

# ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

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FREE

Kenténha/October 2020

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## MCA PROGRAMS PLANT COMMUNITY ORCHARDS AT THE THREE DISTRICT RECREATIONS



*In September, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, the Wholistic Health & Wellness Program, Thompson Island Cultural Camp staff/summer students, Akwesasne Green Team, and Akwesasne Child & Family Services teamed up for a community orchard giveaway! Staff were able to plant an assortment of fruit trees and bushes across Akwesasne, including the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Centre, Akwesasne Homemakers, Iakhihsohtha Lodge, Kana:takon Recreation Centre, Tsiionkwanonhso:te, and the Onkwe Community Garden. Along with the planting, the group was able to gift additional trees, bushes, and other small prizes to Akwesasronon. Niawenhkó:wa to everyone involved in making this initiative a success and congratulations to the giveaway winners!*

## UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

### October General Meeting

A Zoom General Meeting will be held on October 22, 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

Heather Phillips  
A/Director,  
Department of Infrastructure &  
Housing

Joyce King  
Director,  
Akwasasne Justice Department

Karen Hill  
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,  
Tehotienawakon

# WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS

She:kon/Wat'kwanonhwera:ton,

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

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

## FIVE THINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS &  
IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- 1 The MCA has been continuing to provide General Meetings through Zoom technology—a video conferencing tool that allows viewers to ask questions and engage with others. You can also view the General Meetings the day after a meeting on the MCA YouTube page.
- 2 The MCA and CBSA has been working together on a Border Collaboration Initiative (BCI) to improve the border crossing experience. From this project, an Akwasasne Artist— Joe King— was selected to create a custom design for their national Orange Shirt Day campaign. Read more on page 4.
- 3 It is always better to be proactive, rather than reactive, so MCA has created a household checklist to prepare for a second wave of COVID-19. Read more on page 9.
- 4 The MCA recently removed the community curfew, but please remember that the current COVID-19 guidelines stipulate that the social gatherings limit is 10 indoor, and 25 outside and the travel radius is 100 miles/160 kilometres (excluding montreal). For further details, please see page 10.
- 5 The MCA was excited to announce the completion of a housing 5-plex on Kawehno:ke. For those interested, please contact housing at 613-575-2250 ext. 1053 and read more on page 34.



# NEWS

## SOCIAL GATHERING LIMITS LOWERED (SEPTEMBER 21, 2020)

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is advising the community that the limit for social gatherings has been reduced as a result of rising cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced that private, unmonitored social gathering limits have been reduced to a limit of 10 for indoor gatherings and 25 for outdoor gatherings. The lowered restrictions are province-wide and effective immediately.

The Eastern Ontario Health Unit has officially reduced the social gathering limits in our region in accordance with the provincial ruling; MCA follows the guidelines of the EOHU.

The new restrictions apply to: Functions, parties, dinners, gatherings, BBQs, or wedding receptions held in private residences, backyards, parks, and other recreational areas.

The new restrictions do not apply to: Events or

gatherings held in staffed businesses and facilities (such as bars, restaurants, cinemas, convention centres, banquet halls, gyms, places of worship, recreational sporting, or performing art events). Existing rules, including public health and workplace safety measures for these businesses and facilities, continue to be in effect.

It is vital for the community to continue adhering to recommendations that are in place to protect us all. Ontario's latest statistics (as of September 28) revealed an increase of 554 positive cases of COVID-19 in one day. We cannot let our guards down. Continue to practice all safety precautions, including the wearing of masks, regular hand washing, and maintaining six feet/two metres of distance from others. Limit social gatherings and avoid unnecessary travel.

We can all do our part to keep Akwesasne safe.  
We are all in this together.

## MCA'S CURRENT COVID-19 GUIDELINES

September 30, 2020



**SOCIAL GATHERING LIMIT:**  
10 INDOOR — 25 OUTDOOR



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



**CURFEW:**  
MCA CURFEW IS NOW LIFTED

## CBSA CHOOSES AKWESASNE ARTIST FOR NATIONWIDE ORANGE SHIRT DAY CAMPAIGN

As part of the MCA-CBSA Border Collaboration Initiative (BCI), local Akwesasne artist Joseph King was recently selected by the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to create a custom design for their national Orange Shirt Day campaign.

The new image will be featured on materials available across Canada to honour and remember Indigenous children who died and suffered in residential schools. The "Every Child Matters" and Orange Shirt Day campaign is held annually on September 30.

King, a lifelong artist, embraced the challenge of bringing CBSA's vision to reality.

"I was very excited to be given this opportunity because of the impact I believe it will have on Native culture and government relations," he said.

Encompassing First Nations, Métis and Inuit symbols and bringing the cultures together was at the vision's core.

"Being able to bring someone's idea to life on paper really fuels my talent," said King, who prefers the mediums of digital, ink and lead (pencils). "A lot of brainstorming and researching went into the creation of this artwork."

King said he did his best to represent all nations and uti-

*continued on page 5*





# NEWS

*continued from page 4*

lized the symbol of a helping hand, and a child's hand. He incorporated First Nations imagery, Metis imagery and Inuit and Northwest Territories imagery, for a truly diverse design.

"Working with an Indigenous artist of Mr. King's calibre was truly inspiring," said Nicole Elmy, Director of the Indigenous Affairs Secretariat of the CBSA. "The Orange Shirt Day cooperative art design process, in my mind, was a living example of the CBSA's and Akwesasne Mohawk community's shared commitment to the Border Collaboration Initiative."

The design features a child's hand cradled in that of an adult, surrounded by imagery representing First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultures.

"I hope that people get the message we are trying to send, which is taking care of the next generation (so that) the issues we are dealing with now do not continue to repeat," King said.

This was King's first political project. To view more of his work, find him on social media: Instagram (kingink), Facebook (Joseph King) or email king10ink@yahoo.

com for any inquiries.

The image is now on display at CBSA border crossings in recognition of the September 30th Orange Shirt Day.



*The Orange Shirt Day 2020 graphic was designed by artist Joe King, a member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne First Nation. The image features a child's hand cradled in that of an adult, surrounded by imagery representing First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultures.*

## D & R DISPOSAL REMINDS COMMUNITY TO PRACTICE SAFE & SANITARY GARBAGE DISPOSAL

D & R Disposal would like to remind everyone to please practice safe and sanitary garbage disposal. For the safety of D&R employees, we ask that community members disinfect their garbage bags prior to pick-up, especially anyone that is self-isolated or quarantined.

Again, this is being asked of Akwesasronon to ensure worker safety and continue waste disposal as regularly scheduled. Nia:wen for your understanding.



# NEWS

## AVOID UNNECESSARY TRAVEL AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS



Although the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has increased the travel radius to 100 miles/160 km and social gatherings limit to 50, you should continue to **avoid unnecessary travel and large social gatherings.**



**Remember: the more people and amount of time you spend around others, the greater the risk you have to contract or spread COVID-19.**



If you **MUST** travel or gather with others, be sure to:

- keep a social distance of 6 ft. from others
- wear a mask
- wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds

**Be responsible. Be safe.**



## 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).



# NEWS

## YOUNG JOURNALIST AWARD WINNER DONATES PRIZE TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS IN AKWESASNE

On Saturday, September 19, family of the late Levi Oakes were joined by members of the Akwesasne Freedom School and American Legion Post 1479 to accept an award from a former Standard-Freeholder staffer.

