

# ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 Issue 9

FREE

Seskehkó:wa/September 2020

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## IAKHIHSONTHA HOSTS WOODSTOCK THEMED EVENT FOR RESIDENTS



*Iakhihsohtha Home for the Elderly hosted a Woodstock-themed event for the residents. Read more about this event and other activities the staff at Iakhihsohtha have been up to in this issue of Onkwe'ta:ke.*

## UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

### September General Meeting

A Zoom General Meeting will be held on September 24, 2020 at 6 p.m.

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

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



# MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2018-2021

## **Grand Chief**

Abram Benedict

## **Kana:takon District**

Chief 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 Infrastructure &  
Housing

Joyce King  
Director,  
Akwasasne Justice Department

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

Keith Leclaire  
Director,  
Department of Health

Donna Lahache  
Director,  
Ahkwasasne Mohawk Board  
of Education

Shawn Dulude  
Chief of Police,  
Akwasasne Mohawk Police  
Service

Kylee Tarbell  
A/Director,  
Tehotiennawakon

# WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS

She:kon/Wat'kwanonhwera:ton,

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

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

## FIVE THINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS &  
IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- 1** The MCA has amended the Curfew Law and expanded the travel radius to 160 km/100 miles. Just because the radius has expanded does not mean you should let down your guard. To read more about the expanded radius, see page 3.
- 2** You are now able to travel beyond the 160 km/100 mile radius limitation if you are travelling for essential reasons. To find out if your appointment or event is considered essential, you can read more on page 5.
- 3** When boaters are on the Snye Channel, you may see newly placed "No Wake Zones" at various residences and places of business. This means that when you are travelling through the area, you need to slow down, and not create any wakes/waves that could cause damage to the shoreline. We appreciate everyone's effort to protect our community's water and land.
- 4** The MCA Department of Health continues to provide COVID-19 testing to community members and provides information on the calls. Due to privacy and confidentiality, the results of tests will not be shared without prior consent.
- 5** Taking care of your mental health is always important, but even more so during a pandemic! If you need to make an appointment, you can contact 613-575-2341 ext. 3115. Read more on page 26 to see if the service you need is available.

# NEWS

## MCA EXPANDS TRAVEL RADIUS TO 160 KM/100 MILES

On August 24, 2020, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne amended the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law to expand the travel radius from 80 km/50 miles to 160 km/100 miles, excluding the city of Montreal. Only essential travel is permitted to Montreal due to their continued volume of COVID-19 cases.

Anyone travelling outside the newly expanded radius, or to Montreal, for any non-essential purpose is required to self-quarantine for 14 days upon their arrival or return to Akwesasne.

It is important for community members to continue practicing social distancing and prevention measures such as hand-washing, mask-wearing, and avoiding large crowds, whether travel is essential or non-essential.

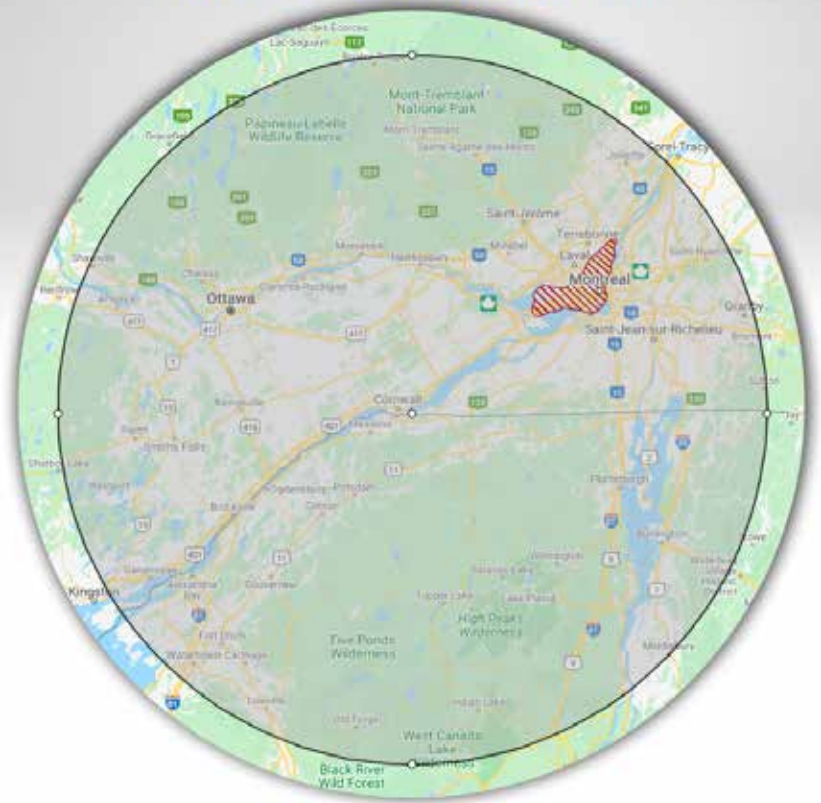
Council has implemented the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law for the safety of the community and will continue to review and update the law when deemed appropriate or safe to do so.

We are all in this together; let's continue to keep Akwesasne safe.

View the notice and map on our website at: <http://www.akwesasne.ca/mca-expands-travel-radius-to-160-km-100-miles/>

[akwesasne.ca/mca-expands-travel-radius-to-160-km-100-miles/](http://www.akwesasne.ca/mca-expands-travel-radius-to-160-km-100-miles/)

## MCA EXPANDS TRAVEL RADIUS TO 160 KM/100 MILES EXCLUDING THE CITY OF MONTREAL



# COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATES



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

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



# NEWS

## MCA & TRIBE CONTINUE TO COLLABORATE ON COVID-19

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe wish to inform the community that collaboration on COVID-19 matters continues to take place between our two governments on an almost daily basis.

Even though our specific regulations and restrictions aren't always exactly the same, we continue to support one another in our combined effort to keep Akwesasne safe from the spread of COVID-19. We want the

community to understand that there are various factors at play, such as differences in the cultures of the US and Canada; different federal, state,

**MCA AND SRMT  
LEADERSHIP ARE  
DETERMINED TO MAKE  
THE BEST DECISIONS  
FOR THE COMMUNITY.**

and provincial legislation and policies that may impact portions of our

community; and different funding sources. All of these factors have a bearing on the decisions made by our respective governments, and their timing as well.

MCA and SRMT leadership are determined to make the best decisions for the community. We appreciate the community's understanding while we work together to keep COVID-19 at bay. Please know that your cooperation is what makes it all possible.

## RELOCATION OF MCA CHIEFS AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT STAFF

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is reminding the community on how to reach the Grand Chief and District Chiefs as they have transitioned into a new office location.

The Mohawk Government Office is now located on the lower level of the Admin. #1 Building. Government support staff is currently available to assist with any communication to the chiefs, as well as to share contact information for them.

A full listing of Council's cell phone numbers and emails can also be found on the MCA Website at: [www.akwesasne.ca/contact-chiefs/](http://www.akwesasne.ca/contact-chiefs/).

For more information, or to set up a telephone appointment with a Council member, please contact through email at [mohawkgovernment@akwesasne.ca](mailto:mohawkgovernment@akwesasne.ca) or by calling the Mohawk Government Office 613-575-2250 ext. 2160.



# NEWS

## MCA AMENDS EMERGENCY CURFEW LAW FOR ESSENTIAL TRAVEL

Please be advised that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne amended the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law on August 10, 2020 in order to allow essential travel beyond the 160 km/100-mile radius limitation. Non-essential travel is still restricted in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Akwesasne community.

The Mohawk Council Resolution amendment to the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law states:

"Persons travelling to the Territory from any location that is beyond a radius of 160 kilometers or 100 miles, for all non-essential purposes, who have no symptoms of COVID-19, shall self-quarantine for not less than 14 days. During the period of self-quarantine, all persons shall monitor for symptoms and shall remain at home. Persons required to self-quarantine who need assistance to do so, shall contact the MCA."

Some of the travel purposes consid-

ered essential may be:

- Providing service that is essential to the health, safety, security, or economic well-being of the Mohawks of Akwesasne and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne;
- Meeting health (immediate medical care), safety, and security needs;
- Attending schooling;
- Tending to a sick family member who has no one else to help them; and
- Any other activity that is deemed "non-optional" or "non-discretionary" by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

MCA defines "optional" or "discretionary" travel as coming to Akwesasne for the purposes of tourism, recreation, or entertainment, among others. Some examples of travel that is considered non-essential include:

- Visiting family for a vacation
- Visiting a secondary home, even for the purposes of upkeep and maintenance
- Attending the funeral of a family

member

- Leisure shopping

The health and safety of the Akwesasne community are of the utmost importance. Should you travel for essential purposes, diligence in taking precautionary measures such as mask-wearing, hand-washing, and maintaining a 2-metre (6-foot) distance from others is still necessary. Keep in mind that most local cases of COVID-19 resulted from travel outside the community.

The community curfew of 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. remains in effect. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to rapidly change, Council will continue to monitor and amend the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law as necessary.

Thank you for doing your part to keep us all safe; we are all in this together. More information from MCA regarding COVID-19 can be located on our website: [www.akwesasne.ca](http://www.akwesasne.ca).

### EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER

☎ 613-575-5005

☎ 613-575-2331

☎ 613-551-1836

✉ EOC@AKWESASNE.CA



# NEWS

## WHAT IS ESSENTIAL TRAVEL?

### What is essential (medical) travel?

Travel required to conduct tasks associated with you or your family's health care.

