department of Technical Services for thirty-nine years.

The accomplishments he has made for the community resulted in infrastructure of 47 facility assets covering 52,000 square meters of floor space, 41km of water mains, 47km of road ways and bridges, that service 1500 residential units and 40+ private businesses that operate throughout all of Mohawk Council districts. These assets support the entire economy, health and well-being of the Akwesasne community and its 15,000 members. He was a visionary and had the experience to turn that vision into action. Unfortunately, the Pandemic has thus far prevented our community from having a gathering for him, and so, we have reached out to Jay's colleagues, co-workers, employers and friends with the opportunity to say a few words about Jay so that his family can know how important he was to all of us and what his work meant to our community.

### **The following are the results of those submissions for this article.**

'With a heavy heart I recall my memories of Director of Technical Services, Jay Benedict. I first encountered Jay while I was in high school, over two decades ago, as I was accepted for a summer job position within DTS. I was always amazed at the command and control he exhibited during meetings, with conversations with staff, or clients. From afar I considered him one of the mentors that shaped and guided my career path into the construction industry and it made the decision to pursue a career in Civil Engineering an easy one. Little did I realize at the time his guidance toward me was always for the best of Akwesasne, like all the hard decisions he had to make, he always had the community's best interests in mind. Even when he drew a line in the sand on an issue; as stubborn as his convictions could be sometimes, though at times I could not fully see the path ahead, he had a reason, the foresight for the benefit of the community in mind. That is what I will al-

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

ways remember about Jay and will continue to strive to attain that standard of leadership and decision-making for the benefit of the community of Akwesasne.'

- Daryl Seymour P. Eng., Director, Department of Infrastructure and Housing

'Jay has been an inspiration to his team to strive for excellence. He dedicated his life to the building of Akwesasne. There was always a sense of pride at the completion of any of the projects that he worked on. I recall the first day I went to work for DTS, as busy as he was he took time out to explain why the processes were put in place and the need to continue to do so. He shared his knowledge on the history of some of the projects that have passed and also on the need for the projects to come. He was forever planning and preparing for the future. He worked to see perfection in his office and it gave you the incentive to strive to do the same. I am most grateful to have had the opportunity to work with him. Ní:wen Jay for your dedication to the community of Akwesasne.'

- Chief Theresa Jacobs, Technical Services Portfolio Chief, and former DTS Executive Assistant



'I met Jay Benedict long ago when I started with MCA. Jay had a great vision for the community, and worked hard to fulfill this vision. With Jay as a continued part of community leadership, the community infrastructure and Mohawk Council flourished. Akwesasne has many success stories under Jay's direction, which include a community water system that is second to none, the Kawehno:ke Riverview Apartments, the Kanonkwatsheri:io Health Facility, and much more. Jay was a great co-worker, I personally learned a lot from him and will sincerely miss his presence within the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.'

- Heather Phillips, MCA Executive Director



I have known Jay my entire life as he is my cousin, but was privileged to begin working with him when I first came onto council as Kawehno:ke District Chief in 2006. Jay will always be remembered by the tremendous contributions he made to building up Akwesasne. The Department of Technical Services flourished under his leadership and direction and as Director of DTS, Jay

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

brought a wealth of knowledge and community perspective into everything he did for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. The Department of Technical Services will continue his vision as they plan and lobby to make improvements to our community. We are forever thankful for his time within the organization and the time he shared with us.

-Grand Chief Abram Benedict

'As a new employee to MCA in March of 1991, it didn't take long to realize the leadership and vision of the Late Jay C. Benedict, Director of the Department of Technical Services. Jay had already been on site with MCA many years before that. Akwesasne was going through some very challenging events in that time frame, but steadfastly Jay remained focused on the betterment of our community as a whole, and insisted we did the same. Through his leadership and perseverance, our team realized many, many, much-needed facilities and projects. The Health Facility, Kana:takon School, the Water and Wastewater treatment facilities, replacing old failing water line's in Kana:takon, adding the water line's in Tsi Snaihne, Kawehno:ke, under the river to the Snye District, Road reconstructions in all three districts, health and safety concerns overall were never off the list of things to do. All of these projects were done under the auspicious and guidance from Jay. Directing a team of Engineers, staff and co-workers is not and was not an easy task. With almost daily 'emergencies' as reported by leadership and Council, Jay continually applied the best approach to resolve and map out how and when these 'emergencies' could be addressed. Often time it meant upsetting a District Chief from time to time. But reality is reality, project submissions, funding arrangements and agreements were not done at a Chiefs desire and time frame. Each project was carefully and meticulously planned out and executed, and if it wasn't on the approved Capital Plan-