Nick Dunne was employed at the Cornwall Standard-Freeholder during the summer of 2019. As a result of his 13-week contract with the newspaper, Dunne was selected as one of two recipients of the Hon. Edward Goff Penny Memorial Prize for Young Canadian Journalists.

Dunne's portfolio that was submitted for consideration included: a

two-part feature on Mohawk code talkers and the evolution of teaching/learning Kanien'keha; a shorter feature on the smoke dances that preceded every game between the Akwesasne Indians and the Six Nations Rebels during the 2019 Ontario Junior B Lacrosse Association final series; and a feature on the Cornwall Innovation Centre.

**"IT IS IMPORTANT FOR OUR STORIES AND CULTURE TO BE SHARED WITH THOSE AROUND US."**

The young journalist ventured to the Native North American Travelling College (NNATC) on Kawehno:ke to present his award winnings to representatives of the American Legion Post 1479 and the Akwesasne Freedom School; both groups received \$500.

"On behalf of our members and our community, I'd like to congratulate Nick and thank him for his contribution to these organizations," said Dwight Bero of American Legion Post 1479. "It is important for our stories and culture to be shared with those around us."



Nick Dunne donated his prize winnings to the Akwesasne Freedom School and American Legion Post 1479.

# NEWS

## MCA URGES COMMUNITY TO BE PREPARED FOR SECOND WAVE OF COVID-19

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is urging the community to be prepared for the possibility of a second wave of COVID-19. With the knowledge we now have about COVID-19 and living in a pandemic, we can be better prepared.

You can do the following to prepare for a second wave of COVID-19:

- Review what has worked for your family and what issues you have encountered since the onset of the pandemic. We can learn from our past experiences and plan accordingly.
- Gather essential and emergency items. This does not mean panic buying. It means carefully planning what items your household will need in order to limit trips outside the home if a shelter-in-place or quarantine is required during a second wave.
- Make plans now with your family to ensure that your personal errands/matters and appointments can be

managed ahead of a second wave. Renew IDs/licenses/health cards, etc., make your annual dental or doctor appointments, check your prescriptions, take care of banking matters.

- Consider receiving the flu shot, to protect yourself and others from another illness that could complicate a second wave of COVID-19. MCA will be making announcements in the near future regarding their flu shot schedule for this season.
- In the workplace, be sure that emergency and pandemic plans are completed. Also review your past practices and make adjustments with your new knowledge.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Emergency Operations Centre continues to be available to answer your emergency-related questions and to assist you in planning. They can be reached at 613-575-5005, 613-575-2331 or email [eoc@akwesasne.ca](mailto:eoc@akwesasne.ca).

## ARRO NOW LOCATED AT MCA ADMIN. 1 BUILDING

Please be advised that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Aboriginal Rights & Research Office (ARRO) have moved from Mohawk Government Building #2 to the lower level of the MCA Administration Building #1 in Kana:takon.

For more information please contact through email at [arro@akwesasne.ca](mailto:arro@akwesasne.ca) or by calling the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office at 613-575-2250 ext. 2204.

**ABORIGINAL RIGHTS &  
RESEARCH OFFICE  
(ARRO) NOW LOCATED  
AT ADMIN BUILDING #1**

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CONTACT THROUGH  
EMAIL AT [ARRO@AKWESASNE.CA](mailto:arro@akwesasne.ca)  
OR BY CALLING ARRO AT  
613-575-2250 EXT. 2204.





# NEWS

## HOUSEHOLD CHECKLIST

# PREPARING FOR SECOND WAVE

PLAN & MAKE DECISIONS TO PROTECT YOU & YOUR FAMILY

### STAY INFORMED AND IN TOUCH

- Get up-to-date information about local COVID-19 activity from public health officials, such as the MCA or the SRMT.
- Create an ongoing list of locations and people you have come in contact with, in the possibility you are diagnosed with COVID-19.



### MENTALLY & PRACTICALLY PREPARE



- Figure out ways to get in your exercise.
- Consider contacting counselors for mental health through video or telephone (such as through MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness).
- Consider stocking up on necessary medications and sick day essentials. This could include: pain and fever reducers; cough medicines; tissues; tea, popsicles, broth and sports drinks.
- Ensure that you have a 14-day supply of essential food, in the case you have to quarantine. Some suggestions for what to stock up on include: dried or canned goods; frozen foods; dried or freeze-dried foods; pasta and rice; peanut butter and jelly; bread and cereal; shelf-stable milk.

### TAKE EVERYDAY PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS

- Wash hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from other people.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Clean and disinfect regularly.
- Wear a mask properly when you go out in public, which at all times, covers your mouth, nose and chin.



### PREPARE YOUR HOME

- Stock up items related to your health, such as: soap, hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies.
- If you have kids in your home, make sure that you have a 2-week supply of diapers, wipes or formula, as well as children's cold medicine.
- Ensure you have toys, games and puzzles to keep you and your kids busy.
- Although it is understandable to feel anxious, do not panic buy!



# NEWS

## MCA REMOVES COMMUNITY CURFEW

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne reviewed the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law on September 14, 2020 and voted to remove the curfew altogether. The 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew is no longer in effect.

Despite changes to community laws and recommendations, Council is urging the community to continue being mindful of increasing numbers of COVID-19 in Ontario. Continue practicing safety and prevention methods diligently to prevent the disease from spreading and causing devastation in our territory. We cannot afford to let our guards down.

### LIMIT YOUR CHANCES OF EXPOSURE

It is vital for each of us to protect ourselves, our families and our community by limiting our exposure to others and reducing our instances of potential contact with the contagious disease. Being diligent in maintaining six feet of distance from others, wearing a mask in public or crowded areas, and washing hands frequently will help to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Social gatherings should be limited and we urge the community to be mindful of COVID-19 when choosing to attend a social gathering. Social distancing should still be a priority at gatherings of any kind as this can reduce your chance of contracting COVID-19. Many people who are carrying and spreading the disease are unaware they are infected. Young adults are contracting the disease at higher rates than before, and social gatherings could be the cause.

Travel outside the community should be limited and we rely on our community members to be careful and selective when deciding to leave the territory for a non-essential purpose. Be selective and responsible, and don't be afraid to decline invitations you feel will put you at risk of exposure to COVID-19.

We wish to thank the community for their mindfulness and respect for prevention recommendations that have had an impact thus far on keeping our community safe. Niawenhkó:wa. Let the strength and resilience of our ancestors continue to guide us through the pandemic.

We are all in this together.