### What is considered an essential (medical) appointment?

A scheduled appointment to your family physician or specialist who are providing tests, blood work, critical day surgery, chemotherapy, dialysis, etc. and that meets your health care requirements.

### What is MCA's travel radius restriction?

MCA's current travel radius is 160 km/100 miles.

### What if i need to go beyond the radius for essential (medical) travel?

Should you have absolutely no choice but to travel beyond the radius of 160 km or 100 miles, you should:

- Pack a lunch, drinks and snacks;
- Pack your medications and medi-

cal equipment;

- Fill your gas tank prior to leaving the Territory of Akwesasne;
- Travel to and from your essential medical appointment ONLY;
- Do NOT stop anywhere along your travel route (e.g. food, shopping, etc.)

Please utilize your better judgment and please put you and your family's health and safety FIRST!

## MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO KAHNAWÀ:KE

It is with a heavy heart that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has learned of the passing of Grand Chief Joseph Norton from our sister community of Kahnawà:ke. Joseph Norton peacefully entered into the spirit world surrounded by his family and loved ones on August 14, 2020.

Joseph Norton was first elected into office in 1978. In 1982, at the age of 32, he became Grand Chief for the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and remained in this honoured position until he retired from office in 2004. In 2015, Joseph served as the Grand Chief once again, and was re-elected in 2018.

Throughout his years on Council, Grand Chief Norton regularly collaborated with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne on various issues that affect both our communities.

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Grand Chief Abram Benedict noted, "The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

has lost an incredible leader in Grand Chief Norton, and Akwesasne is saddened by the loss. We will miss working with Joe and value all the knowledge he brought to the table.

Our thoughts are with Kahnawà:ke, and especially with his family and friends during this difficult time."



(Pictured left to right) Mohawk Council of Kanesatake Grand Chief Serge Simon, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Grand Chief Abram Benedict; The late Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke Grand Chief Joseph Norton.



## DO'S AND DON'TS OF TRAVELING



THE MCA HAS EXPANDED THE TRAVEL RADIUS FOR AKWESASNE, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN YOU SHOULD LET DOWN YOUR GUARD!

**REMEMBER: STAYING HOME IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO REDUCE YOUR RISK OF EXPOSURE TO COVID-19.**

### DO'S

**DO** WASH YOUR HANDS OR USE HAND SANITIZER OFTEN AND ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU TOUCH YOUR MASK, OR WHEN YOU ARRIVE OR DEPART FROM A STORE OR MEDICAL APPOINTMENT



**DO** LIMIT NONESSENTIAL TRIPS AND IF POSSIBLE, HELP OUT THE ELDERLY AND VULNERABLE TO GATHER ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES, SUCH AS GROCERIES OR MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS.

**DO** WEAR A MASK THAT FULLY COVERS YOUR NOSE, MOUTH & CHIN. MAKE SURE YOUR MASK IS SNUG ON THE SIDE OF THE FACE MASK AND SECURED WITH TIES OR EAR LOOPS



**DO** DISINFECT CART AND BASKET HANDLES BEFORE AND AFTER USE.

**DO** ENJOY NATURE, WHILE TAKING SAFETY PRECAUTIONS. STAYING ACTIVE CAN HELP REDUCE STRESS AND PROMOTE HEALTH.



### DON'TS

**DON'T** TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF THE 100 MILE/160 KILOMETRE RADIUS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE THAT YOUR LOCATION IS OUTSIDE THE RADIUS, CHECK THE AKWESASNE.CA WEBSITE OR MCA FACEBOOK PAGE TO SEE THE UPDATED MAP.



**DON'T** FORGET TO SOCIAL DISTANCE AND TO STAY AT LEAST 6 FEET AWAY FROM OTHERS.



**DON'T** LET YOUR NOSE, MOUTH OR CHIN BE EXPOSED WHEN WEARING YOUR MASK. **DON'T** LET YOUR MASK REST ON YOUR NECK.



**DON'T** TOUCH YOUR FACE. IF IT HAPPENS, WASH YOUR HANDS IMMEDIATELY!



**DON'T** SHARE YOUR GERMS! IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL, STAY HOME!



# NEWS

## MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER

I recently joined the MCA HR team as the Interim Health & Safety Officer on June 15th, 2020. I've been very busy getting familiarized with the Health & Safety Officer (HSO) position.

I have been working on conducting initial facility walk throughs, studying the First Aid Cabinets, AED's, WSB's & the Building Fire Safety Plans. I have been assigned to work with the Emergency Measures Office (EMO) at the Emergency Operations Center since July 27, 2020. While working with the EMO, we collaboratively worked with the Communications Unit and produced a series of short 'Return to Work' safety videos, "Niawen kowa to Scott Peters, EMO & the MCA Communications staff Ashely & Waheson for your assistance & dedication in ensuring that the videos were completed in a timely manner." They are now available on the MCA Intranet for the employees to review.

I followed the video project up with a H & S short survey sent to the Directors, Managers, & Supervisors, whereby an excellent response rate of 94% of the participants returning the survey was reached. I am also concentrating on the organizational training requirements of the employees. I am researching the training needs and how to get training here, due to the pandemic. The pandemic has required the organization to adjust as we are very limited in bringing training here for health & safety reasons. Due to the MCA face to face meeting limitations currently in place, I am working to adjust classroom trainings and see what we can work towards for the fall.

I am working to get the building Workplace Health & Safety Committees (WHSC) and the Workplace Health & Safety Policy Committee (WHSPC) running, to the WHSC's currently in place and that did not stop functioning, "Congratulations and continue with the good

job you are all doing." The short Management survey has assisted me in identifying employees who are currently sitting on their building H & S Committees, I will be reaching out to you all over the next few weeks.

I would also like to send out "Congratulations to three employees of the organization who have volunteered to become a part of the Workplace Health & Safety Policy Committee. I am so proud of all the employees of MCA who have taken an insert in joining the committees. I will close with saying, "Please continue to remain vigilant with your individual & family safety practices and taking the COVID-19 Pandemic seriously, continue to stay safe by practising proper workplace and home sanitization, hand washing, and social distancing, we will all get through this together."

Niawenhko:wa, Cheryl Jacobs



*Cheryl Jacobs is currently acting as the Interim Health and Safety Officer to ensure the safety of community members and staff of the MCA.*



# NEWS

## MCA DELIVERS “NO WAKE ZONE” SIGNS TO AKWESASRONON ALONG SNYE CHANNEL

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne recently delivered “No Wake Zone” signs to businesses and households located on the Snye Channel.

We would like to say nia:wen to the businesses and residents for putting these signs up as a reminder to those on the water.

The safety of our community is a top priority. We want to ensure that everyone can enjoy the river (boaters, swimmers, kayakers, etc.) so please be mindful of that when transiting through the No Wake Zone.

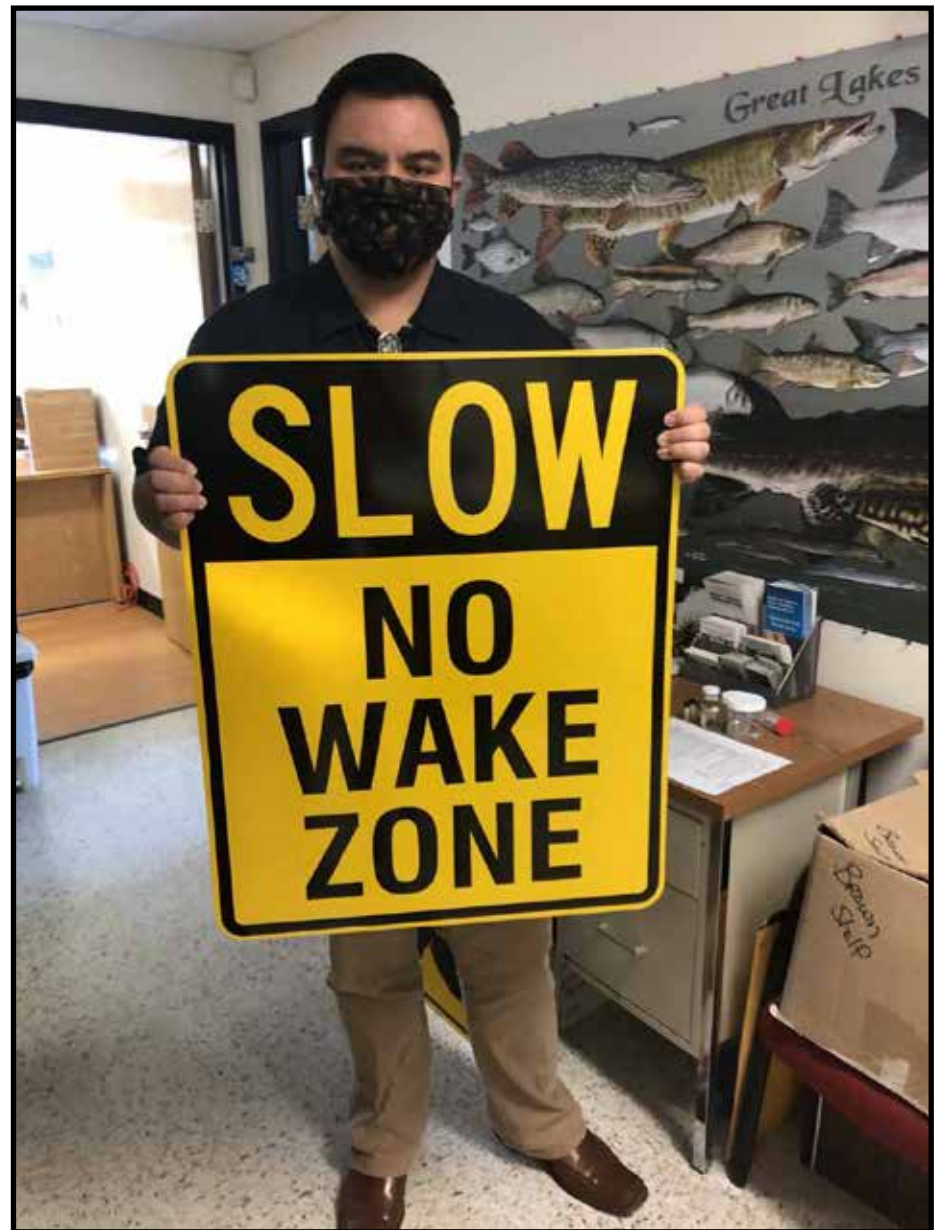
View the No Wake Zone By-law and other information regarding Akwesasne’s waterways at: <http://www.akwesasne.ca/akwesasne-waterways-guide/>



Community members received the signs to place along their property.