ning Study map, it got done later, never dropped only planned into the funding scheme we had to abide by. Jay had an amazing understanding of the funding and submission process that Indian Affairs applied to our community. Every project took up to five years to see to fruition. As we developed and continually improved, Jay was able to direct the team and projects started getting approved sometimes within three years or less. Having a 'shovel ready' project was the new norm. Jay ensured we had that mentality to succeed. Get the documents in order, substantiate the need, verify the finance, the project scope, the need for the 'Class A' estimates, and make it harder and harder for Indian Affairs to say no. That was the normal process Jay insisted on from all of us. Through Jay's leadership our community succeeded leaps and bounds over others. We are considered a leader in many areas; Technical Services was considered one of the best in Canada. "How did you do that", we were always asked? Credit is due to Jay and his insistence that we did our best every day; it was never about a district - it was always about our community as a whole. In honor of workers

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

passed, Jay had implemented a scholarship program that gave a stipend to student's seeking higher education in engineering disciplines. Today there are a number of engineers, architects and other disciplines in the field because of Jay's recognition, encouragement and support. Another example of how we as a community should encourage our youth to succeed. It was an honor to work with Jay for the many years I was able to, my thanks and appreciation goes to his family for sharing him with us those many years. Without his leadership and commitment to our community I can't imagine where we would be today. Níawen Jay, your impact to our community will be remembered and cherished always.'

– Joe Francis, former DTS Co-Worker and Colleague

'Jay was very proud of his department, the Technical Services, his staff, and their many accomplishments. He never missed an opportunity to engage with and to demonstrate to his community his commitment to good work. And he was especially fond of the Career Fair held at A'nowara'ko:wa Arena biannually where he insisted that his staff and consultants participate and reach out to the youth of Akwesasne who may be seeking a career in Engineering.'

- William A. Knight, B.Sc.Eng., Thompson Rosemount Group



'As a portfolio chief for the department of technical services, I was fortunate enough to work side-by-side with Jay Benedict on many projects. Jay's dedication and commitment to Akwesasne was apparent not only in the work that he did but also in the relationships that he formed. Jay was a man who lead with knowledge and respect. He ensured that everyone in his teams were kept updated and everyone knew their responsibilities. I remain committed to ensuring that not only are these final projects successfully completed, but also that his collaborative approaches are carried through with both future administrative personnel and elected officials.'

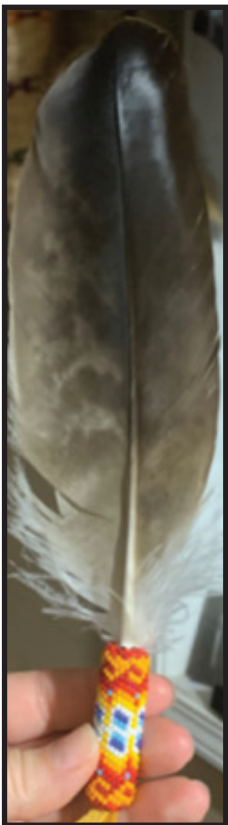
- Tsi Snaihne District Chief Joseph Lazore

'I first met Jay at Tom's (former Akwesasne Engineer) Christmas party in December of 1999 where Jay asked me to join Mohawk Council of Akwesasne as their engineer. I agreed and started at the end of the month. At that time, I did not realize that it would be the beginning of a 20-year journey that would strongly influence my life. As I started my career in Akwesasne I very quickly learned things would be different because life in Akwe-

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

sasne is different to what I knew up to that point in my life. I was lucky to have a man like Jay help guide me through the ways of Mohawk life in Akwesasne. Over the months and years Jay helped me understand his goals and objectives to provide the people of Akwesasne with important infrastructure needs like Roads, Water, Sewer, Subdivisions, Schools, Medical Centres, Women's Shelters, Old Age Home Facilities, Elder's Facilities, Community Centers and many others amounting to many tens of millions of dollars. The challenges to make these projects come to life were endless but somehow Jay and his well-established team found ways to make them successfully happen. The waterline projects always seemed to be the most involved with the community. Every step from preliminary design, public meetings, making sure everyone effected was notified, to design, tendering, construction and again ensuring everyone that was part of the project was satisfied. Jay was there every step of the way. All projects had similar hurdles which Jay guided the team through. For



17 years we worked closely together to achieve those objectives. To me Jay is one of those people you meet in life and you realize that this person is special not only to work with to help meet his dreams for the people of Akwesasne but also as a friend. All my memories of Jay are positive and joyous, and I am grateful that he was a part of my life. The people of Akwesasne have truly lost a great man in so many ways. Jay and I spoke often about his family and I know of the great love there was between Lisa, and his two daughters Janisa and Dorian and grandchildren, his mother, father, and siblings. My father once told me when you do something in life make sure that when it is



time to be replaced it will take at least three people. Well, Jay will need to be replaced by much more. My thoughts and prayers are with all Akwesasronon and especially for Lisa, Janisa, Dorian, grandchildren, Mom, Dad and Family.'