**“IT IS VITAL FOR EACH OF US TO PROTECT OURSELVES, OUR FAMILIES AND OUR COMMUNITY BY LIMITING OUR EXPOSURE TO OTHERS AND REDUCING OUR INSTANCES OF POTENTIAL CONTACT.”**



# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - "WE WILL GOVERN"

## BACKGROUND AND GOALS OF THE ENTEWATATHÁ:WI PROGRAM

Entewatathá:wi (We Will Govern) is the Kanien'kéha term to describe the process of Self Government. The name was ratified by an Akwesasne Mohawk Council Resolution, moved by Chief Larry King, seconded by Chief William Sunday, dated 26 February 2008 with a vote of 10-0.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Resolution Reads; WHEREAS, the Mohawks of Akwesasne have the existing and inherent right of self-determination, which includes the inherent jurisdiction over their land, peoples and territory;

WHEREAS, the Mohawks of Akwesasne have aboriginal and treaty rights, and other rights and freedoms that are recognized and affirmed in the Constitution of Canada, which includes the inherent right of self-determination and jurisdiction over their lands, peoples, and territory; and

WHEREAS, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne intends to preserve the cultural, political and economic integrity of the Mohawk territory and community of Akwesasne; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive community education phase is being initiated to discuss and explain the progress of Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Jurisdictional Process; and

WHEREAS, a Mohawk Kahienkeha term for the process is favoured by the Government Secretariat Chiefs when presenting information to the community of Akwesasne;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne endorses the Kahienkeha term to describe the process as "Entewatathá:wi which translates to

mean "We Will Govern" and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kahienkeha term "Entewatathá:wi" (We Will Govern) will now be used in reports and updates on the jurisdictional process known as Nation building to the community of Akwesasne.

Since this adaption much process has been made in the development of the jurisdictional process towards self government. The negotiation team has merged past documents into the one working document called Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement. Updates on negotiations continue with the Grand Chief and Council. The negotiations with Entewatathá:wi negotiators and Canada are continuing with the best interest of Akwesasne being at the forefront.

The Self Government Agreement will create the opportunity for a new government to government relation with Mohawks of Akwesasne and Canada. The community through the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne will have the jurisdiction to make decisions over their land, peoples and territory. In addition to having the jurisdiction in the agreement, the fiduciary relationship between Canada and the Mohawks of Akwesasne will continue and shall not be eliminated. This will be part of the agreement. The Self Government Agreement once fully negotiated will be shared and ratified by the community.

For information on Entewatathá:wi contact Peter Garrow at 613.575.2341 ext. 3194.

Entewatathá: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

# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - “WE WILL GOVERN”

## BACKGROUND AND GOALS OF THE ENTEWATATHÁ:WI PROGRAM

community. All of these attributes are built in to the Entewatathá:wi Self-government system.

Entewatathá:wi has two goals:

- a) To understand and redefine Mohawks of Akwesasne governance and jurisdiction; and
- b) To review all sections of the Indian Act, how it effects 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;

- a) The language does not reduce or water

down Akwesasne rights;

- b) That important provisions are included and will be legislated by Canada’s Parliament after being ratified by Akwesasronon,
- c) The protection against taxation and seizure, as well continued fiduciary responsibilities of Federal Government.
- d) 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



### AUGUST 17, 2020

- Representatives from the Ontario Power Generation (OPG) presented to Council on the Indigenous Opportunities Network (ION), their employment strategy, and employment opportunities with OPG.
- Council received a briefing on an ongoing dispute over legal services provided to the Iroquois Caucus; a briefing was also provided on past services provided to the MCA by the same lawyer.
- A briefing was provided on current renovations happening at the Administration Building 1 boardroom to accommodate Council members.
- Council set the agenda for the upcoming General Meeting on August 27, 2020.
- An invitation to tour the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino was discussed and a number of Chiefs accepted the invite.
- Council discussed the upcoming 2020-21 Heating Assistance Program and will consider changes in the coming weeks in order to account for ongoing pandemic impacts.
- A proposed schedule for use of the Administration Building 1

boardroom was discussed and will be revised to accommodate the restrictions.

- **MCRs passed:** Approval of assignment of lease on Thompson Island; Approval to rescind a past MCR due to a lease being declined; Approval of assignment of lease on Hamilton Island; Approval of ISC Emergency Management proposal funding; Approval of (4) housing upgrade loans; Approval of (3) new construction loans; Approval of application to Akwesasne Economic Development Fund for a community business.

### AUGUST 24, 2020

- A request was made for a few members of Council to take Zoom training; this will be coordinated.
- Council discussed a recent breach of lease; further research will be conducted and options will be reported back.
- Information was provided on a proposal to sell property to Council; a full briefing will be provided in the coming weeks.
- Council discussed concerns from community members regarding their Bell services and will be following up with Bell Canada.
- A briefing was provided on a proposal for the Akwesasne Justice Department to assist with the Federal Indian Day School applications; further clarification will be sought.
- Council discussed the impact of potential leases cancellations; a request for a presentation will be sent to the Office of Vital Statistics Manager.
- Information was reported on the mistreatment of a community member by their landlord.
- **MCRs passed:** Approval of lease on Thompson Island; Approval of collective agreement between MCA & APA; Approval of contract award to A2Z Strategy Consulting; Approval of amendment to Canada-Akwesasne funding agreement; Approval of (5) Coun-

*continued on page 14*

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT

cil Meeting minutes; Approval to amend to Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law to expand travel

radius to 160 kms/100 miles; Approval of Issuance of Cannabis Retail License; Approval of Issu-

ance of Cannabis Cultivation License.

### AUGUST 31, 2020

- Council acknowledged that Housing Department arrears collection had been paused at the beginning of the COVID pandemic and collections will resume in the coming weeks.
  - The Chiefs Cannabis Committee provided Council with an update on the ongoing review of applications and solicited feedback from Council.
  - Council agreed that no Council meeting will occur the week of September 7, 2020 due to the
- holiday.

  - An update was provided on the development of a protocol for wakes in the community and potential location options for wakes.
  - Council acknowledged that the gathering of people limitations recommended by the Eastern Ontario Health Unit will be used for the community.
  - An update was provided on proposed changes to the question currently being asked by CBSA to domestic travellers; further
- follow up will be done.

  - Council received a briefing on a proposed land acquisition.
  - **MCRs passed:** Approval of service agreement with Proteus Performance Management; Approval of retainer agreement with Gowlings WLG; Approval of Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative; Approval of purchase agreement with Leeds Transit for 3 new buses; Approval of 5 renovation loans to community members; Approval of ISC Enhanced Housing Allocation.

## STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



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MOHAWK COUNCIL  
OF AKWESASNE



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MOHAWK COUNCIL  
OF AKWESASNE



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES



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

**Month:** August

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

**All meetings listed are through Zoom technology**

Council continued to operate through technology, utilizing "Zoom" software for our meetings. Our meetings consisted of Council meeting, Council COVID Update, Border Update, and a meeting with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Leadership all held on a weekly basis.

I attended the Emergency Operations Centre each Thursday from 9 a.m.-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 the CO-

VID-19, and in June I began working within my portfolios and existing projects.