The “No Wake Zone” signs are clearly visible from the waterways. If you see a sign, be sure to slow down!



The staff at the MCA would like to thank the residents and community members for putting these signs up as a reminder to boaters.

# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - "WE WILL GOVERN"

## ENTEWATATHÁ:WI SELF GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

The main purpose of Entewatatha:wi is to establish a system of Governance that is designed by Akwesasronon and that is reflective of the uniqueness of Akwesasne. This is an innovative nation to nation relationship with Mohawks of Akwesasne and Canada. The Self Government Agreement is based on updating and bringing previous agreements into one and presenting opportunities for future discussions and opportunity.

Entewatatha:wi process is about the establishment of Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Practices and Institutions. This system of governance shows; due process, fairness, equity, openness, and accountability to the community. All of these attributes are built in to the Entewatathá:wi Self-government system.

**Entewatatha:wi has two goals:**

- 1. To understand and redefine Mohawks of Akwesasne governance and jurisdiction; and
- 2. To review all sections of the Indian Act, how it affects our community and to keep those sections that benefit Akwesasronon.

This Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement (ESGA) document will be a legal document redefining Akwesasne’s governance and jurisdiction. The agreement with twenty-eight (28) Chapters address many subject areas, which are currently in Negotiations.

The Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement will ensure that Canada upholds its obligations to Akwesasne and its people by ensuring;

- The language does not reduce or water down Akwesasne rights;
- That important provisions are included and will be legislated by Canada’s Parliament after being ratified by Akwesasronon,
- The protection against taxation and seizure, as well continued fiduciary responsibilities of Federal Government.
- The Akwesasne negotiators have identified and presented these rights.

Once negotiations are completed, the Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement, a legal document will be translated to a plain language for a clear understanding. The plain language Summary of Chapters will be for information purposes providing a short briefing on the various subjects. The plain language documents will be for information purposes and should not be used for legal purposes. Currently, we are exploring various channels for delivery of this information.

For information on Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement contact Peter Garrow, 613.575.2341 ext. 3194.

# ENTEWATATHA:WA SELF GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

613-575-2341 EXT. 3194





# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



### JULY 27, 2020

- Representatives from the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office (ARRO) provided Council with a presentation on the current status of the Seaway Claim and the proposed changes to the return land sketch.
- MCA legal counsel provided an overview of a recent decision of the Akwesasne Review Commission; Council agreed that Grand Chief and Portfolio will meet with the commission.
- Representations from the MCA Staff Relations Committee provided Council with a presentation of proposed amendments to the MCA General Personnel Policy (GPP), for future consideration.
- A briefing was provided to Council on a proposed property purchase; further follow up will be done.
- Council agreed that due to the upcoming holiday, no Council Meeting will be held the week of August 3rd.
- A concern regarding fall 2020 plans for Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) schools reopening was discussed and will be followed up by administration.
- Council reviewed and acknowledged the MCA/CBSA Border Collaboration Initiative Work Plan.
- An overview was provided on

MCA Boards, Commissions, and Committees; Council agreed to set up a specific meeting to review.

- Council discussed the impact of Akwesasne's recent withdrawal from the Assembly of First Nations to the Chiefs of Ontario and the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador. Council will discuss this further at a future meeting.
- MCRs passed: Approval of assignment of leases on Hamilton Island; Approval to amend proposed draft seaway agreement land sketch; Approval to award contract for reconstruction of Wade Lafrance Road to Lazore's Construction; Approval to implement Ontario Medical Association arbitration award; Approval of (5) Council Meeting Minutes.

### AUGUST 10, 2020

- The Akwesasne Waterways Chiefs Committee provided Council with an update on the 'No Wake' signs that have recently been posted on various Akwesasne shorelines and their plan to order a variety of more signage and educational brochures for distribution.
- A briefing was provided to Council on a recent waterway incident involving 2 vessels in the Snye channel; administration will follow-up with AMPS.
- Chiefs involved with the CBSA Domestic Lane Working Group provided Council with an update on the proposed upcoming pilot project.
- Council discussed the potential to host District Meetings using the Zoom video conference platform; it was decided that District Meeting would not be held until next year. An announcement will be prepared to include contact information for the District Chiefs and new e-mails for district related matters will be established.

*continued on page 14*

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT

- MCRs passed: Approval of COVID-19 Federal Emergency Funding for Akwesasne Family Wellness Program; Approval for Program Manager of Iethinishten:ha Family Wellness Program Authorized to Issue Occupancy Licenses; Approval of Contract for Mohawks of Akwesasne Wetland Project Phase 2 Project; Approval of Contribution Agreement Amendment for the Akwesasne Community Justice Diversion Program-Victim Support; Approval of Agreement for Capacity Building Funding for the Akwesasne Community Justice Program; Approval of 2020-2025 Lease Agreement for Proxim Pharmacy; Approval of Amendment to ISC Funding Agreement for Education; Approval of Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law Amendment; Approval of Tsiionkwanonhso:te Roof Replacement Project Funding Application to ISC; Approval of Allotment of Land on Cornwall Island; Approval of Allotment of Land in Chenail Range; Approval of Assignment of Lease Whole of Ball Island; Approval of ISC funding for Temporary Pandemic Pay for Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance, Community Health, Iakhihsohtha Home for the Elderly, Home Care & Home Support, Akwesasne Non-Insured Health, and Wholistic Health & Wellness.

STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS  
AKWESASNE



@MCAKWESASNE



MOHAWK COUNCIL  
OF AKWESASNE



@MCAKWESASNE



MOHAWK COUNCIL  
OF AKWESASNE



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES



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

**Month:** April & May 2020

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

**All meetings listed are through "Zoom" technology**

During the month of July Council continued to utilize "Zoom" software for our meetings. Our meetings consisted of Council Special Meeting, COVID Update, Border Update, and a meeting with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Leadership (all held on a weekly basis).

I attended the Emergency Operation Center each Thursday from 9-5pm. Eventually, the EOC was scaled back, and Council moved back to our offices. Council decided to maintain the schedule created for the EOC and attend our office on the same days we worked at the EOC.

The focus for Council was COV-

ID-19. As of June, I began working within my portfolios and existing projects.

### Weekly Meetings:

- The weekly Monday Council Special Meetings resumed to conduct MCA business. Program of-fices were opened at the end of July to the community. Appoint-ments are required to meet with staff.
- Weekly Tuesday Border Update Meetings with CBSA/US Customs/Leadership are held to maintain an update on potential changes. Border remains closed to non-essential travel.
- Weekly Wednesday Council COVID-19 Update Meeting is held to be updated on areas surrounding Akwesasne and discuss issues of concern.
- Thursday is my scheduled day to be in the office. I attend and work from our office on this day. The rest of the week I work from home. Our office is now located at Admin I.
- Weekly Friday Leadership Meeting with SRMT.

Justice Portfolio Meetings resumed this month. We reviewed previ-

ous projects, potential moves and changes to the Department are not yet finalized.

The July General Meeting was held this month, virtually through Zoom. The process went well, information sharing of the work of MCA during this COVID-19 Pandemic was provided, questions presented were answered.

### Work in Progress:

This section will provide the community with other activities, projects and initiatives that are still under development or in progress. It will also serve as an informative update on where items are and what is being advanced for the community.

1. Recreational Cannabis Working Task Group Meetings continue. We meet on July 24th to resume our work. The WTG continues the work to reviewing cannabis business applications.
2. Administration of Justice Working Task Group: Ministries of Justice for Canada, Provinces of Quebec and Ontario along with Akwesasne began discussions to renew the work on the court recognition. Letters are being developed to send to the Ministers to obtain Phase 2 development approval of their provincial departments.

*continued on page 14*

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES

*continued from page 13*

3. Akwesasne Working Task Group began work this month on Water Safety. The WTG was created based on the all the concerns voiced by the community with regards to water safety and the lack of respect. The WTG had begun discussion on potential immediate, medium term and long term solutions. Some items include: No Wake Zone, Social Distancing, and Water Safety material being created. The WTG worked with Tsi Snaihne residents to install signs for the "No Wake Zone" in the Tsi Snaihne (Snye) Channel, a brochure, video, sign development, and enforcement are also being worked on. We have met several times this month since our initial meeting of July 15th and we will continue to meet.

4. Governance Committee has met a few times this month to review process and procedures for the Mohawk Government. The work is to review the process and look to how it can improve.

5. MCA/CBSA Communications Relations Working Table meeting was held twice this month. This table was developed from the MCA/CBSA Border Crossing Collaboration Initiative.