- Vladi Kovinich, Proud former MCA Engineer

I was sitting in the main boardroom reviewing my meeting notes waiting for other chiefs to arrive. A young man entered the room, he was tall, broad shouldered, and his movement reminded me of a John Wayne western movie I had seen the night before. He wore faded black jeans, a white pin-striped shirt under a black vest. He looked at me and announced with a firm but polite voice "my name is Jay Benedict and I'm here to make a presentation to Council". And then he smiled that smile which was so characteristic of who he was. This was in July, 1991. The \$25,000,000 Capitol Project was already underway that would see the expansion of recreation halls, the construction of an arena, a new police station, a new health facility, and Jay had taken lead as the construction manager for the works. Jay also becomes involved as the lead person in the development

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

of a 25-year capitol acquisition plan, which I view as the blueprint for Akwesasne's infrastructure. This infrastructure would include projects like new water works, new water plants, road paving projects, drainage projects. Many of the current technicians and engineers from Akwesasne are products of the mentoring he so unselfishly provided, as an investment in Akwesasne's future. Much of what we enjoy today in Akwesasne can be attributed to his leadership as the head technician, and the monuments that he left behind are indeed a tribute to the dedication and love he had for his community. I take this opportunity to offer condolences to the Benedict family for their personal loss.

- Brian David, former DTS Portfolio and Kawehno:ke District Chief and former Director of Justice



'Having to write a few words about Jay Benedict has been difficult for me. How do you capture the quality of a great person in words? He was exemplary and had a vision. A great leader who dedicated his life to the Department of Technical Services. Piece by piece, year after year he tirelessly sought government funded resources and support to plan, construct and sustain buildings and infrastructure for our community of Ak-



wesasne. This includes but not limited to water and waste water treatment plants, schools, health facilities, home for the elderly, recreational buildings, the arena, police station, MCA office buildings, group homes, shelters, and many more that span over the three districts. All essential to sustaining a healthy, safe and prosperous community. Jay was everything one could look for as a boss and respected colleague. It made working with him a memorable and learning experience. He worked hard and gave us his knowledge, his expertise, his skills. He never sat back and became complacent. He was focused and paid attention to details and was diligent in his work and made sure that all projects and documents that went through the office was fully examined. He led by example. He was to me my mentor. I've known Jay ever since I stepped into DTS as a summer student in the 90's and continued to work in the summers a few years thereafter. I remember one year - as the summer was ending and I had recently graduated from Interior Design - ready to start something new, I sat in Jay's office and he talked about future projects and goals he had for the office and the community. We talked about school and then he said to me, "You're not done, I need you to go back to school and take Engineering or Architecture". He motivated me towards a career that I thought I didn't have the courage to do. I will never forget that moment and I'm forever grateful for him and the conversation we had. Thereafter, through my University years in Architecture, and while

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY “TEONIETATHE” BENEDICT

working for various firms, Jay always seemed to keep in touch. Looking back, it was like he was guiding me; and when I passed the OAA Examination for Architects in Canada, he was one of the first that I shared my news with. Jay was my boss, mentor and friend - And I cannot thank him enough. He played an integral part of my career. I'm glad I had the chance to know and work with him. I hope to inspire others as he has inspired me. Niawenkowa Jay! – I will miss you. To his family, Lisa, Dorian, Janisa and family - May care and love of those around you provide comfort and peace. Cherish the memories, keep him in your heart.

- Leslie Papineau, B. Arch, Master of Architecture, MCA Technical Project Manager

'I would like to add my voice to the remembrance of a good man named Jay Benedict. He played a key role in the success of Akwesasne's community development over the past thirty years as the head of the MCA's technical services department. When we went before federal and provincial agencies to look for new monies for our community infrastructure, he was my right-hand man to answer technical questions, he could play the role of a diplomat or use that loud booming voice to intimidate the government side into seeing our real

needs for Akwesasne. Jay was an excellent debater, and I know because we often debated at our community meetings over our MCA's technical service policies and he always never gave an inch, and it led to community residents having a better understanding of why certain policies had to be enforced - new road width requirements come to mind... but we never made it personal. There was always a phone call to each other the next day to clear the air. Jay was an "Island" man too, it was in his voice and his mannerisms, and it certainly added to his personal character. We will surely miss him.'