Weekly Monday Council Meetings resumed to conduct MCA business. Program Offices were opened at the end of July to the community. Appointments are required to meet with staff.

Weekly Tuesday Border Update Meeting 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.

General Meeting for the month of August was held on August 27th, virtually through Zoom. The process went well, information sharing included additional information on COVID-19 and its expenses, pro-

gram updates, the AMBE Resumption Plan was provided, as well as, the Working Task Group on the Akwesasne Waterways initiative provided an updated, questions presented by the community 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. Cannabis meetings continue and we met on August 14th and August 28th to resume our work. The WTG continues the work to reviewing applications.

2. Akwesasne Working Task Group continued to meet and work this month on Water Safety. The Work Task Group (WTG) was created based on the concerns voiced by the community with regards to water safety and the lack of respect. Meetings were held August 4th, 6th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 19th, 27th and 31st. We continued to work to finalize the material for signs, brochures, worked to obtain funding and ordered material. It was our hope to have more information out,

*continued on page 16*

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES

*continued from page 15*

however, the material did not arrive as planned.

3. Justice Portfolio Meeting was postponed. I asked Grand Chief to follow up with Ministers: Blair of Public Safety Canada and Lametti of Justice/Attorney General of Canada on our funding proposals.

4. Governance Committee WTG met this month to continue the review of process and procedures for the Mohawk Government. Meetings were held every Wednesday: 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th. Our work to reviewing documents is ongoing.

5. Assembly of First Nations

Quebec & Labrador Chiefs Assembly was held on August 5th & 6th, 20th, and again August 25th & 27th, virtually. Agenda items included: Bill-61 Quebec Economic Recovery, Work Plans for Elected Women, Housing & Infrastructure, Commission Updates, COVID19 Update, and Action Plan on Racism & Discrimination.

6. MCA/CBSA Community Relations Working Table meeting was held on the 14th of this month. This table was developed from the MCA/CBSA Border Collaboration Initiative.

7. MCA/CBSA Leadership Meeting was also held this month to

discuss the process of the working tables developed from the MCA/CBSA Border Collaboration.

8. Tour of Akwesasne Casino on August 18th. Council was invited to tour the casino to see the health and safety precautions put in place for their eventual opening. I attended this tour in order to see the precautions put in place, it was quite inclusive of all the established protocols from entering the drive, leaving your vehicle to access the facility. Inside again, many precautions are in place. This is an individual choice to attend or not attend the Casino.

## EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

☎ 613-575-5005

☎ 613-575-2331

☎ 613-551-1836

✉ EOC@AKWESASNE.CA



# SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

## FACEBOOK STATS



### Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in September

1. CBSA Chooses Akwesasne Artist for Nationwide Orange Shirt Day Campaign
2. Mohawk Council Wishes Peggy Pyke-Thompson a Happy Retirement
3. Iakhihsotha Keeping Morale Up with Residents During COVID-19
4. Young Journalist Award Winner Donates Prize to Local Organizations in Akwesasne
5. MCA Welcomes New Director of Community & Social Services

### Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in September

1. CBSA Chooses Akwesasne Artist for Nationwide Orange Shirt Day Campaign — 16,925 reached
2. Iakhihsotha Keeping Morale Up with Residents During COVID-19 — 5,799 reached
3. MCA Removes Community Curfew; Urges Continued Practice of Safety Precautions — 5,653 reached
4. Mohawk Council Wishes Peggy Pyke-Thompson a Happy Retirement — 4,607 reached
5. We Can't Let Our Guard Down (A Message from the Chiefs) — 2,538 reached

## TWITTER STATS

### Top Tweet in September



## YOUTUBE STATS



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

1. MCA Housing Sector Introduces New 5-Plex
2. Being Prepared for a Second Wave of COVID-19 | A Message from Council
3. MCA Facility Screening Process | COVID-19 Guidelines



# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## SPOOK-TACULAR DIFFERENCES!

Can you spot the 5 differences between these two creepy castles?



1. Extra limb on tree in the middle trunk. 2. Towards the middle of the moon, there is a piece of grey that is missing. 3. Extra bat on the top right. 4. There is an extra circular window on the bottom right. 5. In the middle right of the castle, there is a missing tower.

## YOU GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why are there fences around graveyards? People are dying to get in!

How do you mend a jack-o-lantern? A pumpkin patch!



What is Beethoven's favorite fruit?  
A ba-na-na-na.

What's orange and sounds like a parrot.  
A: A carrot!

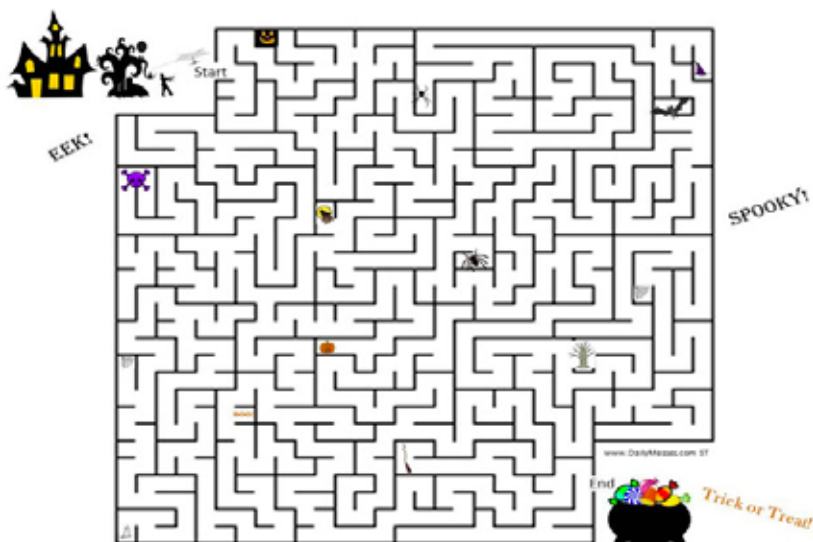


# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## COLOUR ME!



## SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING



## SPOOKY HALLOWEEN FACTS

1. Halloween is thought to have originated around 4000 B.C. Which means it has been around for over 6,000 years.
2. According to tradition, if a person wears their clothes inside out and then walks backwards on Halloween, they will see a witch at midnight.
3. Salem, Massachusetts is the self-proclaimed Halloween capital of the world!
4. Jack-o-lanterns were once made out of turnips, beets and potatoes—not pumpkins.