6. MCA/CBSA Leadership Meeting was also held this month to discuss the process of the working tables developed from the MCA/CBSA Border Crossing Collaboration.

### **Collaborative Opportunities:**

1. Assembly of First Nations Quebec & Labrador (AFNQL)
2. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

3. Crown & Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs (CIRNA)

4. Department of Justice

5. Public Safety Canada

6. CBSA

7. Transport Canada

8. Canadian Coast Guard

### **Financial Status/Lobbying Progress**

1. Member of the Finance Committee

2. Member of the Benefits Committee

3. Member of the Governance Committee

4. Member of the Working Task Group on Cannabis

5. Member of AFNQL Ad Hoc Committee – Charter Review

6. Member of the MCA Leadership Committee re: CBSA

## EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER

☎ **613-575-5005**

☎ **613-575-2331**

☎ **613-551-1836**

✉ **EOC@AKWESASNE.CA**



# SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

## FACEBOOK STATS



### Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in August

1. Suspicious Male Arrested in Tsi Snaihne (Snye) Identified (Media Release)
2. MCA Expands Travel Radius to 160 KM/100 Miles (Notice)
3. Veggies & Medicine Giveaway for Elders (Flyer)
4. National Dog Day (Flyer)
5. Sweat Lodge Teachings (Flyer)

### Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in August

1. Suspicious Male Arrested in Tsi Snaihne (Snye) Identified — 16,558 reached
2. MCA Expands Travel Radius to 160 KM/100 Miles — 7,113 reached
3. Akwesasne Waterways Guide — 5,753 reached
4. CKON Community Update with Grand Chief (August 11, 2020) — 5,496 reached
5. Mohawk Council Information Session on Community Policing — 4,257 reached

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## TWITTER STATS

### Top Tweet in August



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## YOUTUBE STATS



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

1. Dept. of Health Update - August 2020
2. AMBE Parent Meeting - August 19, 2020
3. MCA Announces Expanded Radius with Caution Advised

# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Help find the 5 differences between the two fall pictures.



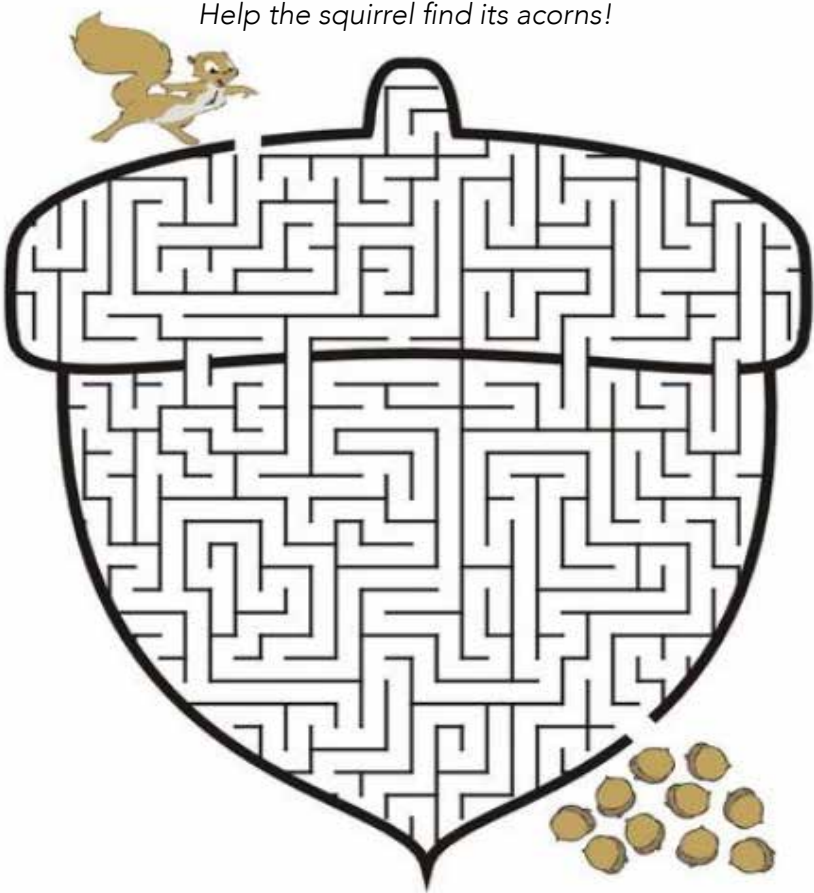
1. Missing leaf near boy's hand. 2. Girl in middle has different color pants. 3. Girl in middle hair is slightly longer. 4. Girl on right has leaf missing near her head. 5. Girl on right has one extra stripe on her scarf.

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL SCRAMBLE

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| IRCAH _____      | RRAMEK _____  |
| FGAL _____       | KACKBAP _____ |
| BKOENOTO _____   | ROSSICS _____ |
| CDLNARAE _____   | CKALH _____   |
| REEARS _____     | CATEEHR _____ |
| LSARTPE _____    | MSOACPS _____ |
| KSED _____       | ENDUSTT _____ |
| OASOCBEK _____   | GLEBO _____   |
| EGLU _____       | NIBDRE _____  |
| CRTOLUALCA _____ | APPRE _____   |

## SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

Help the squirrel find its acorns!





# CHILDREN'S PAGE

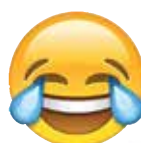
COLOUR ME!



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

What does your computer do for lunch?  
Take a byte!

Why do math books always look so sad? They are full of problems!



Why did the kid bring a ladder to school?  
To go to high school!

What did the paper say to the pen?  
Write on!

# EXECUTIVE SERVICES

## COMPLIMENTS & APPRECIATIONS

Shekon Parents/Guardians,  
On behalf of AMBE, we would like to thank all of you who participated in the school surveys that we conducted in early August. Your input and voice has been heard and has had a direct impact on the planning for the upcoming school year.

Cheryl Jacobs would like to thank Scott Peters and the Communications Unit for their assistance on the "Return to Work Safely" videos.

On behalf of the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS), we are proud see the community come together to help restore the lacrosse box at the Recreation Center in Kana:takon.

Unfortunately, there are still many hazards that need to be addressed before we can safely utilize the box for activities.

Niawenhko:wa for your assistance and understanding!

Nia:wen to all of the volunteers and community members that cleaned up the Point for children and families to enjoy! It is greatly appreciated.



The Wholistic Health and Wellness Program is extending a niawen to everyone that participated in National Dog Day and made a submission (Photos from the Justice Akwesasne Pet Wellness Day in 2019).



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## MCA MEDICAL CLINICS: WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's medical clinics are pleased to continue providing treatment and care to patients on a daily basis. Anyone in need of medical care is encouraged to phone either the Akwesasne Medical Clinic (AMC) or Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic (KMC).

The clinics have been utilizing telephone appointments and in-person appointments when deemed appropriate. Coming soon, medical appointments will be available through virtual (video) visits.

We wish to give thanks/niawenhko:wa to our medical staff, nurse practitioners, and doctors who have been committed to providing continuous care throughout the

pandemic.

We thank our clients for their continued patience and trust in our services.

As a gentle reminder, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne requires adherence to the "Respect in the Workplace" policy to ensure respectful and professional behavior between all staff, providers, and community members.

For more information, please visit: [www.akwesasne.ca/policies/respect-in-the-work-place-policy/](http://www.akwesasne.ca/policies/respect-in-the-work-place-policy/)

- Katelyn Fedorak, NP

### Specialists:

- Dr. Saylor – Pediatrician
- Dr. Levac – Internist

### Bloodwork:

Bloodwork is available each Wednesday at both the AMC & KMC by appointment.

**For information and to book an appointment, please call:**

- Akwesasne Medical Clinic: 613-575-2341 ext. 3215
- Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic: 613-932-5808

Please contact one of the clinics for an appointment.

For medical emergencies: Please attend your nearest emergency department.



## MEDICAL CLINIC INFORMATION



The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's medical clinics are pleased to continue providing treatment and care to patients on a daily basis.

Anyone in need of medical care is encouraged to phone either the Akwesasne Medical Clinic (AMC) or the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic (KMC).

### Family Medicine Providers:

- Dr. Horn
- Dr. Torres
- Janet Brant, NP
- Katelyn Fedorak, NP

### Bloodwork:

Bloodwork is available each Wednesday at both the AMC & KMC by appointment.

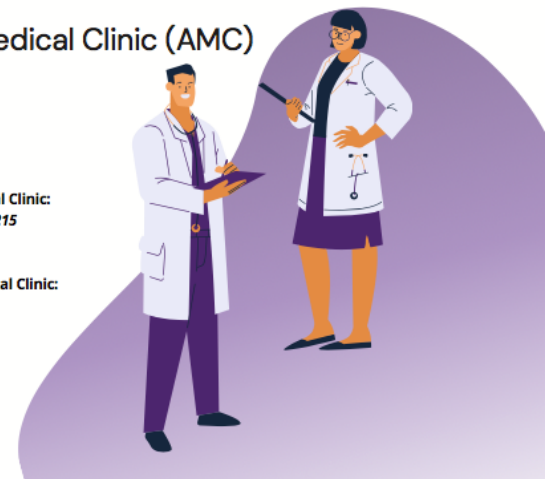
### Specialists:

- Dr. Saylor – Pediatrician
- Dr. Levac – Internist



Akwesasne Medical Clinic:  
613-575-2341 ext. 3215

Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic:  
613-932-5808



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## MCA COVID-19 TESTING NUMBERS & PROCEDURES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne continues to provide COVID-19 testing to community members. If you are seeking information on testing or in regard to COVID-19, please call the Community Health Program at (613) 575-2341 ext. 3220 and ask to speak to a nurse.