– Mike K Mitchell, former DTS Portfolio Chief and former Grand Chief

'We (Jp2g Consultants) will remember Jay as a tireless advocate for bringing clean drinking water to Akwesasne and an unwavering focus on doing what he felt was best for Akwesasne. His dedication to supporting the education of young Mohawks from Akwesasne pursuing higher education in engineering and construction related fields was admirable. We will miss his laughter and most of all his friendship.'

– Neil Caldwell and James Hutton, on behalf of Jp2g Consultants Inc.

'I would like to take this time to honour and to say



# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

niawenkowa to Jay for all the years of commitment and dedication to Mohawk Council's organization. It was because of his knowledge, work ethics and professionalism that helped bring much needed modernization to Akwesasne's infrastructure and facilities. He will certainly be missed by our Technical Service Department, Portfolio Chiefs and Mohawk Council's organization. He will truly be remembered as a husband, father, son, brother, uncle, cousin, friend, neighbour, co-worker, director, team-mate, and grandfather. With a heavy heart it saddens me to say goodbye, farewell and have a safe journey, you will always be remembered. O:nenkewaheh tan:non niawenkowa.'

– Chief Vince Thompson, DTS Portfolio Chief



'For over 25 years and through many MCA projects, our firm of architects and engineers (formerly, Thompson Rosemount Group - TRG) had the pleasure of work-

ing for the MCA Department of Technical services, led by Jay Benedict. Jay led of a team of skilled and hard-working men and women through important years of very active community planning and building. Jay was devoted to and proud of Akwesasne and pursued his work to achieve the highest design and construction qualities. He was always there – at the beginning with struggles to start, finance, plan, organize, construct, finish and guide operations of these works – but he was always quiet and modest about the multiple successes. Jay was a pleasure to know as a man, as a friend, and as a leader.'

– Rick Taylor, on behalf of Architecture49 Inc.

'I was honoured when approached for the opportunity to say a few words on behalf of my old buddy, Jay Benedict. I knew Jay for years before working alongside as a Kana:takon District chief and a Portfolio holder for the Department of Technical Services (DTS). The department with MCA that Jay guided admirably. What may not be so well known is that Jay was part of the early and initial years of the Akwesasne Boxing Club that operated out of the old Mohawk School gym in Hogan (1975). Back when the boxing club was comprised of well over 100 individuals and it had to be broken up in groups. I recall jay holding his own in that regard and remember he broke his thumb in his very first boxing match. Jay was a good well-rounded athlete and I believe he ended his athletic years as being part of the Akwesasne Broken Blades hockey team where we had a good run and a great bunch of guys. Everyone that ever accepts the nomination and is successful at election time in being a District chief has been a rookie or done it for the very first time. I was no exception. I admit that as most, I was not originally so familiar with the inner workings of departments of MCA. Being part of the well-oiled machine that was DTS was an eye opener and surely helped in my personal development. Our

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

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meetings were well structured and everybody's input was welcomed and encouraged. It was a definite "Team approach and there was no denying who the captain of the team was. To consider the extent of the responsibilities of DTS, assuring so many things and amenities that community members could take for granted, a true leader is crucial. I know it is absolutely one of those areas where it goes beyond 8:00 to 5:00, including weekends... basically being on call 24/7 -- Probably never receiving accolades, but definitely the brunt of complaints when those amenities like safe drinking water, safe roads and community infrastructure, etc., are affected. From my observations from day 1 to the last, if there was ever a department within MCA that would suffice just fine without meddling of Council or Administration it would be DTS. With Jay's leadership they fended for themselves with Canadian government officials at the benefit of our entire community. To observe the familiarity and respect government officials had for Jay and his team resonates into assuring Akwesasne received our share of allocated funding, and then some. I know there was much pride in the development of our water treatment plants and the fact that out of a handful of highly trained water treatment operators across Indian country in all of Ontario, the brunt of

those professionals are right here in Akwesasne! Rest easy buddy. I offer my condolences to Jay's family at this difficult time.

– Larry King, former DTS Portfolio and Kana:takon District Chief

'As a former Grand Chief of Akwesasne from 2006 - 2009 I had the honor of working with Mr. Jay Benedict, Director of Technical Services at the time. Jay was truly a dedicated person to Akwesasne projects, he was very knowledgeable on what were Akwesasne needs especially when it came to our Technical Service Needs. If INAC had money and needed a shovel ready project Akwesasne was ready and Jay was there with project in hand to bring the project to the forefront for



# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

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INAC to seriously consider and fund. Jay was greatly respected within INAC as many of the staff there knew Jay for his determination and knowledge of the Akwesasne needs. Jay was a hard working, determined, and dedicated employee of MCA and was truly concerned with Akwesasne. It truly was a pleasure to have known and worked with and along-side Jay over the years. He will truly be missed by the organization and the many partners who have established a relationship with us. Thank You Jay and May You Rest in Peace. P.S. say Hi to Danny for us.'