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## MCA COVID-19 TESTING STATISTICS AND NATIONAL SITUATION REPORT – SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

Below are the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Community Health Program's COVID-19 testing and call statistics as of September 27, 2020:

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 31, 2020	359	92
September 1, 2020 - September 6, 2020	48	17
September 7, 2020 - September 13, 2020	87	22
September 14, 2020 - September 20, 2020	99	37
September 21, 2020 - September 27, 2020	115	31
Grand Total	2539	642

Below is the Ministry of Health's situation report for COVID-19 as of September 27, 2020 for worldwide, Canada and Ontario totals:

### Situation:

Case count as of 9:00 am September 27 2020 / Nombre de cas à 9h00 le 27 septembre 2020				
Area / Région	Case count / Nombre de cas	Change from yesterday / Changement par rapport à hier	Deaths / Décès	Change from yesterday / Changement par rapport à hier
Worldwide total / Total mondial	33 105 111	+298 925	999 447	+5 098
Canada*	151 671	+1 215	9 262	+07
Ontario**	49 831	+491	2 839	+02

Below is the Ministry of Health's data for Ontario COVID-19 cases as of September 27, 2020:

### Ontario:

Confirmed Cases	Cas confirmés	Data Source / Source des données	Yesterday / Hier	7-day % change / % de changement sur 7 jours
Cumulative Cases	Nombre cumulatif de cas	IPHIS / SIISP	49 831	6%
Health Sector Worker Cases	Nombre de cas chez les travailleurs du secteur de la santé	IPHIS / SIISP	6 835	0%
Cumulative Resolved	Nombre cumulatif de cas résolus	IPHIS / SIISP	42 796	4%
Cumulative Deaths	Nombre cumulatif de décès	IPHIS / SIISP	2 839	0%
Long-Term Care Home Residents	Nombre de décès de résidents des CSLD	IPHIS / SIISP	1 832	0%
Retirement Home Residents	Nombre de décès de résidents des maisons de retraite	IPHIS / SIISP	206	0%
Health Sector Workers	Nombre de décès de travailleurs du secteur de la santé	IPHIS / SIISP	12	0%
Daily Count / Nombre quotidien				



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FLU SHOT UPDATE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health has received questions regarding the flu season and availability of a flu vaccination (flu shot). The Community Health Program administers the flu vaccine schedules and anticipates an update soon from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit as to the expected distribution dates of the flu vaccine.

The vaccinations are typically available in mid-late fall. Community Health will announce any updates as they receive them. In the meantime, staff are making preparations for the processes that will be followed this year for flu vaccinations and clinics.

We thank you for your patience and understanding and assure you that with the flu season right around the corner, and the risk of COVID-19 increasing concerns,

we are making every effort to ensure the community has access to the flu vaccine as soon as possible.

If you require additional information, please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.



## SEPTEMBER WAS NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

National Recovery Month is a national observance held every September to help spread awareness and education that substance use treatment and mental health services can enable those with mental and substance use disorders to live healthy and rewarding lives. Now in its 31st year, Recovery Month celebrates the gains made by those living in recovery.

The MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program recognizes the strength & resilience of individuals living in recovery; we are here to support you on your journey. Check out the video below featuring Bonnie Bradley, Clinical Supervisor for the Wholistic Health & Wellness Program's Addictions Services.

Coping with the global COVID-19 can be stressful enough — if you or someone you know is struggling,

please contact WHW at 613-575-2341 ext. 3115 or [wholistichealth@akwesasne.ca](mailto:wholistichealth@akwesasne.ca).

Watch the video on the MCA YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/joSPgE0zVbc>



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## IMMUNIZATIONS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Community Health Program would like to remind the community that immunizations are still available for Akwesasronon.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been some changes to the process of receiving immunizations. Community Health appreciates your patience and understanding as we work to continue providing these services.

1. Schedule an appointment. No walk-ins are available for immunizations, so please call the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 to book your appointment ahead of time.

2. Community Health staff will conduct a COVID-19 screening when scheduling the appointment AND prior to your appointment, as information may have changed since the initial booking.

3. When arriving for your appointment, please park in Parking Spot #1 & call Community Health.

4. A staff member will escort you in and out of the building for your appointment.

Please be mindful that masks are mandatory in all indoor public spaces and are to be worn by those 2 years of age and older. Only one parent/guardian will be allowed to join the individual scheduled to receive their immunization(s).

The Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic is also conducting immunizations by appointment on Fridays and can be contacted at 613-932-5808. The same procedures listed above are also in place for the KMC.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment, please contact Community Health at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 or email [chn.immunization@akwesasne.ca](mailto:chn.immunization@akwesasne.ca).

NOTE: The MCA Community Health Program provides immunizations free of charge when they are given in accordance with the Ontario Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule. When a vaccine is needed that does not follow the Ontario schedule, a prescription must be obtained for the vaccine and you must cover the cost of the vaccine.

Examples of Vaccines NOT covered by the MCA Community Health Program:

- Hepatitis B series for children in Grade 6 and younger
- Tdap vaccine at 11-12 years of age or before the tetanus booster is due
- A second dose of Menactra in Grade 12 (meningitis vaccine)



## IMMUNIZATIONS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- 1 Schedule an appointment.
- 2 Staff will conduct a COVID-19 screening.
- 3 Park in designated parking spot & call provider.
- 4 Be escorted to & from appointment.

*MASKS ARE MANDATORY FOR THOSE 2 YEARS OF AGE & OLDER*

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM  
613-575-2341 EXT. 3220



KAWEHNO:KE MEDICAL CLINIC  
613-932-5808

## COMMUNITY MEDICAL CLINICS

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE AKWESASNE MEDICAL CLINIC & KAWEHNO:KE MEDICAL CLINIC

1

Arrive on time. If you arrive late, you will be rescheduled.

2

Wear your mask. If you don't have one, we will provide one.

3

Park & call. Wait in your vehicle in the designated parking spaces.

4

Screening. You will be screened prior to entering the building.

5

Escort. A staff member will escort you inside the building.

The Akwesasne Medical Clinic is open by appointment only.



**613-575-2341**

The Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic is open by appointment only.

On-site services at the KMC now includes essential appointments, bloodwork by appointment each Wednesday, and immunizations for children on Fridays.