As of August 23, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne: Community Health Program has received a total of 2122 COVID-19 related phone calls and has administered a total of 517 tests.

Due to the volume of calls, you may be asked to leave your number for one of the nurses to return your call. There may be a wait time for a return call when call volume is high. Your patience is appreciated as your call is very important to our staff.

When the nurse returns your call, they will assist with any questions that people may have or will provide an assessment. At times the assessment process can take up to half an hour.

If testing is indicated or requested, the staff will assist

with scheduling or referring to the appropriate location; this may be due to the availability of the next appointment, or convenience for community members. As every situation is unique and every community member is unique, the process may be different with every call. When results come into the Community Health Program, the community member will be phoned directly and followed up with as needed. Results may take up to 3 days excluding the weekends and holidays.

Privacy and confidentiality are of the utmost importance. Your information will not be shared with anyone without prior consent.

Due to the small size of MCA's jurisdiction, positive cases will not be reported by MCA's health services specifically. The Eastern Ontario Health Unit reports numbers for a broad region that includes Akwesasne in order to protect privacy.

View the release at: <http://www.akwesasne.ca/mca-covid-19-testing-numbers-procedures/>

### MCA COVID-19 TESTING (NUMBERS & PROCEDURES)

Dates	Total Calls	Total Tests
March 13, 2020 - May 31, 2020	671	40
June 1, 2020 - June 30, 2020	288	64
July 1, 2020 - July 31, 2020	872	339
August 1, 2020 - August 9, 2020	119	22
August 10, 2020 - August 16, 2020	79	26
August 17, 2020 - August 23, 2020	93	26
Grand Total	2122	517



*MCA Community Health Numbers for Assessment/Testing Site as of August 9, 2020.*

If you are seeking information on testing or in regard to COVID-19, please call the Community Health Program & ask to speak to a nurse: 613-575-2341 ext. 3220



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## HOW TO SAFELY WEAR YOUR MASK

Please remember that you should always put on a mask with clean hands and you should always avoid touching it when wearing it.

### When wearing a mask, you want to make sure that:

- your nose, mouth and chin are fully covered;
- the mask is snug on the side of your face; and
- the mask is secured with ties or ear loops.



### Please be reminded that the should NOT:

- be loose-fitting with gaps on the side;
- should not be resting on your neck; and
- your nose, mouth and chin should never be exposed!

When removing your mask, please follow these steps to ensure that you protect yourself.

- Wash your hands with soap and water before removing the mask (and EVERY time you touch your mask).
- Remove your mask by the ear loops or ties. Pull away from your face.
- Put your mask somewhere it is isolated until it can be washed.
- NEVER microwave your mask to disinfect it. It could cause a fire!
- Wash your hands with soap and water again after removing your mask (and ALWAYS make sure you are wearing a clean mask with each use).

### Never wear your mask like the two people below:



## WHOLISTIC HEALTH & WELLNESS

# ON-SITE SERVICES AVAILABLE

Access to the Akwesasne Medical Clinic, Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic, Mental Health, and Addictions services are open to the community by appointment only.

To schedule your appointment, please call Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io at:

## 613-575-2341



### Reminders from WHW:

- Prevention Services consists of virtual programming at this time.
- Traditional Medicine is providing services via telephone (medicine deliveries can be arranged for existing clients).
- Physiotherapy & Traditional Medicine healing sessions are on hold.

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## HEALTHY TIPS FOR A HEALTHY PREGNANCY

The months before the birth of your baby are very special. Regular visits to your healthcare provider are important for your health and your baby's health.

It is also important to know about the programs and services in the community that are also helpful to pregnant women.

Due to COVID-19, we are taking the necessary precautions to ensure the health and safety of our clients.

We are still offering services for prenatal and postpartum care either by telephone or virtual visit. No office/home visits will be done until further notice.

Food vouchers are still available through curbside pickup or prearranged delivery.

### Healthy Tips for Healthy Pregnancy:

- Keep your body strong. Exercise and stay active.
- Have a good mind. Think positively.
- Rest when needed.
- Early and regular prenatal visit.

- Food is medicine. Healthy food choices will help your baby grow strong. Making healthy choices during your pregnancy can help protect you and your baby.

### Healthy Pregnancy = Healthy Generations

### Are you expecting?

### The MCA Community Health Program offers the following services just for you:

- Individual sessions to learn "what to expect" and tips for having a healthy pregnancy.
- Individual sessions to prepare for giving birth.
- Breastfeeding education sessions.
- Healthy eating ideas from a Registered Dietitian.
- Access to the Healthy Arrivals Program which provides prenatal food vouchers to help you access healthy foods.

For more information or to make an appointment, please call the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.

## SAY YES TO SAFER, RESPONSIBLE SEX

Did you know that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Community Health Program offers safer sex supplies?

During this time of COVID-19, your sexual health and wellness is still important. Always remember to practice safer sex.

You can receive FREE safer sex supplies through the curbside pickup.

Some of the supplies that are available include:

- Condoms (Classic, Extra Large, Female, Flavored, Glow-in-the-dark & Latex-free)
- Dental Dams
- Lubricant



Remember to always check the expiration dates on condoms or other products before use.

To receive products, please call the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 and ask to speak to a nurse.



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## UPDATE ON TSIIONKWANONHISO:TE VISITS

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Tsiionkwanonhso:te established visitation guidelines in order for the families of residents to enjoy visits with their loved one. These guidelines were set up in order to protect the health and safety of our residents, as well as staff, visitors, and the community. We understand that the limited visitation has been difficult for all, but we appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is pleased to inform the families that the request for photos of the outdoor visits has begun. Consent for photos are obtained on an individual basis and usually provided by the Power of Attorney (POA).

Please be reminded that those wishing to visit residents of Tsiionkwanonhso:te **MUST** call beforehand to establish an appointment. You will **NOT** be able to see your loved one if you have not made an appointment for a visit. If you are not able to reach a staff member when you call, please leave your name, a message and phone number and the Activity Department will return your call to schedule your visit and to provide you with instructions that you must follow during your visit.

Please be reminded that any individuals who visit Tsiionkwanonhso:te for an outdoor visit will be **REQUIRED** to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times during the visit. We also understand that some visitors may want to bring gifts for their loved ones; however, if you wish to do so, you must leave any gifts or items for residents in a patio box located at the front doors. Staff will then be able to bring the items in for disinfecting and delivery to the resident after 24 hours. Outside visitors are not required to be tested for COVID-19 prior to the visit.

We also recognize that families are anxious to begin indoor visits; however, at this time, only "essential visitors" are permitted. Those who are considered an "essential visitor" is defined as a service provider, such as food delivery, inspector, maintenance (Bell, Satellite) or health care services (phlebotomy). They must follow and adhere to strict protocols to keep everyone safe. They will need to receive training and will also be required at all times to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). An "essential visitor" must also complete an active screening when arriving to the facility.

Essential Caregiver is defined as an individual (who are not staff) who provide care services to one resident and supports the individual resident with their activities of daily living (ADL's) such as bathing, mealtimes and behaviors. The Indoor visits for Essential Caregivers will be implemented next month.

As the pandemic continues, we are confident that those who wish to visit their family member will continue to follow safety guidelines in order to keep themselves, and their loved ones safe and healthy. We wish to assure the community that restrictions are in place for the protection of your family members, our residents, who we all care deeply for. We look forward to your visit.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Tsiionkwanonhso:te Activity Director Teresa David: 613-932-1409 ext. 3.

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## UPDATE ON IAKHIHSOHTHA VISITS

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Iakhihsohta established visitation guidelines in order for the families of residents to enjoy visits with their loved one. These guidelines were set up in order to protect the health and safety of our residents, as well as staff, visitors and the community. We understand that the limited visitation has been difficult for all, but we appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is pleased to inform the families that the request for photos of the outdoor visits has begun. Consent for photos are obtained on an individual basis and usually provided by the Power of Attorney (POA).

Please be reminded that those wishing to visit residents of Iakhihsohta **MUST** call beforehand to establish an appointment. You will **NOT** be able to see your loved one if you have not made an appointment for a visit. If you are not able to reach a staff member when you call, please leave your name, a message and phone number and the Activity Department will return your call to schedule your visit and to provide you with instructions that you must follow during your visit.

Please be reminded that any individuals who visit Iakhihsohta for

an outdoor visit will be **REQUIRED** to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times during the visit. We also understand that some visitors may want to bring gifts for their loved ones; however, if you wish to do so, you must leave any gifts or items for residents in a patio box located at the front doors. Staff will then be able to bring the items in for disinfecting and delivery to the resident after 24 hours. Outside visitors are not required to be tested for COVID-19 prior to the visit.

We also recognize that families are anxious to begin indoor visits; however, at this time, only "essential visitors" are permitted. Those who are considered an "essential visitor" is defined as a service provider, such as food delivery, inspector, maintenance (Bell, Satellite) or health care services (phlebotomy). They must follow and adhere to strict protocols to keep everyone safe. They will need to receive training and will also be required at all times to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). An "essential visitor" must also complete an active screening when arriving to the facility.

Essential Caregiver is defined as an individual (who are not staff) who provide care services to one resident and supports the individual

resident who their activities of daily living (ADL's) such as bathing, meal-times and behaviors. At time these visits will take place Monday to Thursday and must also be booked in advance and these visitors are required to do screening and must attest to having had a negative COVID-19 test within the past two weeks.