- Timothy Dooley Thompson, former Grand Chief and current Kana:takon District Chief

I am very upset to hear of Jay's passing. He was such a wonderful person. We worked on many building projects together since we first met over twenty-five years ago. Jay generously gave us a chance as unknown architects at the time to start working with the Akwesasne community. He was always thoughtful, kind and fun to be with. He was also a great leader who inspired us all to go beyond what we thought we could do. I thoroughly enjoyed working with him and will miss him greatly.

-Stephen Rotman Architecte sénior, associé

'I remember Jay for his commitment to the community of Akwesasne and the leadership he demonstrated through many of the infrastructure improvement projects that DTS has completed. He was a mentor to myself and other engineers from Akwesasne, who was always willing to lend support to their developing careers. I was fortunate to receive a scholarship, having been nominated by Jay, from the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation to support my undergraduate degree and the start of my career in Civil Engineering. In addition to the technical knowledge gained I was able to learn from the team of professionals that

were around him who worked together to provide continuous support in the construction and maintenance of the community's infrastructure and facilities. When I learned of Jay's passing, I was filled with sadness for his family's loss, and also hope for the future knowing what he was able to create during his lifetime.'

- Beynan Ransom, M.S., M.S.E., E.I.T., former DTS Intern



'I had the privilege of working with Jay Benedict for over 30 years - from a time in the late 1980's when Akwesasne's infrastructure either did not exist or was on the verge of breaking down. Jay was young, committed to serving and ensuring the development of the community infrastructure required to ensure the health & safety of community members. He was a key member of management and of Council's negotiation teams: always thoroughly prepared, he brought knowledge, passion, logic & consistency to the negotiation table. He always had an eye on the future & on the next project ensuring that: feasibility studies & designs were ready to go the moment funding became avail-

# DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

## IN MEMORIAM: JAY "TEONIETATHE" BENEDICT

able; that designs reflected actual current and future growth needs & current standards; that MCA developed the inhouse professional & technical expertise necessary to manage each project & to hold both funders & external contractors accountable to Council; that all contracts awarded required the inclusion of Akwesasne contractors and consultants; & that strong relationships were developed with professional partners. From the perspective of Canada and the provinces these concepts were ground breaking in the 1980's and 1990's when most First Nation infrastructure projects were managed by the federal & provincial bureaucracies reflecting standards that were twenty to thirty years old. It is a direct reflection of Jay & the DTS team he lead on behalf of the Council & the community, that the hard work that began in the late 1980's to the present has become an integral part of the landscape of

Akwesasne today - modern water & sewage treatment plants, elders facilities, daycare and recreation centres, health facilities, roads, safe schools & office facilities to name a few.'

– Denise Collins, former MCA Comptroller

Mr. Benedict served on the OFNTSC Board of Directors and Executive Committee for over 20 years starting in 1996. OFNTSC will greatly miss Jay and his immense knowledge; we thank him for his numerous contributions to the governance and growth of the organization over the past 25 years. Our sincerest condolences are being shared with the Benedict family during this time of mourning. Please keep them in your thoughts as we go through this difficult time.

– Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation Board of Directors and Staff



# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## POLICE WEEK—#AKWESASNEPOLICEWEEK2020

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) and Community Partners celebrated Police Week from May 10-16, 2020.

Police Week is an annual event that focuses on raising awareness on the work of police services in Canada and the United States.

This year Police Week was dedicated to all First Responders in the community of Akwesasne. Each year police proudly select a theme to highlight and celebrate the important roles of our local First Responders.

Nia:wen to all that make such a difference in Akwesasne!

The theme for 2020 was "Leading the Way to Safer Communities."

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police and community partners hosted a number of social media challenges to ensure that social and physical distancing was being practiced for the events.