**613-932-5808**





# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

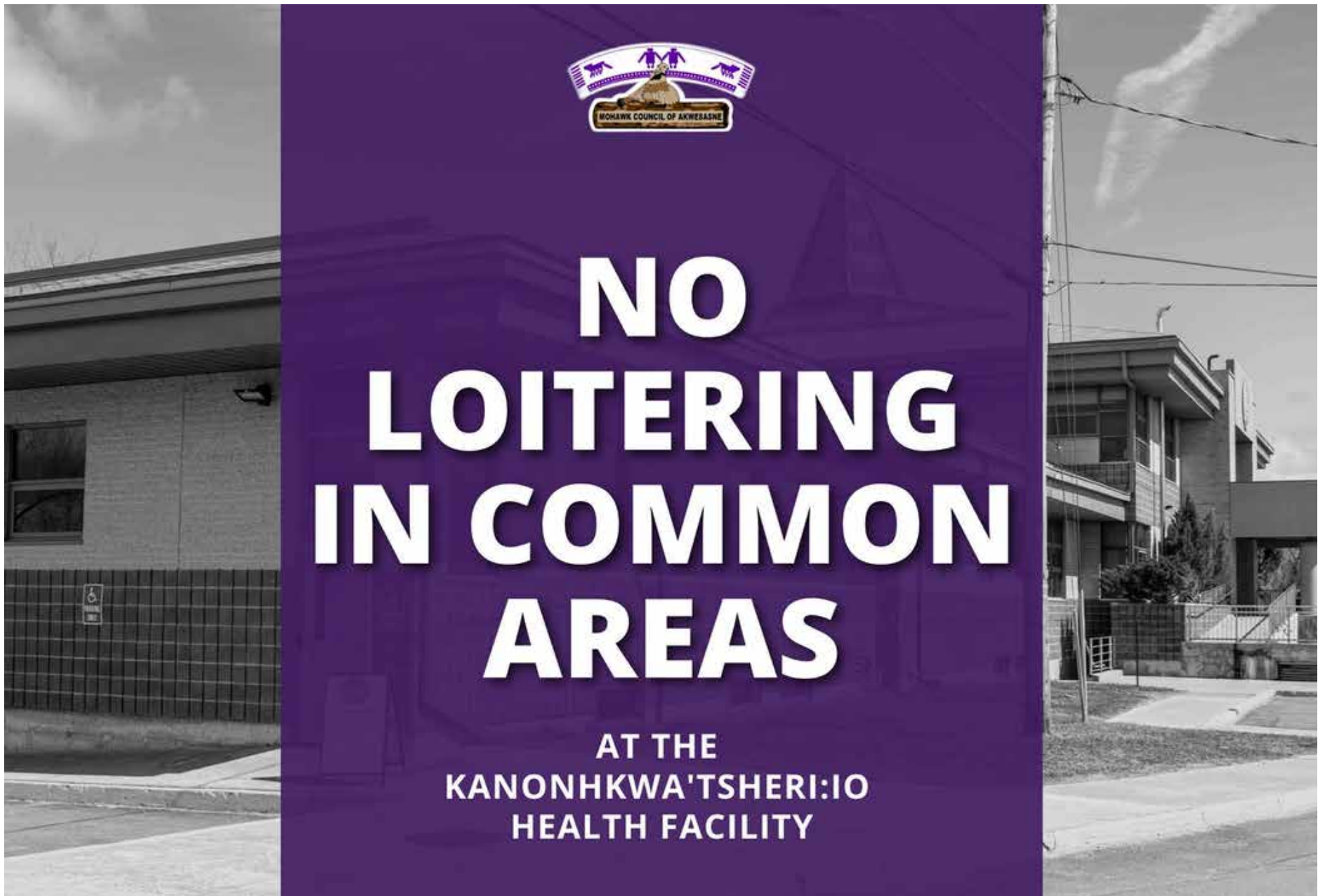
## NO LOITERING AT KANONHKWA'TSHERI:IO HEALTH FACILITY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to remind the community that loitering & congregating in the common areas of Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility is not permitted.

In an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the MCA Department of Health has implemented entrance procedures for the facility that require visitors to be escorted to and from their appointments. Community members are not permitted to wander or loiter in the

health facility due to these restrictions. You must have an escort at all times when inside Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io and travel straight to your appointment from the front door. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Social distancing efforts help to slow the spread of COVID-19. Working together, we can all do our part to protect each other and the community.



## TSIONKWANONHSO:TE & IAKHIHSOHTHA

*Guidelines for visitors of Akwesasne's long-term care facilities.*



- 1 All visitors must undergo a screening process before visiting.
- 2 All visits must be booked by appointment.
- 3 Visits will take place in outdoor tents, and social distancing must be adhered to.
- 4 Visits will resume in phases per guidelines of the Ministry of Long-Term Care. Phase 1 permits one visit per resident per week. Visits will gradually increase.
- 5 Families or power of attorneys must coordinate independently to determine who in the family will visit per week.
- 6 Visits in Phase 1 will be 40 minutes long. Please do not arrive more than 5 minutes early for your visit time, to prevent interaction with other visitors.



# DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## COVID-19 BUSINESS RELIEF FUND

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Economic Development is offering community members the opportunity to apply for a COVID-19 Business Relief Fund. These funds will be used exclusively for COVID related issues.

In order to be eligible, the business MUST be registered with MCA's Department of Economic Development. Business can be: small business/micro-business; artists; caterers; beaders/designers; distributors;

physical fitness trainers; etc.

Please contact the Department of Economic Development to check your eligibility.

Applications are available electronically or you can make an arrangement to pick up a hard-copy.

Please call Tesha Rourke at 613-575-2250 ext. 1802 or [ecdev@akwesasne.ca](mailto:ecdev@akwesasne.ca) for more information or to apply.



## COVID-19 BUSINESS RELIEF FUND: YOUTH ENTREPRENEURS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Economic Development is offering youth entrepreneurs age 13+ the opportunity to apply for a COVID-19 Business Relief Fund specifically for youth entrepreneurs.

These funds will be used for COVID related issues.

In order to be eligible, the business MUST be registered with MCA's Department of Economic Development. Please be reminded that you must renew your applica-

tion annually and there is no fee to be registered.

Please contact the Department of Economic Development to check your eligibility.

Applications are available electronically or you can make an arrangement to pick up a hard-copy.

Please call Tesha Rourke at 613-575-2250 ext. 1802 or [ecdev@akwesasne.ca](mailto:ecdev@akwesasne.ca) for more information or to apply.

**Department of Tehotiiennawakon**  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1053

**A'nowara'ko:wa Arena**  
(613) 936-1583

### CONTACT US!

**Economic Development**  
(613) 575-2250 ext.1053

**Emergency Measures**  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1030

**Environment Program**  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1038



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## MCA WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is pleased to announce that a new director of Community & Social Services has joined the organization. Karen Hill, a Mohawk from Six Nations, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the area of family and child services.

The Department of Community & Social Services includes Akwesasne Child & Family Services, the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program, the Community Support Program, and the Ionkwanonhsasetsi Adolescent Treatment Centre.

"I would like to welcome Karen Hill to our community and look forward to having her expertise in child welfare," said MCA Executive Director Heather Phillips. "We are hopeful she can lead the department in delivering its valuable services while providing transparency and accountability to the community as well."

Ms. Hill has a Master's degree in Social Work and has been working in senior-level child services for much of her career with extensive experience in policy, legislation, and provincial coordination.

"I was excited for this opportunity because it really affords me the chance to work with a full array of service and supports to families and

the chance to really engage with caregivers and children in a more wholistic way, to bring about better outcomes," Ms. Hill said.

Throughout her career, Ms. Hill has seen weaknesses and limitations in the field and she is eager to help the community overcome barriers and break down the walls of limitations. She has a priority to ensure coordination and consistency in services and to have a more collective view of the needs of the community. Through experience working with and understanding systems, Ms. Hill

hopes to ensure that families have access to everything they need and that the community's basic needs are met.

"It really seemed like my path lead me here...Akwesasne is an exciting and dynamic community and there is just so much potential. I hope I can be value added," she said.

Ms. Hill practices traditional culture and enjoys healthy activities like running a few miles a day and practicing yoga. She has two daughters and one granddaughter.



# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

## AMBE CELEBRATES THE RETIREMENT OF 6 STAFF MEMBERS

On Thursday, September 17, 2020 AMBE hosted a Retirement Celebration in the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena parking lot as it was a drive-in event. AMBE celebrated the decades of service of 6 retirees. The retirees were gifted with a beautiful quilt and a beautiful cake to share with their families.