As the pandemic continues, we are confident that those who wish to visit their family member will continue to follow safety guidelines in order to keep themselves, and their loved ones safe and healthy. We wish to assure the community that restrictions are in place for the protection of your family members, our residents, who we all care deeply for. We look forward to your visit.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Iakhihsohta Activity Supervisor Sue Smoke: 613-575-2507 ext. 3.



*Visitor tent for outside visits.*



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## IAKHIHSOHTHA KEEPING MORALE UP WITH RESIDENTS DURING COVID-19

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the staff at Iakhihsohta—Home for the Elderly have kept the morale high, kept our elders safe and continued providing fun activities for the residents to enjoy.

Although it was extremely difficult when families were unable to visit their loved ones, the staff at Iakhihsohta helped organize video chats so that individuals could see their family members. When outside visits were once again available and residents could see their families safely, staff were as accommodating as possible so that there could be some amount of normalcy in the visits—although there are restrictions in order to protect the elders, who are vulnerable.

Staff have made sure that they shared many pictures of the activities and events that took place so that family members could see their loved ones. It brightened so many people's days to be able to see the

smiling Totas happily enjoying their full costume. day.

Some of the events and activities that the staff have held, include:

- Birthday parties for residents
- Inside activities for rainy days (Indoor Tennis),
- Utilizing the outside deck to play hangman.
- Fun TikTok videos that made everyone smile.
- A resident favorite—bingo!
- A fun Beach Party Event.
- Beauty Makeovers.
- Pajama Bingo Night.
- Cinco De Mayo Party.
- Being greeted by First Responders.
- An Alice In Wonderland Party.
- Easter Party
- St. Patrick Days Fun
- And so much more!

Most recently, the staff hosted a Woodstock themed event which was decorated amazingly with many of the residents and staff in

We appreciate how much the staff has gone above and beyond with their outfits and activities to make sure the elders have a special day.

Every day, but especially during the pandemic, we want to keep everyone safe. It was and is extremely important to know that the residents at Iakhihsohta who are the holders of our language, our culture and our community are protected and being well taken care of. Nia:wen to all of the staff that have and continue to make sure that our elders remain safe and happy at Iakhihsohta.



*The staff and residents were having fun and dancing away at the Woodstock Event.*



*The staff all dress in full costume for many of the events or activities that they host. Nia:wen for going above and beyond to make our elders happy!*

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## THE TEKANIKONRAHWA:KON PROGRAM

The Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program (Bringing our minds together as one) was developed to assist individuals and/or families in the community to reach their highest level of wholistic health. The program assists the community in finding a source to help with medical, physical, spiritual and/or mental health issues. The emphasis of the program is to take a cultural approach that also incorporates western healing methods. Individuals should contact the Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program if you:

- Find yourself feeling overwhelmed by feelings of anger or despair and you cannot enjoy life anymore.
- Cannot “get over” the loss of someone you loved very much.
- Have anxiety, are stressed, depression, trouble sleeping, nervousness, repetitive thoughts, impaired functions, trouble at work or home
- Experiencing troublesome relations with family and friends
- Family and/or friends have told you that your drinking/drug use is too much.
- You are feeling suicidal.
- You are feeling disconnected or empty.
- You are experiencing physical problems that doctors have no answers to.

Although the Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program is now open, due to the

ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there is limited access to the public. The community’s patience and cooperation is greatly appreciated during these trying times, and we ask that everyone remains considerate and adheres to the MCA Respect in the Workplace Policy as well as guidelines from the E.O.C. The Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program wants to provide you with the upmost care by keeping community members and staff safe and healthy.

The Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program is offering appointments via telephone or virtually through video. The telehealth platform our service providers are using is called Doxy.me. This platform is very user friendly. It is comparable to a Facetime call the difference is this is a secure platform. Doxy.me meets the security and privacy requirements to ensure that sessions remain confidential. If you are have poor transmission, no access to Wifi or are not able to ensure your privacy, tele-mental health may not be right for you. However, the Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program is also allowing in person appointments for clients who are properly triaged and assessed to be in an emergent need or special circumstance.

Please be advised that virtual visits are limited, and if you are experiencing

distress, please contact a medical professional or attend the nearest emergency room.

If you feel that Doxy.me is convenient for you please speak with your provider and here is helpful tips for making a virtual call:

- Log in about 5-10 minutes earlier to ensure call is connected
- Informed consent will be explained and verbal permission to continue with the understanding that therapy is voluntary.
- The usual exceptions to privacy apply.
- Risks and consequences associated with using video or telephone conferencing.
- No recording will be made of online sessions by either party.
- To ensure confidentiality, please find a private space with minimal distractions.
- Sessions will be 45 to 55 minutes in duration.
- Client understands the responsibility of providing the required and working technology.
- Emergency contact person is named and the number is given.

### MEET THE MENTAL HEALTH STAFF

**MELISSA JACOBS-SWAMP, MS, RSW, NBCC**

Melissa Jacobs-Swamp is a registered Social Worker with the Ontario



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## THE TEKANIKONRAHWA:KON PROGRAM

io College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, as well as the Ordre des travailleurs sociaux et des thérapeutes conjugaux et familiaux du Québec. She is in the process of applying for additional licensure within Québec. She is a graduate of SUNY Plattsburgh, where she received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees. She was a member of the 2011 graduating class for the Master of Science in Mental Health Community Counseling. She has worked with MCA for over 16 years in various roles throughout the organization. Starting in January 2018, she began working with the Wholistic Health and Wellness

Mental Health Program. Given her background working with elders at the MCA Home Care & Home Support, she has special Interests in geriatric counseling and legal matters, such as: capacity, ethics, and caregiver supports. Since working with Wholistic Health and Wellness, she has expanded her work to include: trauma, grief recovery, anxiety, and depression. She also works collaboratively with contract health providers for psychology, and psychiatry. Another part of her professional duties include community outreach, which she enjoys and finds to be an important part of her work.

Melissa is currently working out of the main office at the Kanonkwatsheri:io Health Facility from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. She can be reached by phone at 613-575-2341 ext. 3115.

### **WENNIETANORON OAKES M.ED., R.P., C.C.P.A.**

Wennietanoron Oakes is a registered Psychotherapist in Ontario and licensed with the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association in Ontario. She has been practicing for 5 years and currently works at Wholistic Health and Wellness Mental Health Program since September 2019. She is in the process of applying for additional licen-

### **MELISSA JACOBS-SWAMP, MS, RSW, NBCC**

- **Melissa began working in the Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program in January 2018.**
- **She has over 16 years working within MCA organization.**
- **Provides counseling for trauma, grief recovery, anxiety and depression.**
- **Has special interests to assist with geriatric counseling and legal matters, such as: capacity, ethics and caregiver supports.**



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## THE TEKANIKONRAHWA:KON PROGRAM

sure within Quebec. She is a graduate of University of Ottawa, where she received both her graduate degrees in education and Counseling psychology. She has worked for MCA more specifically the AMBE program for 19 years in various roles from teacher assistant, immersion teacher, specialist teacher, and lastly a school counselor. She has contributed by teaching the Kanienkeha language in the Skahwatsira program for 11 of those years. Her background includes working with youth, teens and families, and most recently, helping elders and adults with their mental health needs. Another part of her professional du-

ties include community outreach, which she enjoys and finds to be an important part of her work whether it be locally or in surrounding areas. She is currently working with the "Embrace Project", and the Youth Wellness Hub in Cornwall. Wennietanoron's passion is working with youth and teens and she shared that approximately 1 in 5 children and youth in Ontario have a mental health challenge. It is also estimated that about 70% of mental health challenges have their onset in childhood. Children and youth show their problems in different areas of their lives and in a variety of ways. For example, a child or adolescent

who functions well at home may face challenges in another setting, such as in the classroom or with peers that may negatively impact their mental health. Some young people may show signs of anxiety or depression, while others may exhibit aggression ([www.cmha.ca](http://www.cmha.ca)). Other interests include grief, loss, anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, schizophrenia are among the many areas she works with.

Wennietanoron is currently working from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. She can be reached by phone at 613-575-2341 ext. 3110.



### WENNIETANORON OAKES, M.ED, RP, CCPA

- Wennietanoron began working in the Tekanikonrahwa:kon Program in September 2019.
- She has over 19 years working within MCA organization, specifically in the AMBE Program.
- Provides counseling for youth, teens, elders and adults to enrich their mental health.
- Has special interests to assist with grief, loss, anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, oppositional defiant disorder and schizophrenia.



# DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MOVES TO PEACE TREE TRADE CENTER

The Economic Development is now located at the Peace Tree Trade Center 167 International Road Unit #3 in between Hummingbird and Root and Remedy. ( We currently do not have a sign).

To reach a staff member, you can contact them by calling 613-575-2341 and asking for the following extensions:

- Kylee Tarbell, Director of Economic Development—ext 1800.
- Tesha Rourke, Program Support Officer—ext 1802.

- Mark Martin ,Economic Development Compliance Officer—ext 1805
- Jessica Shenandoah, Thompson Island Coordinator—ext 1801

If you are looking to register your business, renew your business, get more information on training assistance, or getting information on small business grants, please email [tesha.rourke@akwesasne.ca](mailto:tesha.rourke@akwesasne.ca)

Currently, Economic Development is utilizing curbside pick up/drop off

for applications or they will email the application to the client.

When doing curbside pick up, please ring the door bell as well as wear a mask and one of us will come outside and hand you the application.