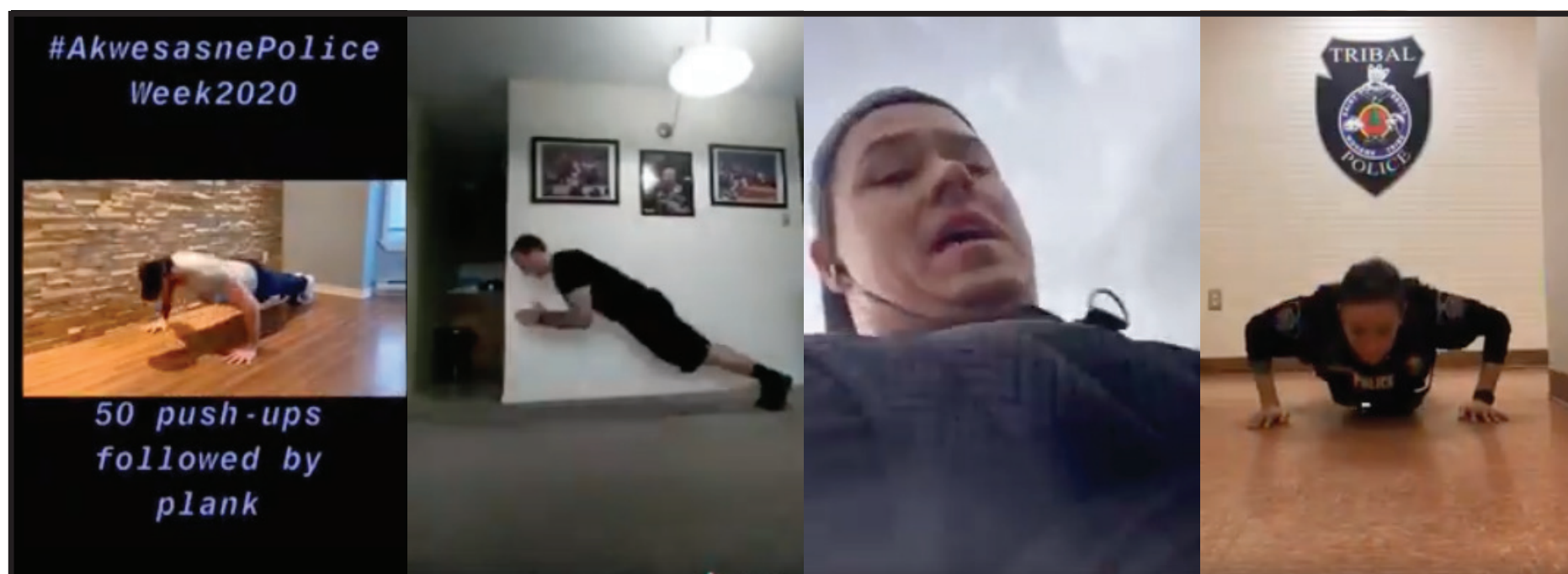
A facebook event page was created to highlight each challenge during police week and all photos that were submitted had the hashtag:  
#AkwesasnePoliceWeek2020

Akwesasne Child and Family Services hosted a Window Art/Lawn Signage Contest during Police Week 2020. This was to show appreciation by window painting and /or decorating yard signage for front-line workers and those deemed essential.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police would like to thank the following programs for participating in Police Week 2020:

- Akwesasne Child and Family Services
- St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Police
- Akwesasne Wholistic Health and Wellness Program, and Iakwa'shatste Youth Fitness.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for additional information on Police Week 2020 and to keep up-to-date with the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service.



AMPS/STMTDPD Fitness Challenge 2020. See the video on the AMPS Facebook page.

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## POLICE WEEK—#AKWESASNEPOLICEWEEK2020



Residents of Iakhihsotha Lodge created a TikTok video to “Bad boys” for #AkwesasnePoliceWeek. Check out the AMPS Instagram page and see what the staff did at Iakhihsotha Lodge in support of Police Week 2020.

During #AkwesasnePoliceWeek2020, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police, along with the Akwesasne Child and Family Services, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Police Department, Iakwa’shatse Youth Fitness and Wholistic Health and Wellness held a Window Art / Yard Sign Decorating to show support for all essential workers in Akwesasne!

There was lots of beautiful artwork, inspiring messages and love going to all our essential workers.

Nia:wen to Jade and Dee Cook for allowing us to use their awesome window painting for the flyer and a big niawehnko:wa goes out to all that submitted their art!



Submitted by Leona Barnes



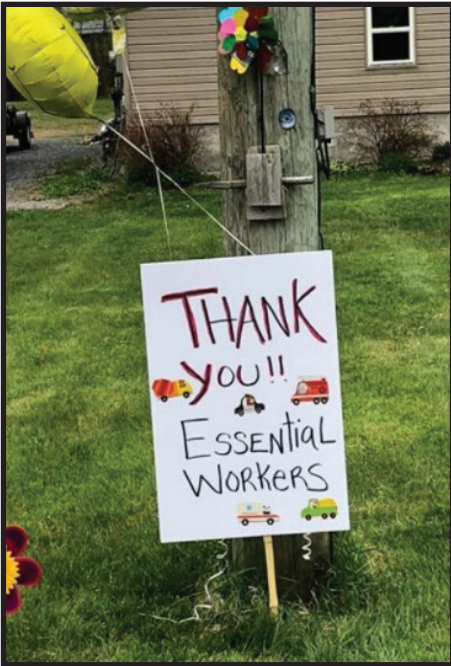
Submitted by Carolyn Francis

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## POLICE WEEK—#AKWESASNEPOLICEWEEK2020