AMBE staff were also invited so long as they stayed in their vehicles and practiced social distancing. Staff still demonstrated their support for their fellow colleagues by honking, hooting, and hollering.

On behalf of the community of Ak-

wesasne, niawenhko:wa for your many years of service and dedication to your community. You will be missed. Best wishes and congratulations on achieving retirement!

**Donna Jocko**

Iohahi:io Reception  
31 Years with MCA with 16 Years at AMBE

**Charlene Sunday**

Education Assistant  
21 Years with MCA and AMBE

**Marion Wariianen Thompson**

Kanienkeha Teacher  
23 Years with AMBE

**Cecilia Thompson**

Finance Clerk  
20 Years with AMBE

**Sandra Rourke**

Secondary Student Services Coordinator  
24 Years with AMBE

**Debbie Ransom Gauthier**

Education Assistant  
27 Years with AMBE



Sandra Rourke retired with 24 years at AMBE.



Donna Jocko retired with 16 years at AMBE.



# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

## AMBE CELEBRATES THE RETIREMENT OF 6 STAFF MEMBERS



*Cecilia Thompson retired with 20 years at AMBE.*



*Marion Thompson retired with 23 years at AMBE.*



*Charlene Sunday retired with 21 years at AMBE.*



*Debbie Ransom Gauthier retired with 27 years at AMBE.*



# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

## EARLYON ZERO 2 SIX

EarlyOn Zero 2 Six is a drop-in play group with a wholistic approach to help Akwesasne's families access all services prenatal to 6 years of age! This program provides families to take part in programs and activities together.



*One of the students drawing beautiful chalk artwork.*

One of our goals is to make strong connections with our families! Akwesasne Zero 2 Six is designed to encompass all services 0-6 years

and include them in our community calendar, pool resources to best serve all families within Akwesasne. We do this to ensure parents and caregivers can get information and support about services available to them in the community, learn about their children's development and find answers to their questions. Our focus is on helping families give their young children the best start in life.

EarlyOn Zero 2 Six centers will pop up throughout Akwesasne in all three districts to make services accessible to all families.

All programming is guided by How Does Learning Happen: Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years in the development of their programs for children and families. Masks are not recommended for young children under the age of two. School-aged children in grade 4 and higher are required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors. The wearing of non-medical or cloth masks is encouraged for younger school-aged children, particularly in com-

mon spaces. All adults are required to wear a face covering/mask. Groups of family and friend cohorts can schedule appointments to join our playgroups and are required to complete our screening survey prior to entering the buildings. All materials are sanitized after each play group.



*Some wonderful artists create masterpieces at the EarlyOn Zero 2 six program.*

**Tsi Snaihne School**  
(613) 575-2291

**Akwesasne Mohawk School**  
(613) 932-3366

### CONTACT US!

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

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

**Kana:takon School**  
(613) 575-2323

# ENVIRONMENT

## 27TH ANNUAL RIVER SYMPOSIUM

On October 28 & 29, the River Institute is hosting a FREE Symposium!

The River Institute is pleased to present one of the highlighted plenary speakers, Abraham Francis, Environmental Officer for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne—Environment Program. The event is online, it's free to attend and everyone is welcome to participate.

Abraham Francis noted his excitement on his presentation and that he will discuss why Akwesasronon Relationships over time often reflect the river. He explained

that "the St. Lawrence River is an important part of our people's identity. This mighty river has provided for so many generations. The river seems to creep its way into every conversation as people remember and tell stories about their lives and experiences on the water. There is a lot of respect in this relationship and it is well understood by Akwesasronon. This is our river and we've fought long and hard to have access and for remediation to occur. Now there are a lot of dangers to our engagement with the river, but there is a responsibility to act and respond to the legacy contaminants within the ecosystem as well as be prepared for those new and emerging ones."



THE RIVER INSTITUTE PRESENTS

## River Health: Past, Present and Future

The 27th Annual River Symposium | October 28 & 29, 2020  
[symposium.riverinstitute.ca](https://symposium.riverinstitute.ca)



Plenary Speaker

*Abraham Francis,*

Mohawk Council Akwesasne

Kaniatarowanenneh (St. Lawrence River):  
Akwesasronon Relationships Across Time

Thursday, October 29th, 2020  
9:00 am to 9:55 am



# ENVIRONMENT

## MOHAWK COUNCIL WISHES PEGGY PYKE-THOMPSON A HAPPY RETIREMENT

Congratulations to Mohawk Council of Akwesasne employee Peggy Pyke-Thompson on her retirement as Environment Program Manager!

Peggy, turtle clan, is married to Roger Thompson and together they have raised a beautiful family with four children, six grandchildren and one great grandchild. She began working within the organization on December 13, 2004 and for almost 16 years, has been an attribute to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Environment Program.

Peggy was the MCA's first Environ-

mental Assessment Officer and has had many accolades while working within the organization. She was a member of the Haudenosaunee Task Force on the Environment since 1996 and was a former president of the board.

Peggy would work with traditional healers to help them find non-contaminated medicines to pick throughout Akwesasne and the neighboring communities. She has researched and presented on the Emerald Ash Border and the impacts on culture and language. Peggy also received the Native Ameri-

can Women's Recognition award and an award for working on the Port of Johnstown with her contribution to their habitat restoration. She also received the Teacher of the Year Award from Iohahi:io where she taught courses for St. Lawrence College.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne hopes that Peggy enjoys her retirement with family and friends. You have done so much for the organization, and have done your part in protecting and preserving the environment for the community of Akwesasne. We are confident that your staff will continue your hard work and dedication for the betterment of Akwesasne.

Tobi Mitchell, Tsi Snaihne District Chief and a member of the Environment Portfolio said, "Niawenhko:wa for your hard work in the various positions you have held within the organization. You have contributed so much to the organization and the community of Akwesasne with your knowledge and work for the environment."

Peggy noted, "Thank you to all my co-workers and other work colleagues and partners for all of our interactions and work opportunities that we have shared."





# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING UPDATES

### Wade Lafrance Memorial Road Reconstruction Project:

The work to rehabilitate 600m of road commenced at the beginning of September with Lazore's Construction as the construction manager. The project Construction Manager reports the phase I project is now two weeks ahead of schedule. They also noted that there is a requirement for additional work to the culverts on the south side of Wade Lafrance Memorial Road for existing side entrances which will be addressed. Community members can call the Department of Infrastructure and Housing for any concerns regarding the phase I project at 613-575-2250 ext. 1007. Your commitment to adherence of traffic safety, 35km speed posting, precautionary signs, and traffic personnel, at this site is appreciated.



### MCA Administration Building II Demolition Project:

The Admin II Building Demolition had to be Re-Tendered because there were Tenders received past the deadline. The new deadline occurred on September 15th with qualified Tenders received by Public Works and Government Services Canada who are overseeing the Construction Project on behalf of the stakeholders.

Once the Contractor is selected, more information about the construction schedule can be provided.