If you are looking to talk to someone please call for an appointment, one will be appointed to you. Please wear a mask. The program support officer will ask you screening questions before heading into your appointment.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HAS NOW  
MOVED TO THE PEACE TREE TRADE CENTER  
ON KAWEHNO:KE BETWEEN  
HUMMINGBIRD AND ROOT AND REMEDY.**



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## ACFS FAMILY FOCUS KEEPS FAMILIES STAYING SAFE AND HAVING FUN

The always smiling staff of the Akwesasne Child and Family Services have been tapping into their creative sides, while hosting virtual activities for Akwesasronon since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. All of the events that have been held are family-friendly, along with being fun, safe and unique. During these somewhat frustrating and trying times, the staff have been trying to create events that involve everyone in the family and that will have Akwesasronon get up, get out and to focus on something fun!

The team in the ACFS Community Support is small, but mighty. Marcey Thompson, Keisha Mitchell and Dorian Benedict make up the team. They all clearly have a deep love for Akwesasne and the people who reside there. Marcey Thompson, Community Support Worker, noted that when they first started creating activities in April, "our aim was to keep the community busy

during the pandemic and to encourage family time together while having fun. We didn't want families to get frustrated with each other but to work together."

One of the ways that they could help was to find things that people or families could do in the community or at home, all while ensuring they remained safe. They wanted to keep COVID-19 in mind, but also wanted to make sure that prizes were family-based or could help pay bills to alleviate the stress of the families.

There have been many events held, and staff have been pleased at the amount of community members that have been participating. From dancing to lip synching; exercise competitions to scavenger hunts; radio bingo to random giveaways; ACFS has done it all! And they are looking to the community for more activities that they would be interested in.



ACFS and the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club teamed up to create a mobile unit of fun that visited random families in Akwesasne. At each location, they played games with the family and created arts and crafts.



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## ACFS FAMILY FOCUS KEEPS FAMILIES STAYING SAFE AND HAVING FUN

Keisha Mitchell, who also works as a Community Support Worker, noted that they are “always looking at more ideas for future activities to be held. Any suggestions are appreciated. Although we can’t guarantee that we can do it, we love hearing the community ideas and will try to do our best to carry them out.”

The team at ACFS wanted to thank all of the partnerships that made the events possible. Nia:wen to Norm King from AMPS, Reen and Kawi at CKON, Annie Cree

from lakwa’shatste, the Wholistic Health and Wellness Program, the MCA Green Team, Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance, lakhihsohtha, Tsiionkwanonhso:te and to the community...without you we wouldn’t be here!

Nia:wen to the dedicated at ACFS and those who have been putting in so much effort to ensure that Akwesasronon are staying happy and healthy. We appreciate the enthusiasm, the creativity and your desire to help the community.



The lucky winners on National Give Something Away Day.



Staff gave Akwesasronon free diapers and wipes on a first-come, first serve basis.



ACFS and ABGC hosted a family friendly Scavenger Hunt in Akwesasne.



Some of the participants for the Traditional Themed Cardboard Art Challenge.



A rainbow float could be seen from the river during the PRIDE event that was held.



Family members participating in the Akwesasne Community Clean-up.



# AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

## ACJP HOSTS FIRST VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP FOR YOUTH

The Akwesasne Community Justice Program (ACJP) joined forces with Independent First Nations (IFN) and many local organizations to put on their first virtual youth summer camp!

ACJP has collaborated with many community programs since 2013 to host a summer youth camp called Tsikonhet on Kwawen:na Tsinionkwariho:ten (Revive Our Word and History). The goal of the Youth Camp is to provide the participants with a fun, positive, educational, and cultural experience.



*All classes and activities were held through virtual video conferencing.*

COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 summer camp was also made available to more youth, as the age range was expanded to include those 12-18 years old.

### THE GOAL OF THE YOUTH CAMP IS TO PROVIDE A FUN, POSITIVE, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCE.

Throughout the month of August, the ACJP hosted many activities, from moon/sweat lodges and medicine workshops to hiking tips and traditional cooking. "We wanted to provide our youth with cultural teachings and tools to help instill resiliency and self-positivity," said

Erin Seymour, Youth Justice Worker with the Akwesasne Community Justice Program. "Nia:wen to everyone who attended and made these events possible!"

A special shoutout goes to IFN, lakwa'shatste Youth Fitness, MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program, Akwesasne Child & Family Services, Thompson Island, MCA Environment Program, Seven Dancers Coalition, Kahwatsiraién:ton, Aronhiaies Herne and Tracie Cook for their support and involvement.

The Akwesasne Community Justice Program hopes to continue offering virtual workshops for our community members.

If you have any suggestions for future events or questions, please email: [communityjustice@akwesasne.ca](mailto:communityjustice@akwesasne.ca).



*One of the students with a painting they created through virtual summer camp.*

While the camp is normally held on Thompson Island, all events and activities were moved online due to restrictions caused by the global



### 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



# AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

## AKWESASNE REVIEW COMMISSION MEMBER CALLOUT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is currently filling three (3) vacant seats on the Akwesasne Review Commission (ARC). One (1) vacant seat for the district of Kana:takon, with a term of three (3) years; One (1) vacant seat for the district of Kawehno:ke, with a term of three (3) years, and One (1) vacant seat for the district of Tsi Snaihne, with a term of three (3) years.

The Akwesasne Review Commission was established as an independent body to hold every Justice and every member of a Decision-Making Body accountable to the community by enabling their conduct to be examined fairly and impartially pursuant to the Charter. The Akwesasne Review Commission shall have exclusive responsibility to receive, investigate and decide upon a Complaint made in respect of the conduct of every Justice and every member of a Decision-Making Body.

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

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

- a) be a Member;
- b) have attained the age of Thirty-five (35) years of age;
- c) have been resident in the Territory of a First Nation for at least ten (10) years and within the past fifteen (15) years;
- d) have knowledge of Mohawk culture and traditions;
- e) have adequate education and relevant work or life experience, and possess an interest in the settling of disputes;
- f) not be an elected member of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne or the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council;
- g) not also hold the position of Decision-Making Body;
- h) never have been convicted of an offence under the

Akwesasne Banishment Law, the Akwesasne Drug Law, an indictable offence in Canada or a felony in the United States;

i) not have been convicted of an offence under Akwesasne Law or a summary conviction offence in Canada, or a misdemeanor in the United States in the past 5 years;

j) produce to the Akwesasne Justice Department Director, a valid certificate of Canadian Police Information Centre clearance from a conviction database query prior to the appointment; and

k) never have been removed from the Akwesasne Review Commission.

Initial term of appointment is three (3) years.

If interested please contact the Akwesasne Justice Department, Iris LaFrance at (613) 575-5000 ext. 2414.

**DEADLINE: Seskehkó:wa/September 4, 2020 by 4:00 PM**



There are a variety of activities, including: hoop dancing; smoke dancing; kastowa making; girls head dress making; leather pouch making; creating bone chock-

All activities, with the exception of Hoop and Smoke dancing, will be completed virtually through Zoom video-conferencing.

To register, please email [alice.king@ambe.ca](mailto:alice.king@ambe.ca). Deadline to sign up is September 1, 2020.

<p>Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (613) 933-0409 or (613) 575-2250 ext. 1400</p> <p>Ahkwesahsne Mohawk School (613) 932-3366</p>	<p><b>CONTACT US!</b></p> <p>Tsi Snaihne School (613) 575-2291</p> <p>Kana:takon School (613) 575-2323</p>	<p>Iohahi:io (613) 575-2754 or (613) 575-2250 ext. 4100</p>
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# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

## AMBE SCHOOL REOPENING PROTOCOL 2020-2021

The Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education recently held an information session on their back-to-school protocols amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Donna Lahache, the Director of Education for AMBE, tried to answer all questions from parents and guardians of the students.

We know that some parents may have concerns or worries regarding the reopening, but teachers and staff at AMBE are doing everything to keep their teachers, staff, students and families safe.

In case you missed it, you can still view the presenta-

tion and video of the session by going to the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education Facebook Page, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Mohawk Page or by visiting the following link:

<http://www.akwesasne.ca/ambe-school-reopening-protocol-2020-2021/>

This is important information for families to be aware of as AMBE will be asking for a Commitment Form from each student.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's School Principal or the AMBE Administration Office. Nia:wen.



## Ahkwešàhsne Mohawk Board of Education

### School Reopening Protocol 2020-2021

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

# ENVIRONMENT

## OVER 40 FOOD AND MEDICINE PACKAGES DELIVERED TO AKWESASNE ELDERS

The Kaienthóhsera - Akwesasne Garden Initiative staff and students were as busy as bees as they gathered vegetables, medicines and more to provide packages to over 40 elder homes. The students placed in Kaienthóhsera were initially hired with MCA to assist with the garden boxes that were provided to over 300 homes in Akwesasne. After the garden box project was complete, some students were placed under the leadership of Jessica Shenendoah, Coordinator of the Thompson Island Cultural Camp. This is where the idea of creating the Elder Packages came together.

All medicines that were picked by the Kaienthóhsera summer stu-

dents used cultural practices and protocols that they learned while working with Thompson Island staff and external presenters. Aronhiaies Herne, who works in the MCA Traditional Medicine Program, showed the students how to offer tobacco and also shared important words to offer to the plants and medicines that provide us with so much.