Submitted by: Aadeeya Katherine Lazore



Submitted by: Lori White



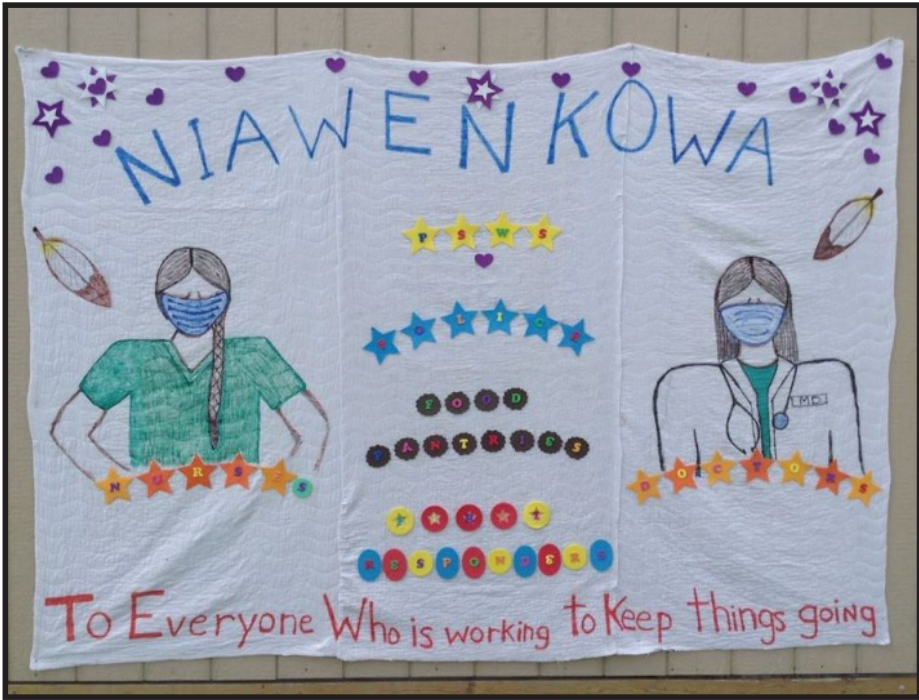
Submitted by: Melissa Jock



Submitted by Kawisahawi Lazore.

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## POLICE WEEK—#AKWESASNEPOLICEWEEK2020



Submitted by Rhonda Gray.



Submitted by Javan Cook.



Submitted by Gina Kawi Jacobs.



Submitted by Katrina Lynn.



Submitted by Iakhihsotha Lodge.



Submitted by Andrea Cook Comins.

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## POLICE WEEK—#AKWESASNEPOLICEWEEK2020



Submitted by Victoria Ransom.



Submitted by Coree Phillips.



Submitted by Iakhihsotha Lodge.

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF OF POLICE SHAWN DULUDE

The current situation involving the COVID-19 Pandemic requires us to work together to protect everyone’s safety. Our Police leaders, frontline personnel and civilian members are working around the clock to support community efforts and keep all members of our community safe.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police are committed to working with other first respondent partners, medical & social services, government and health authorities to keep all Akwesasronon, AMPS members and their families safe.

The women and men of the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service will continue to provide public safety services to the community and support the efforts of Federal, Provincial, and local health authorities during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

We would like to thank the community for their noticeable efforts in curbing the spread of the virus.

Please continue to follow the appropriate measures to advance community health and safety.

These health and safety measures are working!

Nia:wen.

## LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS HONORING FRONTLINE HEALTH WORKERS

On April 27, local first responders travelled to various locations in Akwesasne to show their support to our frontline health workers on both sides of the community.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, Hogansburg Akwesasne Vol Fire Department, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, and the Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance activated their lights and sirens across the community — the convoy began at HAVFD Station #1 and made stops at Iakhihsohtha Lodge, Kanonhkwa’tsheri:io Health Facility, Tsiionkwanonhso:te Longterm Care Facility, CIA #3, Akwesasne Housing Authority and SRMT Health Services before ending at the Ionkwakiohk-waróron Administration Building.

Niawenhko:wa to those working hard to keep us safe!



First Responders from both sides of the community travelled to various locations in Akwesasne to show support to frontline health workers.