The Project Team, which includes the MCA's Department of Infrastructure and Housing, will ensure the community intake questions are being addressed by the Contractor. For more information you can contact the MCA

Department of Infrastructure and Housing, Technical Project Manager by email: [leslie.papineau@akwesasne.ca](mailto:leslie.papineau@akwesasne.ca); or Telephone: 613-575-2250 ext. 1007 or 1003.

### Retirement – Environment Program Manager:

The Department of Infrastructure and Housing (DIH) has had the pleasure of working with Peggy Pyke-Thompson for the past ten months under the new MCA structure change that now amalgamates the programs of Environment and Housing within the Department of Infrastructure and Housing. Peggy (Margaret) joined the MCA in December of 2003 with her date of retirement at the end of the first week of September 2020.

Peggy worked for many years in areas that included wetland biology, protection and research. She encouraged community learning of all things biological by coordinating surveys about fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds, wetlands, plant species at risk, and doing life cycle analysis to report results back to the community on various studies. Her work with DIH included the analysis reporting of environmental assessments impact of housing, economic development and capital works projects for MCA. Her specialty was with culturally significant plants and species at risk.

The DIH Department staff wish Peggy well in her retirement. Peggy was gifted with an original art piece by 'Two-House Design' that is reflective of her Turtle Clan, and traditional tobacco provided with good thoughts for her continued good health and happiness. Níawen Peggy for your time and dedication to your community.

The Acting Program Manager is Abraham Francis, who was formerly the Environmental Science Officer. To contact the Environment Program, you can contact Abraham at 613-575-2250 ext. 1043 or by email: [abraham.francis@akwesasne.ca](mailto:abraham.francis@akwesasne.ca)

# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## MCA CELEBRATES COMPLETION OF HOUSING 5-PLEX

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is proud to unveil a new 5-plex rental housing unit on Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island). Five families will have new homes to move into on October 1st, and additional units are in the process of construction.

The Department of Infrastructure & Housing actively seeks funding and project opportunities to improve Akwesasne’s housing shortage. The 5-plex is the first of its kind for MCA and is a quality building the housing staff take great pride in.

Each unit in the 5-plex features three bedrooms, laundry hookups, and a state-of-the art efficient heating and cooling system. Quality construction, designs and colours throughout the units make them appealing new homes.

MCA received a grant from Indigenous Services Canada which helped

MCA’s Housing sector pursue these additional units.

The new 5-plex is located on Kawehno:ke Riverview Apartments Road. An additional duplex is near completion in the village of Kana:takon (St. Regis). Construction of a triplex on Kawehno:ke is in the early stages of tendering and is expected to be completed next year.

The new units have scheduled tenants; however, those interested in being added to a housing waiting list can contact the Housing sector at 613-575-2250 ext. 1053 or through email at: [charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca](mailto:charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca).

MCA Housing wishes to acknowledge the expertise and hard work of the following:

Passive Build 5 plex and duplex  
BT Custom Homes - Barry Thompson.

Site prep:  
AD Construction - Anthony David.

Plumbing and heating - hrv  
MS Mechanical - plumbing

Electrician  
Darren Mitchell - First Nations

Soils Investigation:  
St. Lawrence Testing - Gib McKinty  
Testing Technician - Jerry Boots

Site Design and Plot plan:  
Dimensional Analysis - Pierre Savard  
Site inspector - Roy Quennel

Building Design:  
Dream Design -Yves Menard  
HSP Engineering - Kevin McDonald,  
Joshua Textera, Jeremiah Point

Tech Services:  
John Adams, Debo and Clayton  
Barnes



Housing staff inside one of the new 5-plex rental housing units on Kawehno:ke.

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## KIDS FOR FISHING

The Kids for Fishing Program was created in 2010 by Norman Peters and PJ Burns. These men, who are avid fishermen and also police officers, are from the community of Akwesasne.

The Kids for Fishing Program began in 2010 and each year 40 youth and 10 with Special Needs are selected to participate in this unforgettable event.


2020, marked the Kids For Fishing 10 year anniversary of taking youth ages 10-17 fishing on the beautiful St. Lawrence river system. Unfortunately, this year the event was cancelled due to the Covid pandemic.

To date the Kids for Fishing Program has taken over 500 youth in the community fishing. The organizers would like to thank everyone in the community who have been a part of this annual event.



*In lieu of the normal Kids For Fishing event, Norman Peters and PJ Burns handed out free poles to kids in each of the districts.*

## AMPS AUGUST 2020 STATISTICS

July Total: 280			4	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Ambulance	2	1038 Missing Persons
1	021 Other Robbery	5	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Cornwall PS	1	1041 Mental Health Act	
2	024 Break & Enter - Residence	4	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Other	1	1049 Medical Aid	
2	027 Theft - Automobiles	5	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Tribal PD	1	1050 Youth Complaint	
1	028 Theft - Trucks	40	1004 Assist Public	6	1056 Hazardous Conditions	
1	030 Theft - Other Motor Vehicles	1	1008 By-Law - Dogs	21	106 Provincial Statutes - Other	
1	035 Theft Over \$5000 - Other	7	1009 By-Law - Noise	14	1063 Marine Patrol	
1	040 Theft Under \$5000 - Other	2	1010 By-Law - Parking Occurrences	2	1064 ATV Patrol	
1	041 Possession Stolen Property	2	1011 By-Law - Other	1	204 Sexual Assault	
2	045 Frauds - Other	3	1012 Civil Disputes	3	205 Assault - Level 1	
1	061 Bail Violations	17	1013 Community Services	3	206 Assault Weapon/CBH - Level 2	
3	063 Disturb The Peace	7	1014 Crime Prevention	1	212 Assaults - Other	
1	064 Escape Custody	1	1015 Committal Warrants	1	3030 Admin - Assist Other Agency	
2	067 Public Morals	3	1016 Domestic Dispute (Non-violent)	3	705 Dangerous Operation MV	
1	070 Trespass at Night	3	1018 Escorts - Prisoner	3	711 Impaired Operation MV	
1	071 Mischief Over \$5000	2	1023 Judge's Order (Court)	6	715 Fail to Stop/Remain (CCC)	
3	072 Mischief (Prop. Damage) Under \$5000	3	1023 MVC - Non-Reportable	1	717 Fail to Stop / Remain (HTA)	
1	073 Criminal Code - Other	13	1029 Suspicious Persons	2	719 Drive Disqualified/Licence Suspended	
1	088 Cannabis - Trafficking	9	1030 Suspicious Vehicles	1	721 Traffic - Provincial Statutes	
7	100 Immigration Act	19	1031 Suspicious Circumstances	2	Incident Type Not Listed	
13	1001 Alarms	1	1032 Sudden Death			
1	1002 Alerts	7	1036 Warrant - Bench/First			





# YOGA



## **Online Yoga Class via ZOOM every Monday**

**Start : September 28, 2020— December 21, 2020**

**Time: 7– 8pm**

**If interested please call 613-575-2341 ext 3247 to register**

**This is a free event by MCA Community Health Program.**



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