**“I DIDN’T GROW UP TRADITIONAL, SO IT WAS GREAT TO LEARN ABOUT OUR CULTURE AND THE TRADITIONAL WAYS OF GROWING FOOD.”**

Jayden Smoke, one of the summer students who worked throughout the summer with the Kaienthóhsera - Akwesasne Garden Initiative noted, “I really liked how the program opened up doors to our culture. I didn’t grow up traditional, so it was great to learn about our culture and the traditional ways of growing food.”

Some of the medicines that were picked included stinging nettle and mullen, which was later made into salves and provided in the Elder packages. Students also made medicine racks in order to store and preserve the medicine they collected. Vicki Horne taught the students how to create rice bags, which con-



*Each Elder Package contained fresh and canned food, along with medicines and more which was for the majority, harvested and created by the summer students of the Kaienthóhsera - Akwesasne Garden Initiative*



# ENVIRONMENT

## OVER 40 FOOD AND MEDICINE PACKAGES DELIVERED TO AKWESASNE ELDERS

tained lavender and mint to help sore muscles.

Students were provided teachings from John Bonaparte of Bare Bones Farms on the various styles of gardening, composting and companion gardening. The Kaienthóhsera - Akwesasne Garden Initiative helped weed the community gardens, and were able to visit Bonesteels farm. The harvest that the students picked were turned into canned corn, dilly beans, apples, tomatoes and more that was provided in the elder packages. A community member, John Lazore, also donated some jars to help make this possible.

Students were also able to learn how to safely set nightlines and how to follow protocols to ethically harvest sturgeon. The sturgeon that they caught and smoked was also included in the elder packages,

along with sweet grass braids that the students not only picked, but also braided.

**“I AM VERY PROUD OF THE STUDENTS... THEY ARE AWESOME TO WORK WITH.”**

The Kaienthóhsera - Akwesasne Garden Initiative was excited to hand deliver the packages to the elder homes on Friday, August 28. The packages contained the students hard work, along with donations of fresh food from Bare Bones Farms, and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Agriculture Program.

Jessica Shenendoah expressed her appreciation of the donations from others and especially to the students that put in the hard work. She noted that she is “very proud of the



John Bonaparte of Bare Bones Farms and Tasha Guatney of the SRMT Agriculture Program donated fresh produce to be included in the Elder Packages. Nia:wen for your generosity!

students. They are really good workers and awesome to work with.”

Niawenhko:wa to all that made the Elder Packages possible, and for making Akwesasne proud!



Students were able to pick and braid sweetgrass, while respecting cultural protocols.

# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING UPDATES

The Department of Infrastructure and Housing presents the following - Current Projects – Update:

### **Wade Lafrance Memorial Road Reconstruction Project:**

The focus on this phase of rehabilitation of approximately 600m of road repair is to alleviate the poor conditions of the worst section of the roadway as a temporary measure. The work will have the existing asphalt material removed and raising the surface approximately 150mm with granular A.

The construction contractor is Lazore's Construction, and the projected project start is planned for the beginning of September 2020.

There will be signs for reduced speeds within the work zone and community compliance with the traffic requirements are appreciated.

### **MCA Administration Building II Demolition Project:**

The Tender process for the demolition of the MCA Administration Building II, in Kana:takon will close on September 1.

Once the Contractor is selected, more information about the construction schedule can be provided. In the meantime, information about the project as well as the question and answer session can be viewed on the MCA website: 'akwesasne.ca'.

It is not too late to send in further questions. You can contact the MCA Department of Infrastructure and Housing by email: [daryl.seymour@akwesasne.ca](mailto:daryl.seymour@akwesasne.ca).

To view the YouTube on the session go to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne YouTube page or the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Facebook Page.

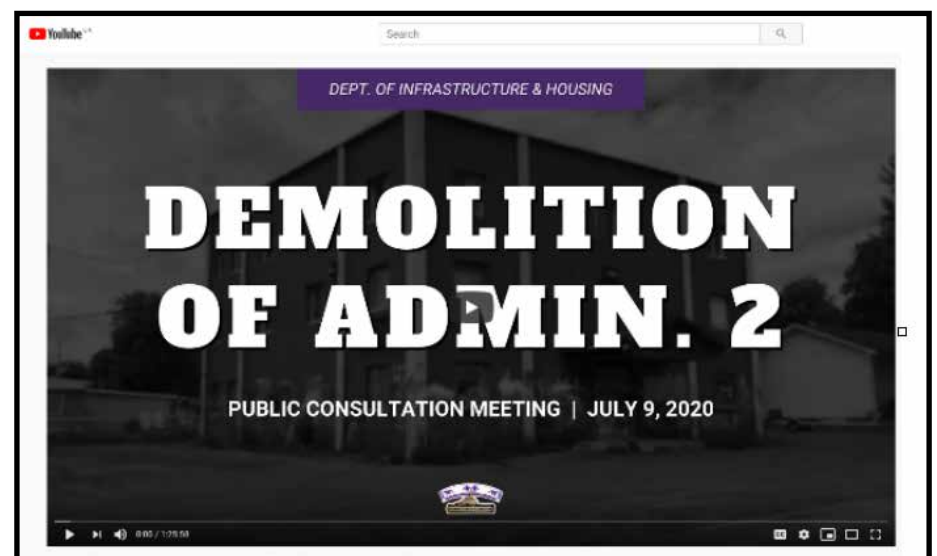
We appreciate the community embracing technology during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to provide the community updates. We know at times it is difficult, but we thought that overall, the presentation was well-received and have many additional comments on the MCA Facebook page link as well.

### **Annual Takeoff Ditch Cleaning – Roads:**

The Department of Technical Services Roads sector is doing the annual ditch cleaning for roads in Tsi Snaihne District. The current focus is on a portion of River Road. This annual task is to mitigate drainage problems due to sedimentation and overgrowth that can potentially cause flooding.

This project will improve storm water drainage to drain road infrastructure. All work is done within the easement guidelines of the road sections.

Should you have questions regarding this project, please contact Kennedy Garrow, Roads Manager, at: 613-938-5476, or call the MCA main switchboard 613-575-2250 and they will direct your call.



*A Public Consultation Meeting was held through ZOOM on July 9, 2020 in order to provide an update to the community on the Demolition of the Administration Building #2.*



# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## SEVEN DANCERS COALITION PROVIDES SELF-CARE PACKAGES FOR AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service would like to thank the staff at the Seven Dancers Coalition. They so graciously provided Self-Care Packages to all of the staff within the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service.

All of the recipients of the packages were very happy to receive them.

Nia:wen to the generosity of the Seven Dancers Coalition and nia:wen to all that the officers and staff do at the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service.



### JULY 2020 STATISTICS

**July Total: 351**

- 1 006 Attempt Murder
- 1 024 Break & Enter - Residence
- 1 038 Theft Under \$5000 - From Motor Vehicle
- 3 040 Theft Under \$5000 - Other
- 2 045 Frauds - Other
- 1 063 Disturb The Peace
- 2 072 Mischief (Prop. Damage) Under \$5000
- 1 073 Criminal Code - Other
- 10 100 Immigration Act
- 10 1001 Alarms
- 3 1002 Alerts
- 13 1003 Assist Other Agencies - Ambulance
- 8 1003 Assist Other Agencies - Cornwall PS
- 1 1003 Assist Other Agencies - OPP
- 10 1003 Assist Other Agencies - Other
- 6 1003 Assist Other Agencies - Tribal PD
- 40 1004 Assist Public
- 7 1006 Document Service
- 3 1008 By-Law - Dogs
- 4 1009 By-Law - Noise
- 4 101 Firearms Act

- 7 1011 By-Law - Other
- 8 1012 Civil Disputes
- 9 1013 Community Services
- 9 1014 Crime Prevention
- 6 1016 Domestic Dispute (Non-violent)
- 5 1018 Escorts - Prisoner
- 1 1023 Judge's Order (Court)
- 1 1026 Property - Lost
- 12 1029 Suspicious Persons
- 11 1030 Suspicious Vehicles
- 32 1031 Suspicious Circumstances
- 1 1035 Warrant - Committal
- 11 1036 Warrant - Bench/First
- 3 1041 Mental Health Act
- 1 1043 Attempt Break & Enter
- 1 1045 Attempt Suicide
- 1 1052 Shooting Complaint
- 3 1056 Hazardous Conditions
- 24 106 Provincial Statutes - Other
- 26 1063 Marine Patrol
- 2 107 Municipal By-Laws
- 5 204 Sexual Assault

- 8 205 Assault - Level 1
- 2 206 Assault Weapon/CBH - Level 2
- 1 208 Bodily Harm
- 1 209 Discharge Firearm - Intent
- 2 6666 Assist Other Departments - Fire
- 8 705 Dangerous Operation MV
- 3 711 Impaired Operation MV
- 4 715 Fail to Stop/Remain (CCC)
- 3 716 Drive MV Prohibited (CCC)
- 1 719 Drive Disqualified/Licence Suspended
- 4 721 Traffic - Provincial Statutes
- 1 726 PD MVC Over \$1000 (Prop. Damage)
- 3 Incident Type Not Listed

Average of 11.32 occurrence reports generated per day by officers.





# RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONICS



Please join the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) in their effort to ensure electronics stay out of landfills, waste streams and water tables.

## COLLECTION DATES

**WHEN | September 11-18, 2020**

**WHERE | AMBE Office on Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island)**  
(located behind Peace Tree)

**TIME | 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily**



For more information, please contact the AMBE Office at 613-933-0409.

## WHAT'S ACCEPTED?



Portable Computers



Portable Computers



Image, Audio & Video  
devices.



Printing, Copying  
& Multifunctional Devices



Desktop Computers



Cell phones & Pagers



Phone & Answering machines



Home theatre