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## APRIL 2020 STATISTICS

### March Total: 345

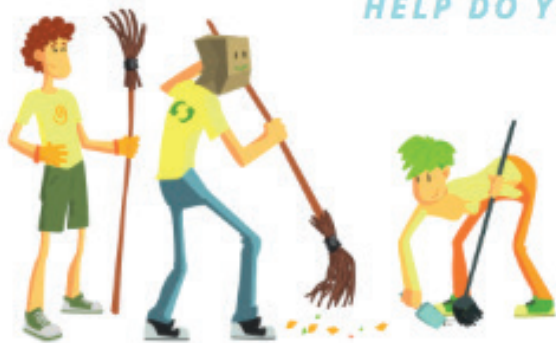
1 024 Break & Enter-Residence  
 1 027 Theft-Automobiles  
 1 030 Theft-Other Motor Vehicles  
 1 035 Theft Over \$5,000  
 2 040 Theft Under \$5,000  
 3 045 Frauds  
 2 061 Bail Violations  
 1 072 Mischief (Prop. Damage) Under \$5,000  
 1 080 Cocaine-Trafficking  
 2 084 Other Drugs-Trafficking  
 6 100 Immigration Act  
 6 1001 Alarms  
 4 1003 Assist Other Agencies-Ambulance  
 4 1003 Assist Other Agencies-Cornwall PS  
 21 1003 Assist Other Agencies-Other  
 3 1003 Assist Other Agencies-Tribal PD  
 37 1004 Assist Public  
 1 1006 Document Service  
 6 1008 By-Law:Dogs  
 1 1009 By-Law:Noise  
 1 101 Firearms Act  
 1 1010 By-Law: Parking Occurences  
 11 1011 By-Law: Other  
 1 1012 Civil Disputes  
 47 1013 Community Services  
 55 1014 Crime Prevention  
 3 1016 Domestic Dispute (Non-violent)  
 5 1023 Judge's Order (Court)  
 1 1023 MVC-Non-Reportable  
 2 1025 Property-Seized  
 3 1029 Suspicious Persons  
 18 1030 Suspicious Vehicles  
 12 1031 Suspicious Circumstances  
 1 1032 Sudden Death  
 2 1035 Warrant-Committal  
 7 1036 Warrant-Bench/First  
 1 1040 Traffic Complaint

2 1041 Mental Health Act  
 2 1046 Crisis Intervention  
 2 1048 MVC Prevention  
 3 1050 Youth Complaint  
 3 1056 Hazardous Conditions  
 14 106 Provincial Statutes-Other  
 13 1063 Marine Patrol  
 5 107 Municipal By-Laws  
 1 204 Sexual Assault  
 2 205 Assault-Level 1  
 1 209 Discharge Firearm-Intent  
 1 212 Assaults-Other  
 2 6666 Assist Other Departments-Fire  
 2 705 Dangerous Operation MV  
 2 715 Fail to Stop/Remain (CCC)  
 1 716 Drive MV Prohibited (CCC)  
 1 718 Careless Driving (HTA)  
 3 719 Drive Disqualified/License Suspended  
 6 721 Traffic - Provincial Statutes  
 4 722 Traffic-Municipal By-Laws  
 1 Incident Type Not Listed





HELP DO YOUR PART TO KEEP MOTHER EARTH CLEAN!



## AKWESASNE COMMUNITY CLEANUP

*For Akwesasne residents that clean an area in Akwesasne (your yard, ditches, your Tot's yard, etc.) you will be entered for a chance to win great prizes!*

*Multiple submissions are allowed.*

**DEADLINE EXTENDED: MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020 AT 4 P.M.**

*Please send before and after pictures of area cleaned to: [ashley.tarbell@akwesasne.ca](mailto:ashley.tarbell@akwesasne.ca) or to the Akwesasne Child & Family Services Facebook page.*

**RESIDENTS THAT LIVE IN THE SOUTHERN/U.S. PORTION OF AKWESASNE WILL HAVE TO DISPOSE OF THEIR OWN GARBAGE OR CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMUNITY ROADSIDE CLEANUP 2020 ON JUNE 13 FROM 7 A.M-1 P.M.**

### **NORTHERN AKWESASNE TRASH PICK-UP DAYS:**

**TSI SNAIHNE | THURSDAY**

**KAWEHNO:KE | FRIDAY**

**KANA:TAKON | SATURDAY**

**RECYCLING | TUESDAYS FOR ALL DISTRICTS**

Please practice social distancing and properly wash hands (at least 20 seconds frequently) when cleaning yards.  
We recommend that everyone wear gloves.

Please use caution when cleaning. Be careful of oncoming traffic on roads.

If you identify a hypodermic needle or 2-liter soda bottle filled with a white substance, please do not remove or touch it and contact:

Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service at 613-575-2340

Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police at 518-358-9200



**ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ENTERED TO WIN:  
FRUIT TREES, GIFT CARDS, A GARDENING COMPOSTER AND MORE!**



**THIS EVENT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE MCA GREEN TEAM AND AKWESASNE CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES**