# ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Issue 2 FREE Enníska/February 2021

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# MCA FIBRE-TO-THE-HOME PROJECT IS UNDERWAY IN TSI SNAIHNE



Fibre-to-the-Home construction began on January 4 and residents can now see orange pipes (also known as "conduit") on the roadside throughout the district. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to extend a thank you to the on-site crew (Ontario East, DirectBore, DTC Trucking and various MCA programs) for their hard work and dedication to the project. We would also like to say nia:wen to the community for their patience and understanding as the service providers work to complete the construction. Please be reminded that there may be short traffic delays near the work areas to ensure the safety of the crew.

Residents of Tsi Snaihne can still pre-register their home/business to have access to fibre internet service. To do so, please email ftth@akwesasne.ca with your NAME, CIVIC ADDRESS, and PHONE NUMBER.

# **UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:**

### **FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING**

A Zoom General Meeting will be held on February 25, 2021 at 6 p.m.

Please send an email to meetings@akwesasne.ca to receive a link to watch the video. You can also send any questions you may have to 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

Leslie Papineau A/Director, Department of Infrastructure & Housing

Joyce King Director, Akwesasne Justice Department

Karen Hill Director, Department of Community and Social Services

> Keith Leclaire Director, Department of Health

Donna Lahache Director, Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education

Shawn Dulude Chief of Police, Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service

> Kylee Tarbell A/Director, Tehotiiennawakon

# WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS



She:kon/Wat'kwanonhwera:ton,

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

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

# FIVE THINGS

# OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS & IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- Throughout the entire COVID-19 pandemic, transparency has been of the upmost importance to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. In our efforts to keep the community updated, we have been regularly been providing updates on the COVID-19 outbreak at Tssiionkwanonhso:te Long Term Care Facility, and the case at lakhihsohtha. We extend our condolences to those who lost a loved one. We wish speedy recoveries to all those affected with COVID-19. All of our COVID-19 updates can be found at: akwesasne.ca/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information/
- MCA is now taking pre-registrations for the COVID-19 vaccine. For more information, please call Community Health at 613-575-2250 or see page 8.
- Sign-ups are now open for the MCA mobile text alerts. See the back page to sign up or visit www.akwesasne.ca/textalerts
- Despite the ongoing pandemic, community members still need to care for their health and medical visits. To read more information on how to keep your health in check, see page 33.
- Although there have been some cold snaps, when it comes to the waterways, no ice is safe ice. To read more about the myths and realities of ice in the winter, see page 46.

# BACKPACK FULL OF SUPPLIES DELIVERED TO HOMELESS AKWESASRONON

Recently, concerned community members informed the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne that there were several Akwesasronon who are living homeless in Cornwall. Council, together with the Akwesasne Child and Family Services, the Community Support Program, the Akwesasne Family and Wellness Program, the Wholistic Health and Wellness Program, as well as Unity Street in Cornwall, have created backpacks that contain personal items, COVID-19 care supplies, gift cards and resources to assist our Akwesasronon who are in need. Seven Dancers Coalition provided sage and water bottles for each backpack. Also included is the Community Contribution Application for Akwesasronon to apply for further monetary assistance.

"Council is aware of the needs for homeless shelters in and around our community. Currently, we are facing limitations with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, but we are looking towards the future and all that we can do to assist and provide resources to our fellow community members."

On January 22, 2021, Chief Vanessa Adams, Chief April Adams-Phillips, AMPS Community Service Officer Norman King and representatives from Unity Street in Cornwall safely distributed these backpacks to Akwesasronon in Cornwall.

Tsi Snaihne District Chief April Adams-Phillips added that "We appreciate when community members bring us their concerns. We are hopeful that this effort will Kawehno:ke District Chief Vanessa Adams noted that bring some relief to our community members in need."



Each back pack contained various supplies with both men's/women's needs.



Supplies were given to homeless Akwesasronon.



Chief April Adams-Phillips, Chief Vanessa Adams and AMPS Community Service Officer Norman King, along with representatives from Unity Street safely distributed backpacks filled with supplies to Akwesasronon in Cornwall.



# MCA RESUMPTION PLAN FOLLOWING ONTARIO STAY-AT-HOME ORDER

On January 12, 2021, the Province of Ontario declared a second State of Emergency and issued a "stay-athome" order effective January 14, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. for at least 28 days. This order means that all persons in Ontario must remain in their home except for essential purposes. Going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services, exercising, and on February 16, 2021. carrying out employment responsibilities is allowed. Ontario has now also limited outdoor gatherings to a Please note that these timelines are subject to change maximum of (5) five people.

This order has had a significant impact on current op- all MCA operations.

erations of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. The tentative timeline for resumption of MCA operations has now been delayed in order to comply with provincial standards. Employees will begin a staggered transition back to their workstations on February 8, 2021 and MCA offices will resume normal operations

based on the number of positive cases of COVID-19. Note: These directives do

# FIBRE-TO-THE-HOME VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION

On January 11, 2021, MCA held a virtual information session on the Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) Project that is currently underway in Tsi Snaihne. If you missed the meeting, visit the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne YouTube Channel to hear more about the project from Director of Economic Development

Kylee Tarbell and Information Services Manager Rhonda Adams.

If you have any questions or would like to pre-register your home/business, please email ftth@akwesasne.ca.





# **ONTARIO ANNOUNCES STAY AT HOME ORDER (JANUARY 12)**

On Tuesday, January 12, 2021, the Province of Ontario declared a second State of Emergency and issued a "stay-at-home" order effective Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. for at least 28 days. This order means that all persons in Ontario must remain in their home except for essential purposes. Going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services, exercising, and carrying out employment responsibilities is allowed. Ontario has now also limited outdoor gatherings to a maximum of (5) five people.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne reinstituted the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law's curfew provisions on November 24, 2020, requiring all community residents to remain at home between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. and to only travel for essential purposes during these times. This curfew remains in effect.

Due to the recent issuance of the Ontario stay-at-home order, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is advising Akwesasne residents that you should only travel into the City of Cornwall and surrounding areas for essential purposes. Going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services, exercise and carrying out employment responsibilities are essential activities. In-

dividuals who choose not to abide by the stay-at-home order when travelling outside of Akwesasne could face fines prescribed by the Ontario stay-at-home order.

The high number of positive COVID-19 cases in and around Akwesasne is concerning and continues to rise on a daily basis. The Cornwall Community Hospital has advised the public that they are reaching critical capacity limits due to the number of COVID-19 cases in the region. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is advising Akwesasne community residents to only travel for essential purposes. The curfew in Akwesasne will remain in effect for the foreseeable future. Community members should limit close contacts to those living in your household only. Social bubbles should not include anyone outside your home at this time.

Over the next several weeks, the COVID-19 vaccine will begin to be available to the community. While the vaccines give us great hope, it will take some time for enough of the local population to be vaccinated before population immunity takes effect. All safety precautions must be followed even after you have been vaccinated for this reason. Please continue to do your part to keep yourself and our community safe.

# MCA'S CURRENT COVID-19 GUIDELINES SOCIAL GATHERING LIMIT: HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS ONLY TRAVEL RADIUS: 11 P.M. - 5 A.M. TRAVEL RADIUS: (EXCLUDING MONTREAL)



# **COVID-19 POSITIVE CASE REPORTED AT IAKHIHSOHTHA LODGE (JANUARY 23)**

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's (MCA) Department of Health (DOH) has received confirmation from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit that a member of the lakhihsohtha Lodge staff has tested positive for CO-VID-19. The COVID-19 positive result was detected by our regular nasal swab surveillance testing. The staff member is currently at home isolating. All resident families have been notified.

Following our infection prevention and control (IPAC) protocols, we are testing residents in accordance with the guidance and direction of the Eastern Ontario Health Unit. All staff have been participating in surveil-lance testing as directed by the local health unit.

With community spread being a major concern, this regular testing helps us detect new positive staff, or asymptomatic staff, early, and limit the risk of potential exposure to our residents.

We are working closely with the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, Medical Directors, our Epidemiologist, and with Extendicare's Infection Prevention and Control specialists, and following their directives as given. Our enhanced infection prevention and control measures re-

main in place, such as symptom screening our residents and team members a minimum of twice daily, terminal cleaning of high-touch surfaces, ensuring that all our staff are wearing masks and personal protective equipment (PPE) and revisiting our infection prevention and control protocols to ensure they are being thoroughly followed.

Please be advised that the Meals on Wheels (MOW) program will be temporally suspended until further notice. We expect to have an update on the resumption of MOW as early as Wednesday of next week. We are asking family members to please check in on those who participate in the MOW program to ensure they have food for the next couple of days. Should you or they require immediate assistance, please contact Dave Oakes, at 613-575-2507 Ext. 2.

MCA extends its best wishes for a speedy recovery to all those infected with COVID-19, as well as appreciation to those isolating and quarantining to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. We also extend our sincerest appreciation to our frontline workers and long-term care staff who have remained diligent and dedicated during this most trying time.

# PROCESS FOR ENTERING MCA BUILDINGS

In order to ensure the safety of all, there are protective measures in place at all MCA Buildings.



A temperature check will be taken. If you have a temperature over 100.0 ° you may not enter building.



A health screening will be given. If you say "yes" to any of the questions, you may not enter.



You will be asked if you are awaiting results for COVID-19.

If yes, you may not enter.



You must wear a mask at all times, unless the program you are visiting has set-up with of 6 ft of distance.



# **OPEN LETTER TO OUR NEIGHBOURS (JANUARY 15)**

On behalf of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, we hope that our neighbours are in good health and staying safe.

It has come to our attention that Akwesasne community members have received harassing messages left on their vehicles when shopping outside of our community. Therefore, we offer this clarification on our rights, to promote further awareness amongst our neighbours. The Akwesasne Mohawk Territory is situated directly on the US-Canada border, as our community was settled in this area prior to the line being drawn. The borders that have been put in place dissected Akwesasne into three jurisdictions (from a map or government perspective), and the result is that Mohawks of Akwesasne reside within Ontario (Cornwall Island), Quebec (Snye and St. Regis) and New York State (St. Regis Mohawk Tribe jurisdiction). It's a "jurisdictional nightmare" that often creates hardship for our community members, can be difficult to explain to others, and for anyone

who was previously unaware, it can be understandably

challenging to fully comprehend.

The Mohawks of Akwesasne have dual citizenship, meaning that we are considered to be citizens of both the United States and Canada. We have the right, both inherently and legally, to live, work, and travel in both countries. Our community members visit surrounding communities, such as Cornwall, Ontario, Massena, NY, and Malone, New York, to purchase groceries, access health care services, do our banking, and to report to work. As a result of our dual citizenship and the jurisdictional complications we face daily, our community members purchase and register vehicles in Ontario, Quebec, and New York. We have the right to live in any part of Akwesasne, despite the borders that have been put in place.

This explains why, even with a closed border and travel

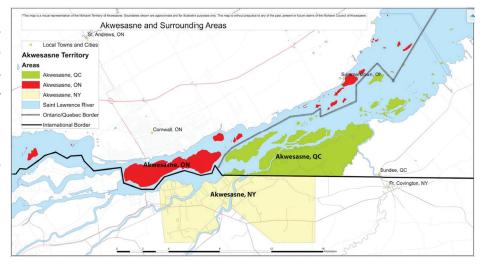
restrictions in effect, you will continue to see our vehicles with New York or Quebec license plates in Cornwall, and with Ontario and Quebec license plates in Massena and Malone. During this difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic, our community members are visiting your town for essential reasons, in support of local economies, and with every right to do so.

The harassment that has recently been experienced by our community members is unacceptable. We certainly hope that ignorance and misunderstanding was the root cause of this behavior, and not racism. We trust that this letter, providing clarification to you, our neighbour, is well received and serves its purpose - to increase your awareness of the rights of the Mohawks of Akwesasne.

The pandemic continues to be a stressful and difficult situation. Goodwill and compassion are needed by everyone at this time. Our community members share the common goal to survive this pandemic, with kindness and respect for our fellow humans.

Sken:nen/Peace,

# Abram Benedict Grand Chief





# **COVID-19 VACCINE PRE-REGISTRATION**

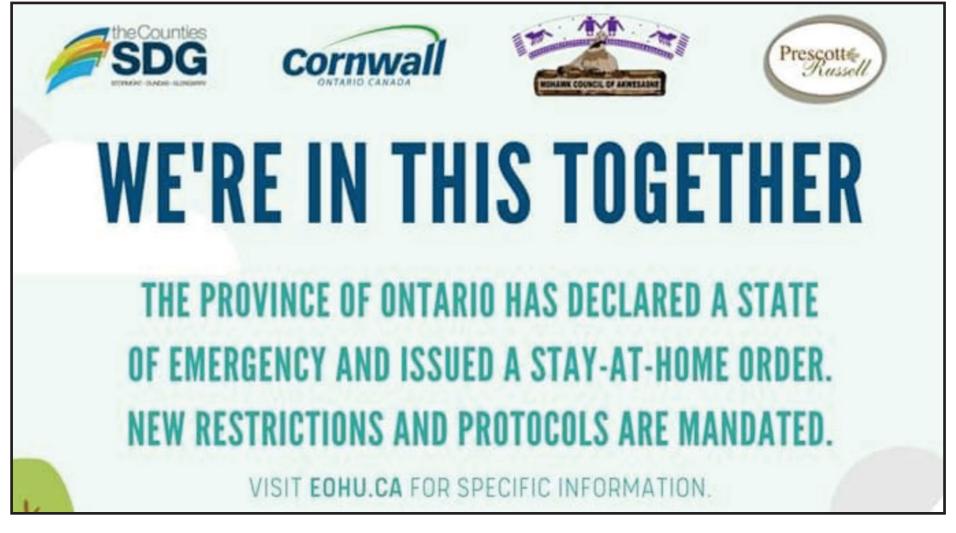
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of to essential frontline staff (healthcare workers, first re-Health (DOH) is reminding the community that the pre-registration for the COVID-19 vaccine is still open. DOH is stressing the importance of registering now for the vaccine, to ensure that you are on the list to be contacted for an appointment once the community vaccine clinic is announced. Vaccine supply is limited, so reserve your spot for the community vaccine clinic by pre-registering as soon as possible.

The initial roll out of the vaccine has been completed, with the long-term care facilities residents and staff 613-575-2341 ext. 3119 (Jamie Cole) or ext. 3247 having received the first dose. The next phase of the vaccine distribution will be administering the vaccine naire will be conducted.

sponders, etc.), community elders, then the general community. Akwesasronon residing within the City of Cornwall will be eligible to pre-register for the COV-ID-19 vaccine.

There currently is not an anticipated date for the community vaccine clinic, as the DOH depends on the shipment of the vaccine to arrive from Eastern Ontario Health Unit.

To pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine, please call (Stephanie Buckshot). When calling, a brief question-





# SRMT & MCA SHARE CONDOLENCES FOR COVID-19 COMMUNITY DEATHS

Tribe and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne learns of CO-VID-19 deaths in our community. We offer our deepest and sincere condolences to the family and friends of those who have passed. There are no words that can be provided to lift the sorrow that you are feeling at this moment. Nor, can we provide any consolation through a warm embrace during your time of need. Please know however, that we feel your loss and share to all those who are battling COVID-19. our most heartfelt thoughts and prayers.

These losses have made the early weeks of the new ourselves and each other safe.

It is with a heavy heart that the Saint Regis Mohawk year difficult and painful, but we extend our gratitude to those who are continuing to risk their own health in order to care for our community members. We also extend appreciation to all those who are continuing to be vigilant in practicing COVID-19 precautions, which helps to keep our entire community safe.

Our sincere wishes for speedy recoveries is extended

As a community, we are all in this together. Let's keep

# CORNWALL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL CEO ASSURES SAFETY DURING COVID-19

Jeannette Despatie, President and CEO of Cornwall Community Hospital (CCH), is providing reassurance to Akwesasne community members who may have questions or concerns attending CCH appointments or procedures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, CCH has adopted key directives from the Ministry of Health, engaged closely with our counterparts at the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, developed strict on-site prevention and control protocols, adjusted workflows to meet current needs, and secured a strong supply of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Ten months of preparation has led CCH staff to a state of readiness today. Thanks to the work done earlier this year, CCH can currently keep their diagnostic imaging services open, patients are still engaged in clinics, whether virtual or in-person, essential surgeries are moving forward, and the Emergency Department continues to support patients who require urgent care.

Cornwall Community Hospital remains safe to serve your needs, no matter the circumstance.

Please help us stop the local spread of COVID-19 by closely following public health recommendations as we prepare for widespread vaccination.

The good health of the Akwesasne community is important to us.



A photo of the Cornwall Community Hospital, from their Facebook



# CALL-OUT FOR VIDEO PARTICIPANTS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Communications Unit is conducting a video project in collaboration with the Quebec Ministry of Language & Culture. We are currently seeking up to ten individuals who are willing to record a brief video(2-5 minutes) utilizing Zoom or other online contactless technology. The topics of the videos are life in Akwesasne through the decades.

# Participants will receive a \$300 stipend for their participation.

# We are specifically seeking:

- 1 Mohawk speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life in the 1940s.
- 1 English speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life in the 1940s.
- 1 Mohawk speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life in the 1950s.
- 1 English speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life in the 1950s.
- 1 Mohawk speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about torical purposes. life in the 1960s.
- 1 English speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life in the 1960s.
- 1 Mohawk speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about ca or call 613-363-1291. life in the 1970s.
- 1 English speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life

in the 1970s.

- 1 Mohawk speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life in the 1980s.
- 1 English speaker to tell a 2-5 minute story about life in the 1980s.

# Requirements:

Participants must meet the requirements of the video they've signed up for, meaning they must speak either Mohawk or English, and must be able to tell a personal reflection or description of life in that particular decade. Participants must have access to internet and must be able to record on their own at home for health and safety purposes. Communications staff will assist virtually and can provide equipment on the day of the scheduled recording. The preferred method will be Zoom. Elders may require assistance from family members to ensure equipment and programs are operational.

Participants must be willing to sign a video release form. The video will be used for educational and historical purposes.

Interested participants can send an email indicating their desired category to communications@akwesasne. ca or call 613-363-1291.





# **GUIDELINES ON CANADA POST RURAL MAILBOXES**

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to re- of their mailbox and the surrounding terrain. mind the community that all mailboxes within the Districts of Tsi Snaihne (Snye) and Kawehno:ke (Cornwall For information on specifications, placement, identifi-Island) are considered "Rural Mailboxes."

The proper placement and maintenance of rural mailboxes ensure the continued safe delivery of mail by Canada Post. Please be advised that rural mailbox owners are responsible for all costs associated with placing, relocating and for the ongoing maintenance

cation, and more, please visit www.akwesasne.ca/ruralmailbox-quidelines/.

If you have any questions, please contact the local post office at 613-575-1266 or call Canada Post's Customer Service at 1-800-267-1177.



# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - "WE WILL GOVERN"

# **ENTEWATATHÁ:WI—CREATING CHANGE**

Challenges create change. Mohawks of Akwesasne historically have faced many challenges in the past. These challenges placed on Akwesasronon were due to The Canadian Government imposing legislation called the Indian Act, which placed restrictions on education, culture, and easy movement within our territory, as well as other restrictions, all under the guise of colonization. The resistance to these challenges has created change as we have identified and voiced our inherent rights and protections for our women, children, and elderly by developing and installing a number of unique programs. These programs are the following: education system which includes traditional cultural training and language; a traditional medicine program; our own Court system through MCA justice; environment and others that employ many of our members in all levels of management. Challenges can create a variety of outcomes, noting that the Indian Act legislation still prevails. A major shift is to have our own governance legislation which is being addressed through negotiations with Canada to develop the Akwesasne - Canada Self Government Agreement. This agreement will provide the Mohawks of Akwesasne the transition from the control of Indian Act to self regulation and direction on many sections of the Indian Act.

Entewatathá:wi continues to advance the Self Government Agreement process. This was done through drafting a Lands and Sectoral Agreement and a separate Governance and Relationship Agreement which is part of Akwesasne - Canada Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement. Entewatatha:wi along with MCA's legal counsel and Canada's legal counsel. The Legal Technical Review Table reviews technical accuracy and completeness of the draft agreement.

The agreement has moved into the next level of development, with the Legal Technical Review Table expanding and forming the Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement Review Table. Included in this table will be the Portfolio Chiefs, Entewatathá:wi team with MCA legal counsel, and Canada's legal counsel and lead negotiators. We are currently addressing substantial matters that require decisions and direction of the council. The positive aspect is we were able to continue discussion through social conferencing and move the Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement closer to a final draft agreement. The challenges from the past is the justification for creating this change regarding how Mohawks of Akwesasne will administer their public affairs.



# COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

# SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



# **NOVEMBER 23, 2020**

- Council reviewed a letter of request from AMBE regarding an initiative called "Making Spirits Bright" and agreed to support the initiative.
- The COVID-19 second wave committee provided another update on the progress of the wellness

- packages being prepared. The packages are expected to be delivered to community members in the coming weeks.
- Council discussed the options for holiday dinners and decided to provide gift cards to the community.
- An overview was provided on the need to host routine Zoom debriefing sessions between Chiefs and the Executive Assistants to Council.
- Council received an update and briefing on the upcoming community call out for Overseers for the Akwesasne Community Set-

- tlement Trust.
- MCRs passed: Approval to rescind BCR #1260 and remove it from Akwesasne Law Registry; Approval of service contact for review of the Akwesasne Justice Department; Approval of assignment of lease for Clark Island; Approval of lease for Colquhuon Island; Approval of Public Health Data Sharing Agreement; Approval of revision to Akwesasne Review Commission Charter; Approval to reinstate Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law 11 pm to 5 am.

# **NOVEMBER 30, 2020**

- Roundtable updates were provided by each of the Chiefs'
  Working Groups on the development of their work plans for addressing the priority goals of Council.
- A briefing was provided on assistance the MCA has been providing on the Federal Indian Day School application process; Council agreed that it will remain status quo. The MCA will only provide administrative support for application submissions. Gowling law firm is to be contacted by applicants for free legal advice and they are reachable by e-mail and phone.
- Council discussed a request for assistance from Habitat for Humanity for a community partnership. Further research will be conducted on the proposed partnership.
- An overview of a draft terms of reference for the creation of an AFNQL-Quebec table was discussed and feedback will be provided to the AFNQL.
  - Council discussed a request for assistance from local hunters concerned about the availability and cost of ammunition. The request was denied.
  - A briefing was provided on the use of the former MCA Administration #2 Building. The portfolio

- will work to have the capital plan and space needs study updated.
- Council agreed that Council Meetings will not be held on December 21 and December 28, 2020.
- A briefing was provided on a letter received from the Municipality of Dundee; further research on will done on the status of the by-law infraction.
- Council discussed a request for a letter of support for a community business and deferred it until further information is obtained.
- MCRs passed: Petition to disband group called "Land Protectors" declared null and void.

continued on page 14

# COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

# SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT

# **DECEMBER 7, 2020**

- The Director of the Department of Community and Social Services (DCSS) provided Council with an overview of a draft service manual for foster care, titled "Kontinonha Service Manual".
- A concern was brought forward regarding joint messaging between the MCA and the SRMT; it was decided that consideration will be given to any request that comes forward.
- Council discussed a letter received from the Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust requesting Council's feedback on

- an honorarium increase for the Trustees and a transfer of the administration of the Trust Overseers honorarium to the Trust. A response to the Trust will be drafted.
- A concern regarding mail delivery to various parts of the community was discussed. A meeting will be set up with Canada Post to address the issues.
- A question on MCA's funeral assistance policy was brought forward; information on the policy will be distributed to Council.
- MCRs passed: Approval of Issuance of Cannabis Retail License;

(2) Approval of allotment of land to community member for loan paid off, Approval of amendment to Akwesasne/Canada Funding agreement; Approval of union contract between the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE), and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA); Approval of (7) Council Meeting Minutes; Approval of Kontinonha Service Manual for Akwesasne Child and Family Services.

# **DECEMBER 14, 2020**

- Roundtable updates were provided by each of the Chiefs' Working Groups on the development of their work plans to achieve the priority goals of Council.
- MCA's legal counsel briefed Council on a request for collaboration on an upcoming online survey regarding domestic travel. Council decided that they will not collaborate on this initiative.
- A request that the ages for specific groups be clarified was discussed as this can affect the eligibility for services.
- Council discussed a request for clarification on the Akwesasne

- Emergency Curfew Law. Follow up will take place directly with the requester.
- An update was provided on the recent interviews and pending recommendation for a custodial manager for the Dundee settlement proceeds. A MCR will be forthcoming.
- A request that MCA's holiday hours be publicized was discussed and will be followed up on by administration.
- MCRs passed: Approval of funding submission to Rapid Housing Initiative; Approval of (2) allotments of land to community members for loans being paid

off; Approval of new leases with Upper Canada District School Board and Iohahi:io; Approval of Education Services Agreement between AMBE and Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario; Approval of MOU between Iohahi:io and Algonquin College; and Approval of (8) Council Meeting Minutes.



# COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

# SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT

# **JANUARY 4, 2021**

- Legal counsel provided Council with a briefing on a request received from the Quebec courts for our membership list, to allow the Quebec courts to include Akwesasronon for jury selection. Council denied the request.
- Council discussed the current surge in COVID-19 cases within Akwesasne and requested an update on the timelines for the vaccine rollout.
- An update was provided by the Chiefs committee on the COVID care package deliveries.

MCRs passed: Approval of allotment of land to community member (loan paid off); Approval of lease on St. Francis Island; Approval of lease on Colquhoun Island; Approval of amendment to previous MCR due to numbering error; Approval of navigational permit on Cornwall Island; Approval of assignment of lease on Renshaw Island; Approval of allotment of land to community member (loan paid off); Approval of appointment of community member to represent Tsi Snaihne on the Akwesasne Review Commission (ARC).

# DECEMBER 21, 2020 EMERGEN-CY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE

 MCRs passed: Approval for Tsiionkwanohnso:te to enter into agreement with hiring agency; Approval of 2020/21 Indigenous Services Canada Healthy Child Development funding agreement; Approval of 2020/21 Indigenous Health Services Tobacco Strategy funding agreement; Approval of (3) Canada/Akwesasne funding agreements.

# **JANUARY 11, 2021**

- A concern regarding the need to clarify the applicability of Quebec's curfew was discussed. A clarification will be sent to the community informing them that the Akwesasne Curfew Law is in effect in MCA's jurisdiction and our curfew is currently set from 11 pm to 5 am.
- Council further discussed a re-

quest for assistance from Habitat for Humanity for a potential partnership to benefit a community member. Further follow up will be done with the community member being assisted.

- The agenda for the 1/28/21 General Meeting was set and will be distributed prior to the meeting.
- Council discussed the recent presentation received on an oppor-

tunity to invest in a renewable energy project. Council determined that due to the short time frame, the opportunity will be declined.

MCRs passed: Approval of wage enhancement agreement for PSWs at Tsiionkwanonhso:te; Approval to extend the appointment of Akwesasne Legislative Commission members until June 2021.

# **JANUARY 18, 2021**

 MCRs passed: Approval of CO-VID support for the Akwesasne Justice Department; Approval to rescind 3 upgrade loans to community members (loans no longer needed); Approval of Pandemic Pay contribution agreement for all PSWs within Department of Health; Approval of 2019/2020 Audit for Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Smoke Free Program; Approval of 2019/2020 Audit for Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Community Support Program; Approval of 2019/2020 Audit for Ministry of Health and Long Term Care AIDS Program; and Approval of working group to finalize the Akwesasne Emergency Response Law 2021.

# TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE NOVEMBER 2020 UPDATES



Portfolio: Justice, Public Safety, Ex-

ecutive Services

Month: November 2020

**Committee:** Finance, Governance,

Cannabis Working Task Group

# All Meetings Listed are thru the "Zoom" technology

The month of November Council continues to operate thru 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. Meeting with Tribal Leadership is a bi-weekly meeting schedule.

The focus for Council was the CO-VID 19, as June I began working within my portfolios and existing projects.

-Weekly Monday Council Meetings 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 provide updates 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.

-Bi-Weekly Friday Leadership Meeting with SRMT.

General Meeting was held this month on November 26th, virtually thru Zoom. The process went well, presentations were made on a Neighborhood Watch Program and the Fibre Project for Tsi Snaihne.

# Work in Progress:

This section will provide the community with other activities, projects and initiatives that are still unwill also serve as an informative upbeing advanced for the community. 1. This month Council reviewed tion Initiative. Council Priorities where we had a 6. Neighborhood Watch Program,

Goals. Six goals were identified priorities and committees of Council members established to begin work on the goals. I now sit on two committees: Host a Community Recreation Forum and Take Care of the Vulnerable. Each committee has meet weekly and developing work plan and strategies.

2.Recreational Cannabis Working Task Group Meetings continue, we met on November 27th. The WTG continues the work to reviewing applications and has not started with the law, regulations and potential charter.

- 3. A Finance Committee meeting was held on November 5th. discussed numerous topics and continue our work on implementing the FAL.
- 4. Justice Portfolio Meeting was held November 12th. This meeting is held with the Director where political issues are raised. The Director Justice and Portfolios began meetings this month to review the legislative development component of the Justice Department.
- MCA/CBSA Communications der development or in progress. It Relations Working Table meetings were held on November 25th. This date on where items are and what is table was developed from the MCA/ CBSA Border Crossing Collabora-
- couple meetings to decide a pro- I had a couple of discussions with cess to review the Strategic Plan Akwesasne Mohawk Police to dis-

continued on page 17

# TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE NOVEMBER 2020 UPDATES

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cuss this work. We had been working to present at the General Meeting in March 2020, it was halted due to COVID-19, it was presented at the November 2020 General Meeting. The presentation was an outline of what a Neighborhood Watch Program might look like, we are looking for input and dialogue with community members.

- 7. Membership Review WTG meet this month on November 3rd; this committee is reviewing the documents associated with the Membership Code & Residency Law.
- sign. The Station #3 in Tsi Snaihne is in need of a new facility. The members of the Station have engaged a firm to begin the design to assist with funding and am now the Minister.

working with the Station Members, 11. I also participated in a session tive Director and DTS on this file. Meetings continued this month. Council has agreed to sponsor the cost associate with the design phase.

- Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service and Akwesasne Policing Association negotiations on November 24 & 25th this month.
- Meeting with Chiefs of Ontario as they prepared to meet with Minister Lametti, the Attorney General and Justice Minister to discuss 8. HAVFD Station #3 Building De- the Proposed law to implement United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Rights. Concern was the lack of consultation and engagement with First Nation Communiphase, they have spent time de- ties. The meeting was held where signing for their needs. I was asked these concerns were presented to

Consultants, Grand Chief, Execu- with the Minister of Public Safety, Minister Blair, again coordinated thru the Chiefs of Ontario to discuss laws and by-laws on First Nations. Interesting that the Minister mentioned the work being done in 9. This month I participated in the Akwesasne which he is aware of by the proposals and discussions held with Grand Chief, Justice Portfolio Chiefs; Julie and myself, as well as, the Director of Justice. We will con-10. I participated in a Preparation tinue to pursue this Minister for the funding we've been asking for to build on our existing compliance program.

- 12. I participated in the AF-NQL Chiefs Assembly on November 26th with Grand Chiefs Proxy. I presented Council table for consideration and provided feedback to the AF-NQL table.
- 13. The Second Wave Committee of Chiefs have met several times; we

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# **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE**

- **(** 613-575-5005
- **613-575-2331**
- EOC@AKWESASNE.CA



# TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE NOVEMBER 2020 UPDATES

continued from page 17

are working to prepare care pack- navirus. On November 17-20th we into the second wave of the coro- Care Packages.

ages for the community as we head met to package 1500 COVID-19

# TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE DECEMBER 2020 UPDATES

ecutive Services

Month: December 2020

Committee: Finance, Governance, Cannabis Working Task Group

# the Zoom technology

The month of December Council continues to operate through technology utilizing Zoom software for our meetings. Our meetings consisted of Council meeting, Council COVID Update, Border Update meeting which includes the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Leadership all held on a weekly basis. Leadership Meeting with Tribal Leadership is

**Portfolio:** Justice, Public Safety, Ex- held on a bi-weekly meeting schedule. der remains closed to non-essential The focus for Council was and is the COVID 19, as June I began working within my portfolios and existing projects again.

-Weekly Monday Council Meetings All Meetings Listed are through to conduct MCA business. Program Offices were opened at the end of July to the community. Appointments are required to meet with staff. Over the past few months our offices have had to restrict community members and lessen the amount of employees in facilities to try and curb the spread of the virus. -Weekly Tuesday Border Update Meeting with CBSA/US Customs/ Leadership are held to maintain an update on potential changes. Bor-

travel.

-Weekly Wednesday Council COVID 19 Update Meeting is held to provide updates on areas surrounding Akwesasne and discuss issues of concern.

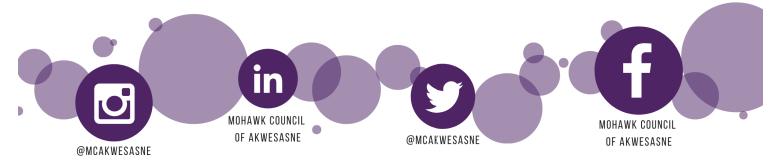
-Thursday is my scheduled day to be in the office. I attend and work from our office on this day the rest of the week I work from home. Our office is now located at Admin I

-Bi-Weekly Friday Leadership Meeting with SRMT.

General Meeting was not held this month.

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# STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



# TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE DECEMBER 2020 UPDATES

continued from page 18

# 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. This month Council reviewed Council Priorities where we had a couple meetings to decide a process to review the Strategic Plan Goals. Six goals were identified priorities and committees of Council members established to begin work on the goals. I now sit on two committees: Host a Community Recreation Forum and Take Care of the Vulnerable. Each committee has met weekly, developed work plan and strategies. Both committees have been working to meet the work plans.

- 2. A meeting was held with Tribal Leadership and our Cannabis Working Task Group Meetings on December 22nd.
- 3. A Finance Committee meeting was not held this month; the committee meets bi-monthly and our next meeting will be January 5th.
- 4. Council has started meetings with staff to work on strengthening communication and processes. We have had a couple of meetings this month.

Adaptation Fund that I had worked with staff on developing an application I provided that file/information to the Executive Director.

6. Justice Portfolio Meeting was scheduled for December 10th. We requested it to be postponed to January due to scheduling of the delivery of the COVID Care Packages.

7. The Chiefs Committee met on

- December 9th to prepare for delivery of the COVID Care Packages we began delivery of packages on December 10th, 11th, 15th, and 18th. 8. MCA/CBSA Leadership Working Table meeting was held on December 11th with Grand Chief, Chief Julie and myself with the CBSA President, VP's, Regional Director and staff. This table was developed from the MCA/CBSA Border Crossing Collaboration Initiative, items of discussion included: Domestic Lane Pilot Project, Community Relations and Planning Roadmap.
- 9. Membership Review WTG meet this month on December 1st this committee is reviewing the documents associated with the Membership Code & Residency Law.
- 10. HAVFD Station #3 Building Design. The Station #3 in Tsi Snaihne is in need of a new facility. The members of the Station have engaged a firm to begin the design phase, 5. I had a file: Disaster Mitigation they have spent time designing for

their needs. I was asked to assist with funding and am now working with the Station Members, Consultants, Grand Chief, Executive Director and DTS on this file. Meetings continued this month. Council has agreed to sponsor the cost associate with the design phase. Meetings are ongoing.

- 11. This month on December 15th Grand Chief and the Public Safety Portfolio held a meeting with Oneida of the Thames First Nation to discuss community policing.
- 12. I participated in the AFNQL Chiefs meeting on December 1st and 7th to discuss the United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the AFNQL wanted to review the proposed law Canada plans to submit as their version on how to implement UNDRIP in Canada. We also prepared for the AFN Annual General Assembly. I had a conversation with AFNQL Regional Chief Picard on the Chiefs Committee of Emergency Management that I have a seat on representing AFNQL and discussion on the Political Table between the AFNQL/Government of Quebec Terms of Reference that was being developed.
- 13. I participated in the AFN Annual General Assembly on December 8 & 9th. These sessions went until 8:30 and 7:30pm respectively. The AFN is finally pushing Canada to fulfill

# TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE NOVEMBER 2020 UPDATES

continued from page 19

the Truth & Reconciliation Commission recommendation for Justice Systems in First Nations. Resolutions were presented to the Chiefs in Assembly with debate and eventually approved. I also participated in the AFNQL morning caucus held on December 9th where I spoke to Minister Bennett, Minister of Crown and Indigenous Northern Affairs on their commitment to Justice Sys-

tems. She pledged to do better for funding of the Akwesasne Court, I will work with Grand Chief to follow up on that pledge.

14. I was off on December 24th-January 4th for the Holiday Break.

# **Collaborative Opportunities:**

Outside committees or meetings such as AIAI, IC, AFN, COO, etc. Using meeting agenda's as reference.

- Assembly of First Nations Quebec & Labrador (AFNQL)
- 2. Assembly of First Nations
- 3. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)
- 4. Crown & Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs (CIRNA)
- 5. Department of Justice
- 6. Public Safety Canada
- 7. CBSA
- 8. Transport Canada
- 9. Canadian Coast Guard

# 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.



# MOHAWK COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

MCR #086 Contribution Agreement for Indigenous Court worker FY 2017-2020 Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-

For: 6 Against: 0 CARRIED

cis

MCR #087 Ministry of Education 2019-2020 First Nations Child Care and /or Child Family Service Agreement Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis

Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson

Fam 4

For: 6 Against: 0 CARRIED

MCR #088 Access to Territory Request

Moved by: Chief Edward Roundpoint

Seconded by: Chief Tobi Mitchell

For: 10 Against: 0 CARRIED

MCR #089 Lot 28 Colquboun Island West-Assignment of Lease Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson

For: 10 Against: 0
CARRIED

MCR #090 To confirm signing Authority for the Indigenous Services
Canada 10 Year Grant-Compre-

hensive Funding Agreement Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Theresa Jacobs

For: 10 Against: 0
CARRIED

MCR #091 Applicant Requirements Interim Cannabis License
-Retail

Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-

For: 10 Against: 0
CARRIED

MCR #092 Accept & Approve Emergency Council Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtokha/April 2, 2019

Moved by: Chief Tobi Mitchell Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-

**CARRIED** 

For: 10 Against: 0

MCR #093 Accept & Approve Council Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtokha/April 8, 2019 Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-

For: 10 Against: 0
CARRIED

cis

MCR #094 Accept & Approve Council Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtokha/April 15, 2019 Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-

For: 9 Against: 1

CARRIED

MCR #095 Accept & Approve Emergency Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtokha/April 29, 2019 Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

For: 10 Against: 0
CARRIED

MCR #096 Accept & Approve Emergency Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtohko:wa/May 6, 2019 Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

For: 10 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #097 Accept & Approve Emergency Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtohko:wa/May 9, 2019 Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis

For: 10 Against: 0
CARRIED

MCR #098 Accept & Approve Emergency Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtohko:wa/May 13, 2019 Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis Seconded by: Chief Vince Thomp-

For: 10 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #099 Accept & Approve Emergency Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtohko:wa/May 27, 2019 Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore Seconded by: Chief Tim Thomp-

son

For: 10 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #100 Accept & Approve Emergency Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtohko:wa/May 29, 2019 Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

For: 9 Against: 1

CARRIED

MCR #101 Accept & Approve Emergency Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtohko:wa/May 30, 2019 Moved by: Chief Tobi Mitchell Seconded by: Chief Tim Thompson

For: 10 Against:0
CARRIED

MCR #102 Amending MCA Pension to add a TFSA

Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

For: 9 Against: 0
CARRIED

MCR #103 Adding Funds to the MCA Pension
Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson

FEBRUARY 2021 ONKWE'TA:KE Page 21



# MOHAWK COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

For: 10 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #104 Adding Target Date Funds to the MCA Pension Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis Seconded by: Chief Tobi Mitchell

For: 10 Against: 0 **CARRIED** 

MCR #105 Adding Socially Responsible Funds to the MCA Pension

Moved by: Chief Tobi Mitchell Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

For: 10 Against: 0 **CARRIED** 

MCR F#106 Change Default Investment to Target date Funds Moved by: Chief Joe Lazore Seconded by: Chief Tim Thomp-

For: 10 Against: 0 **CARRIED** 

MCR #107 Amending MCA Pension Contribution Formula Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Julie Jacobs

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #108 Accept & Approve General Meeting Minutes dated Onerahtoko:wa/May 23, 2019 Moved by: Chief Joe Lazore

Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Julie Jacobs

For: 11 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #109 New Construction Application Approval for FY 2019-2020

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore Seconded by: Chief Theresa Jacobs

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #110 New Construction Application Approval for FY 2019-2020

Moved by: Chief Tobi Mitchell Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #111 New Construction Application Approval for FY 2019-2020

Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson Seconded by: Chief Theresa Jacobs

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #112 New Construction Application Approval for FY 2019-2020

Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

MCR #113 Housing –Upgrade Application

Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #114 Housing – Upgrade Application

Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #115 Kawehnoke River **Apartment Road Five Plex** Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #116 Ministry of Children Community and Social Services (MCCSS) Registered Education Saving Plans

Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #117 Indigenous Services Canada 2019-2020 Family Violence Prevention Funding Moved by: Chief Vanessa Adams Seconded by: Chief Tim Thompson

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #118 1,000 Officers Program Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore Seconded by: Chief Tim Thomp-

For: 9 Against: 0

son

**CARRIED** 

MCR #119 Fire Alarm System & Magnetic Door Lock Renovation/ Retrofit-Tsiionkwanonhso:te Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs Seconded by: Chief Tobi Mitchell

For: 9 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #120 terminating the funding under the old FNIH Agreement 1516-ON-000010

Moved by: Chief Edward Round-

**CARRIED** 

Seconded by: Chief April Phillips

For: 12 Against: 0

MCR #121 Assignment of Lease-

Lot 1A-8 Pilon Island

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore Seconded by: Chief Tim Thomp-

son

For: 12 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

**MCR** #122 Rescind **MCR** 2015/2016- #197 dated November 10, 2015

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore

Chief Edward Seconded by:

Roundpoint

MOHAWK COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS						
For: 12 Against: 0 CARRIED	Seconded by: Chief Edward Roundpoint	MCR #132 New Youth Council	cis For: 11 Against: 0			
	For: 9 Against: 0	Member Teach Teach Council	CARRIED			
MCR #123 Permit- Lot 54 Thomp- son Island	CARRIED	Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore	MCR #137 2018-2021 Revised			
Moved by: Chief Joe Lazore	MCR #128 Upgrade Application-	For: 11 Against: 0	Portfolio Listing			
Seconded by: Chief Edward Roundpoint	Rescind Approved Repair Loan  Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson	CARRIED	Moved by: Chief Vanessa Adams Seconded by: Chief Tim Thomp-			
For: 12 Against: 0	Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-	MCR #133 Access to Territory Re-	son			
CARRIED	cis	quest	For: 11 Against: 0			
MCR #124 Permit – Lot 55 Thompson Island	For: 11 Against:0 CARRIED	Moved by: Chief Edward Round- point	CARRIED			
Moved by: Chief Edward Round-	MCD #420 Have do Avelhatia	Seconded by: Chief Tobi Mitchell	MCR #138 All Signing Officers			
point Seconded by: Chief Vince Thomp-	MCR #129 Upgrade Application- Rescind Approved Renovation Loan	For: 11 Against: 0 CARRIED	Bank of Montreal, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Executive Director, Finance			
son For: 12 Against: 0	Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson	MCR #134 Accept & Approve	Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson			
CARRIED	Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis	the Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) Amending Agreement	Seconded by: Chief April Adams  For: 11 Against: 0			
MCR #125 Contract between	For: 11 Against: 0	for: Agreement No. 1920-ON-	CARRIED			
MCA and AEDA for Mohawk Language Courses	CARRIED	000024-Amendment No.0001  Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson	MCR #139 Audit of the Schedule			
Moved by: Chief Theresa Jacobs	MCR #130 Amendment to the Hir-	Seconded by: Chief Edward	of Revenues and Expenditures for			
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore For: 12 Against: 0	ing of a Pediatrician  Moved by: Chief April Adams	Roundpoint  For: 11 Against: 0	Literacy and Basic Skills Program under the Ministry of Advanced			
CARRIED	Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran- cis	CARRIED	Education and Skills Development Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis			
MCR #126 Amendment to the	For: 11 Against: 0	MCR #135 Healing Lodge Initia-	Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore			
MOHLTC Champlain Community  Care Access Center Amending	CARRIED	tive Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore	For: 11 Against: 0 CARRIED			
Agreement	MCR #131 The Hiring of a Clinical	Seconded by: Chief Tobi Mitchell				
Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis	Supervisor/Certified Counselor,	For: 11 Against: 0	MCR #140 Indian Register Admin-			
Seconded by: Chief April Phillips  For:11 Against: 1	Department of Health  Moved by: Chief April Adams	CARRIED	istrator Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson			
CARRIED	Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-	MCR #136 OLG Funds to hire a	Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-			
	cis	Paralegal	cis			

ONKWE'TA:KE FEBRUARY 2021 Page 23

**CARRIED** 

Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore

Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Fran-

For: 11 Against: 0

**CARRIED** 

MCR #127 CM#C Mortgage Re- For: 11 Against: 0

newal Ref#19322 353 007

Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson

# **SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION**

# **FACEBOOK STATS**



Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in January

- 1. Open Letter to Our Neighbours
- 2. Nia:wen to the Staff at lakhihsohtha
- 3. COVID-19 Positive Case Reported at lakhihsohtha
- 4. Update on COVID-19 Outbreak at Tsiionkwanonhso:te LTC Facility (Jan. 5)

5. Suspicious Male Detained in Tsi Snaihne (Snye)

# Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in January

- 1. Open Letter to Our Neighbours 90,096 reached
- 2. The Social Bubble You Think You Have vs. The Social Bubble You Actually Have 11,890 reached
- 3. Grand Chief Live Update with CKON (Video) 11,198 reached
- 4. Nia:wen to the Staff at lakhihsohtha 9,362 reached
- 5. MCA Teams Up to Distribute Backpacks & Supplies to Homeless Akwesasronon 8,927 reached

# **TWITTER STATS**

**Top Tweet in January** 





# You Tube

# **YOUTUBE STATS**

Highest Viewed Videos on the MCA Youtube Channel for January

- 1. Nia:wen To Our Frontline Workers
- 2. COVID-19 Safety Reminders | A Message from Grand Chief
- 3. MCA COVID-19 PSA

# **EXECUTIVE SERVICES**



We would like to thank our Water/Wastewater crew, the local fire crew, Howie Jock Excavation, Lazore's Construction and Corey Tarbell from the Housing Division for restoring the watermain break on Kawehno:ke in a timely manner and working hard with the residents needs in mind. Niawenhko:wa!

Nia:wenhko:wa to Valene Gray, owner of Three Feathers Café, for generously offering her services to deliver Meals on Wheels, ensuring our elders are provided this much-needed service.

Nia:wen to all of the teachers throughout the Ahkwe-

sahsne Mohawk Board of Education for helping to ensure that students are helped with their school work and being creative during this school year and the ongoing pandemic. We would also like to thank all of the parents/caregivers, as well as the resilient students, for doing all you can do to get through this difficult school year.

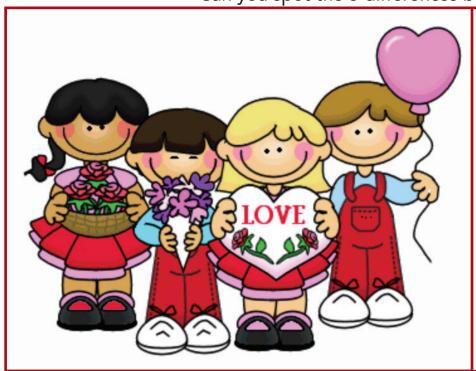
The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to share a message for frontline workers: niawenhkó:wa. Your tireless efforts do not go unnoticed and we are so thankful for your commitment to caring for our community!



# CHILDREN'S PAGE

# **SPOT THE DIFFERENCES!**

Can you spot the 5 differences between these happy valentines?

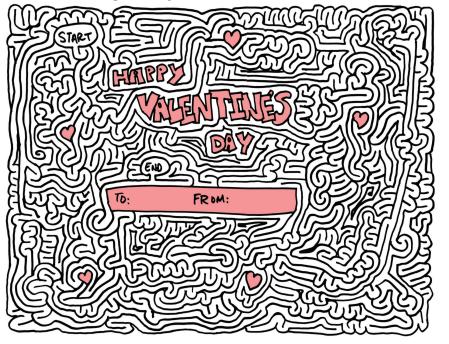




1. One of the purple flowers is now pink. 2. The gift holding flowers now has pink socks. 3. The balloon is longer in the second picture. 5. Extra row of buttons missing in second picture on pants of boy on right.

# SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

Try out this LOVEly maze, or give it your sweet Valentine!



# YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

What did one pickle say to the other?
You mean a great dill to me!

What kind of flowers do you never give on Valentines Day?

Cauliflowers!

What happens when you fall in love with a French chef?

You get buttered up!.
What do you call a vampire's sweetheart? His ghoul-friend!

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.











- 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!

# UPDATE ON COVID-19 OUTBREAK AT TSIIONKWANONHSO:TE LTC FACILITY (JANUARY 22)

In our ongoing effort to keep the community updated with the latest on the COVID-19 outbreak at the Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long Term Care Facility, we are informing the community that twelve (12) residents have recovered from their COVID-19 diagnosis, with three (3) residents still being reported as active.

The current statistics for cases at the facility are as follows:

Total cases of Tsiionkwanonhso:te residents: 21 resident cases

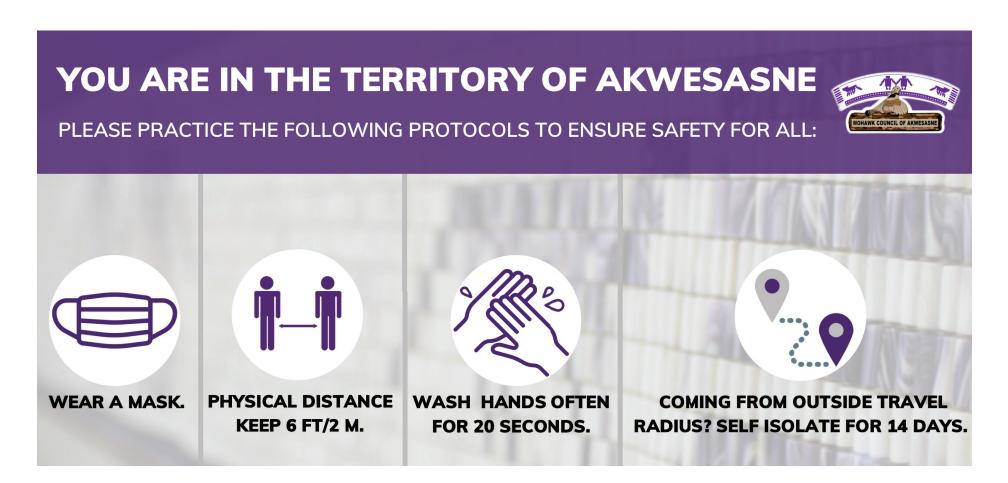
Total resolved residents: 12 recovered

Total COVID-related passings: 6

In our ongoing effort to keep the community updat- Total active residents: 3 active (as of January 28, 2021)

MCA extends its best wishes for a speedy recovery to all those infected, as well as appreciation to those isolating and quarantining to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. We also extend our sincerest appreciation to our frontline workers and long-term care staff who have remained diligent and dedicated during this most trying time.

We express our sincerest condolences to those who have lost a loved one.





Getting outside as a family is a great way to spend time REMEMBER TO STAY SAFE together.

Getting outside provides more than a fun break for children and teens. It is also good for their physical and mental health and development.

But what can you do outdoors while staying a safe distance from others during the COVID-19 pandemic?

### Think SNOW SCULPTURES!

twigs, leaves, cones, rocks and more by sticking the free. collected items into your creation.

Take advantage of the healing power of play in nature - in your own backyard. Be sure to follow local public health guidelines about wearing masks and keep at least 6 feet from others not in your family. Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer during and after your adventure.

Getting outdoors, being in nature, and moving our bodies is good for everyone!

Let's be creative. Your snow sculpture can be built with Let's keep our activities fun, as well as drug & alcohol

# MCA COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM ADMINISTERS COVID-19 VACCINE TO LTC HOMES AND STAFF

Program is announcing that the first COVID-19 vaccine residents or staff were offered the vaccine, and they clinic took place over the weekend of January 15-16, 2021. Residents and staff in MCA's long-term care (LTC) facilities were given priority in receiving the COVID-19 vaccines when they were made available.

doses of the COVID-19 vaccine were administered: 70 on January 15, and 40 on January 16. There has been

The Department of Health's (DOH) Community Health no adverse effects or reactions reported. If any LTC opted not to receive it, the next order of priority was contacted: police, medical transport, and home care staff.

A big niawenhkó:wa is extended to the team of nurs-Over the two-day vaccine clinic at the LTC facilities, 110 es and staff who went above and beyond assisting the LTC homes in getting the vaccine delivered and administered.



Staff and residents from our long-term care facilities lahkihsohtha and Tsiionkwanonhso:te received the COVID-19 vaccination.

# COVID-19 COMMUNITY SITUATION REPORT

(JAN. 28, 2021) -

MCA			
TOTAL TESTS	1,432		
TOTAL POSITIVE CASES	152		
ACTIVE CASES	16		

This information was provided by the MCA Community Health Program.

Data was updated as of <u>Jan. 28, 2021</u>.

SRMT		
TOTAL TESTS	6,849	
TOTAL POSITIVE CASES	149	
ACTIVE CASES	22	

This information was provided by the SRMT Emergency Operations Center.

Data was updated as of <u>Jan. 28, 2021</u>.

**TOTAL DEATHS** 

6

SURROUNDING AREAS					
	ACTIVE CASES	TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	TOTAL TESTS	
EOHU REGION	416	2,441	52	101,646	
FRANKLIN CO.	318	1,470	8	56,892	
ST. LAWRENCE CO.	939*	4,641	66	176,699	

This information was provided by the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (updated <u>Jan. 28, 2021</u>), Franklin County Public Health (updated <u>Jan. 28, 2021</u>), & St. Lawrence County Public Health (updated <u>Jan. 28, 2021</u>). (\*Last updated 1/27/21).

PROVINCIAL, NATIONAL & GLOBAL				
	TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS		
ONTARIO	262,463	6,014		
CANADA	761,226	19,533		
WORLDWIDE	100.4 million	2.16 million		

This information was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health, Health Canada, & the World Health Organization.

Data was updated as of <u>Jan. 28, 2021</u>.











# AKWESASNE MOHAWK AMBULANCE EXTENDS THANK YOU TO COMMUNITY SETTLEMENT TRUST

The Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance (AMA) would of a Chevy Tahoe which acts as a "fly car". like to extend its sincerest gratitude to the Akwesasne Community Trust Fund (ACSTF), for their as- When the new ambulance unit arrived in Akwesistance in the purchase of the Ambulance Unit #3, a 2020 Ford F450 Ambulance. The new vehicle provides upgrades to the ambulance and emergency medical services that the AMA provides to the was returned, and put back into rotation to assist in community.

The AMA applied for the 2019 ACSTF in the January 2019 Call for Proposals. The AMA proposal was approved in April 2019. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Ambulance was not built and delivered until October 2020. The ACSTF has been instrumental in assisting the AMA in upgrading the Ambulance Fleet. To date, they the new vehicles make for a more comfortable experihave upgraded 2 ambulances and funded the purchase ence for the patient, and employees.

sasne, it had experienced a few technical issues, and was taken out of rotation for repairs. Once the repairs and technical issues were addressed, the unit serving our community.

The new ambulance unit provides many updates and services, which provides our Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) with the ability to provide top-of-theline service and response times to our community. Updated lift systems and easier access for stretchers in



Staff members of the AMA with the Ambulance Unit #3.

# MCA SEEKS HEALTHCARE STAFF

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is current- al positions will be filled immediately on an emergency ly seeking staff to fill several positions and ar- hire, term basis. eas in need throughout the Department of Health. Staff are currently sought for the following areas/posi-The pandemic has left many programs short on staff or tions: Nurses, RPNs, and Personal Support Workers. unable to fill positions.

We are encouraging anyone interested in emergency to: employment to submit a resume identifying skills and • jobs@akwesasne.ca areas of interest to our Human Resources office. Sever- • 613-575-2250 ext. 2145, 2146, or 2147

Any questions or resume submissions can be directed



WE'RE HIRING!

# **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT MCA**

AKWESASNE.CA/EMPLOYMENT



The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Dept. of Health is urging community members to prioritize their health and medical visits despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Delaying medical appointments or check-ups could lead to more serious medical conditions. Be sure to keep your appointments with specialists and attend medical appointments such as hospital MRI's, Ultrasounds, etc. This will ensure that your health continues to receive proper attention. These appointments should not be cancelled or avoided due to the pandemic.

Please contact one of our medical clinics for appointments or instructions. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please go to your nearest Emergency Room.

MCA's two medical clinics currently book patients for phone appointments, and in some cases in person visits are scheduled. Please contact the Akwesasne Medical Clinic (St. Regis/Kana:takon) at 613-575-2341 or the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic (Cornwall Island) at 613-932-5808.

Please check on elders who may need reminders or assistance regarding their health appointments. MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE DEPT. OF HEALTH URGENT REMINDER.

# 12 10

# KEEP YOUR HEALTH IN CHECK

- Prioritize your health and medical visits despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Delaying medical appointments or check-ups could lead to more serious medical conditions.
- Keep your appointments with specialists and attend medical appointments, hospital MRI's, Ultrasounds, etc. This will ensure that your health continues to receive proper attention.
- Appointments should not be cancelled or avoided due to the pandemic.
- Please contact one of our medical clinics for appointments or instructions. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please go to your nearest Emergency Room.
- Please check on elders who may need reminders or assistance regarding their health appointments.

# MCA MEDICAL CLINIC PHONE NUMBERS

- Akwesasne Medical Clinic (St. Regis/Kana:takon) 613-575-2341
- Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic (Cornwall Island) 613-932-5808.

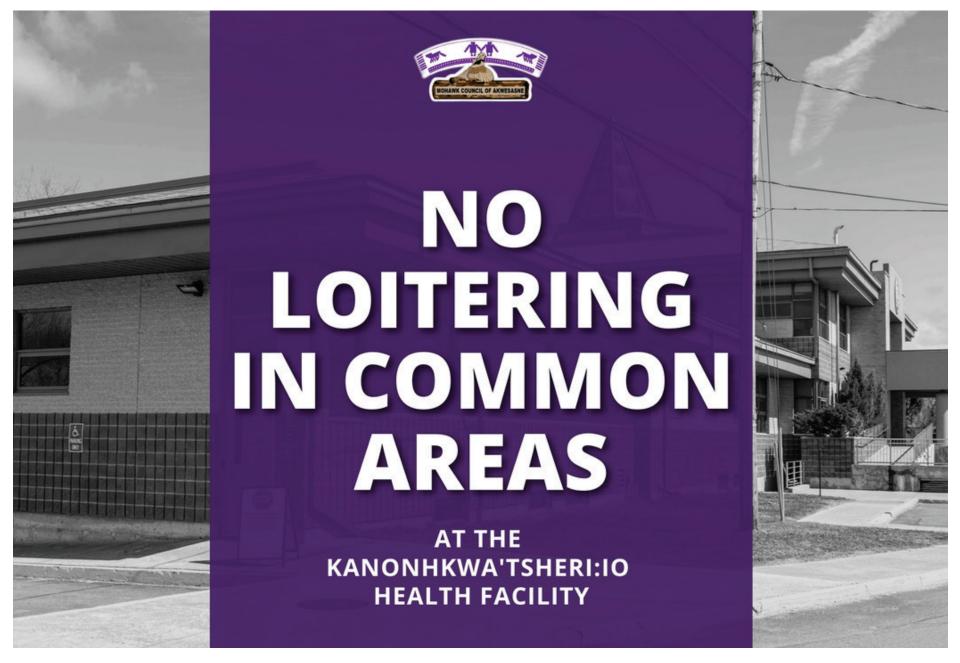
# NO LOITERING AT KANONHKWA'TSHERI: IO HEALTH FACILITY

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 Social distancing procedures for the facility that require visitors to be spread escorted to and from their appointments. Community we can all do our part to protect each other and the members are not permitted to wander or loiter in the community.

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.

efforts help to slow the COVID-19. Working of together,



# I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19. WHAT DO I DO?

If you were notified of an exposure by a public health authority, call the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 for screening and advisement of your isolation period.

It is recommended to self-isolate for 14 days or until cleared or resolved by your health care provider.

### **STAY AT HOME**

DO NOT go out for groceries or other items. Have a designated person to do your essential shopping. Stay in a designated room away from your immediate family and use a separate toilet/bathroom if possible. Continue to wash your hands frequently and sanitize your home.



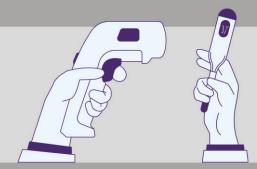


### **GET TESTED**

Call ahead to make an appointment (do NOT just show up) through the MCA Department of Health. The COVID-19 testing site has recently been relocated to Third Street in Kana:takon. Please note that this should be the ONLY time you leave your home during self-quarantine. If you need immediate medical care, call Central Dispatch at 613-575-2000.

### **MONITOR YOUR SYMPTOMS**

Make sure that you take your temperature regularly (high fever is anything over 100°F), and monitor COVID-19 symptoms, which include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and fatigue. If symptoms worsen, call your medical health provider.





# **KEEP A LOG**

Make a list of those that you have been around recently in the case you are positive. It is helpful to keep a daily log and keep of list of people and locations you were around if needed by any public health authority.

# SELF-ISOLATE AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN TESTED FOR COVID-19

If you were notified of an exposure, please call the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 for screening and advisement of isolation period.

It is recommended to self-isolate for 14 days or until you are cleared/resolved by your health care provider.



IF YOU WERE EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19, PLEASE BE SURE TO GET TESTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



STAY AT HOME.

DO NOT GO OUT FOR
ESSENTIAL ITEMS
BECAUSE IF YOU ARE
POSITIVE, YOU COULD
SPREAD THE VIRUS.



STAY IN DESIGNATED ROOM AWAY FROM YOUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY & USE A SEPARATE BATHROOM IF POSSIBLE.



AFTER YOU RECEIVE YOUR RESULTS, PLEASE FOLLOW ADVISEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY.

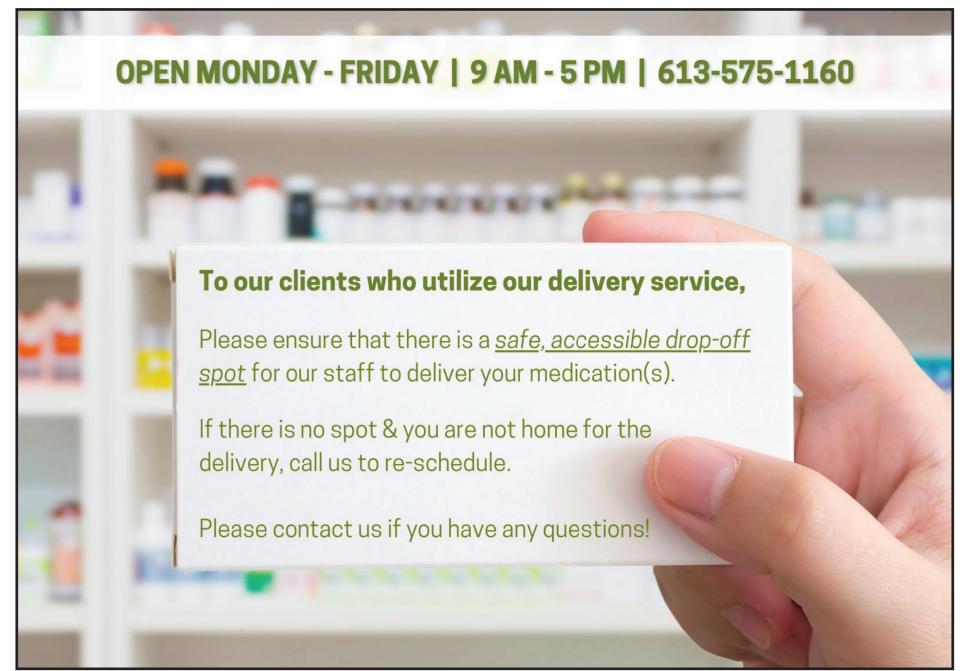


# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# PHARMACY REMINDS COMMUNITY TO ENSURE ACCESSIBLE **DROP SPOT FOR MEDICATION DELIVERY**

Proxim Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility, is notifying com- in an easily-accessible box or shelf by your doorstep. munity members who utilize the delivery service for All measures are being taken to keep our staff, and our their medications that there needs to be a no-contact, community members, safe. accessible method/drop spot for the delivery of their prescriptions. If you will not be home to receive your. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please medications when being delivered, you must provide a contact the Proxim Pharmacy staff at 613-575-1160 or method for your medications to be left, or reschedule 613-575-2341 ext. 3250.

Pharmacy Akwesasne, located in the your delivery. Delivery of medications needs to be left



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# IF YOU WITNESS AN OVERDOSE, CALL 911 OR 613-575-2000 (AMPS). IT COULD SAVE A LIFE.

DON'T HESITATE TO CALL. EVEN IF YOU HAVE TAKEN DRUGS OR HAVE THEM ON YOU, THE GOOD SAMARITAN DRUG OVERDOSE ACT CAN PROTECT YOU.

# THE BEST OPTION TO KEEP YOURSELF SAFE IS TO AVOID THE USE OF STREET DRUGS.

### BUT, IF YOU USE:

- NEVER USE ALONE
- DO NOT MIX DRUGS WITH OTHER DRUGS OR ALCOHOL
- USE LESS AT FIRST (ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE USING A NEW SUBSTANCE)
- GET A FREE NALOXONE KIT (CALL PROXIM PHARMACY AT 613-575-1160)

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR ADDICTION HELP



Akwesasne Wholistic Health & Wellness Program | 613-575-2341

Akwesasne Family Wellness Program | 613-937-4322

Akwesasne Child & Family Services 613-575-2341 ext. 3139

Akwesasne Mohawk Police Services & Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance | 613-575-2000

Grandparents Support Group | 613-575-2341 ext. 3100

Akwesasne Crime Stoppers | 613-575-2255

SRMT Health Services Drug & Alcohol Program | 518-358-3141

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

#### **NIA:WEN TO THE STAFF AT IAKHIHSOHTHA**

Council of Akwesasne appreciates all of the hard work tions—in addition to photos of the staff working hard and dedication from all of the front-line workers, including the staff from the long-term care facilities.

Today, these awesome photos were shared showing the heroes at lakhihsohtha. This amazing team continues to work hard and risk their own health in order to care for our elders.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Mohawk The staff can make the best out of stressful situain their everyday positions, you can also see how they keep the morale high, even when their stress is high. Check out the impromptu snowball fight that staff had to boost their spirits!

> Nia:wen for all that you do—we appreciate each and everyone of you.



The longterm care staff in their day-to-day routine. Last Photo: An impromtu snow-fight to reduce stress.

# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### GAS TECHNICIAN STUDENTS COMPLETE PROGRAM

Congratulations to our Gas Technician students on the completion of their program! It was a long tough journey but you guys did it! We are so proud of you all! Good luck in your future endeavors!

- Mattew Benedict
- Amos Conners Jr
- Kiowa Day
- Don Jacobs

- Nathan Oakes
- Stephanie Oakes
- Tehrenhniserakakhas Skidders
- Colton Tarbell
- Rachel Wheatley

Special nia:wen to our instructors Steve Quinn and Clark Perry.



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

Ahkwesahsne Mohawk School (613) 932-3366

#### **CONTACT US!**

Tsi Snaihne School (613) 575-2291

Kana:takon School (613) 575-2323

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

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

#### AFWP CANNOT ACCEPT NEW CLIENTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

capacity and will not be accepting any new clients until rangements. Staff at AFWP would like to remind evfurther notice. In the event of an emergency, please eryone to stay safe during these unprecedented times.

The Akwesasne Family Wellness Program is currently at contact us at 613-937-4322 for possible alternate ar-

#### IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19

If you are experiencing violence during COVID-19, help is here for you.

Community members can contact:

 Akwesasne Child & Family Services: 613-575-2341 ext. 3139 (After-hours/Emergency: 613-575-2000)

- Akwesasne Family Wellness Program: 613-937-4322
- MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program: 613-575-2341 ext. 3115
- Akwesasne Community Justice Program: 613-575-5000

# If you are experiencing violence during COVID-19:



# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING (DIH) CLOSED TO PUBLIC

Department of Infrastructure and Housing (DIH) is located, is closed to the public as part of the COVID-19 closures. Currently, 30% of staff are allowed in the building. Managers, the Director, and three staff from each area of OVS, Housing and DIH Administration are available through the MCA phone line and are physically in the building; however, the building is closed to community members unless through appointment. All of the additional staff is working from home. The Environment Staff is working remotely and at external sites, so in order to reach them, please contact Abraham Francis at Abraham.francis@akwesasne.ca or 613-575-2250 ext. 1038.

Please be advised that the CIA #3 Building, where the When the CIA #3 Building reopens to the public, there will be a new entrance through the west side of the building. Markers for direction to follow will be put in place for people to follow. The entry will be in what was formerly the Kitchen area. A notice will go out to identify the new entry for community members.

> We appreciate your patience during these trying times. If you have any questions or inquiries, please contact the Department of Housing and Infrastructure at 613-575-2341 ext. 1003.

#### GARBAGE PICKUP RESUMES NORMAL SCHEDULE

The MCA Department of Infrastructure and Housing would like to remind community members that the garbage pickup will resume with the regular weekly schedule. Although there were some changes in previous months due to the holiday season and an increase of garbage due to COVID-19, please see the schedule as follows:

Kawehno:ke—Friday Kana:takon—Saturday Recycling—Tuesdays for all districts

We appreciate all of the patience from community members and all of the efforts from the waste removal crew. Nia:wen!

Garbage Pick-up Schedule: Tsi Snaihne—Thursday

Community members will be updated if there are any changes to the garbage pick-up schedule.

# **GARBAGE PICKUP SCHEDULE**

Tsi Snaihne—Thursday Kawehno:ke—Friday Kana:takon—Saturday



# RECYCLING **PICKUP SCHEDULE**

Tuesday for ALL districts.

## DIH INTRODUCES ABRAHAM FRANCIS AS PROGRAM MANAGER **OF ENVIRONMENT**

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of In- specific services. frastructure and Housing is pleased to introduce the new Program Manager for the Environment Program. Abraham Francis, deer clan from Akwesasne and son of Kathy "Kati" Herne and the late Abraham "Saronia" Francis, is excited to start his position.

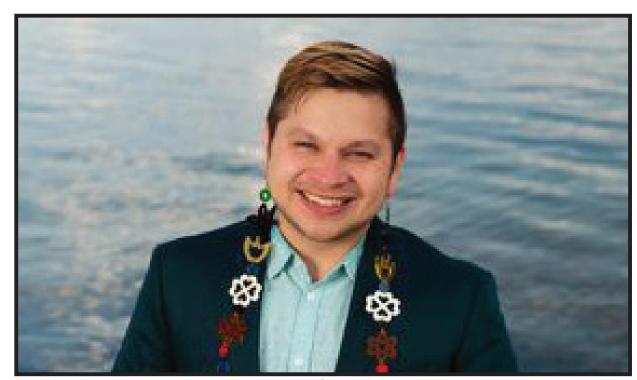
Francis, who has a BS in Microbiology and MS in Natural Resources from Cornell University, was the previous Environmental Science Officer in the Environment Program. As the new program manager, Abraham has new insights for the program that would include the development of environmental partnerships, innovative methodologies and to continue to develop research projects to address and promote community concerns through environmental means. Environment also includes the Conservation Program, which offers akwesasne.ca or 613-575-2250 ext. 1038.

Francis noted that he and his team "want to ensure that our future generations have access to clean land, water and resources. I am looking forward to the hard efforts my team will be putting in for the betterment of Akwesasronon."

Leslie Papineu, who is the acting Director for the DIH expressed that, "we are excited to have Abraham on board leading the Environment Program. We are looking forward to continue working with him and we know that he will continue to produce great work!"

For more information on the Environment Program, please contact Abraham Francis at abraham.francis@





Abraham Francis, the new Program Manager of Environment.

### COAST GUARD LIAISON UPDATE SUBMITTED BY DILLON POINT

Since starting my position as the Marine Liaison Officer between Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) I have learned a lot when it comes to the Coast Guard in general. I think back at how things were before I was hired, and the perceptions about the Coast Guard that I had are probably pretty common to how others in our community would see the CCG as well. Id like to give the readers a quick run down on just what the CCG is about, starting with dispelling the biggest misconception about the CCG's organization. The Canadian Coast Guard, unlike the American Coast Guard is not a military organization. Its not even an armed force.

The Canadian Coast Guard is an organization that provides essential services relating to the waterways around Canada. Its a Special Operating Agency within the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. CCG owns and operates the federal government's civilian fleet (meaning non-military), and provides key maritime services to Canadians.

With their mandated authority, the CCG conducts ma- -Dillon Point, Coast Guard Liaison

rine search and rescue operations to ensure the safety of people operating in Canadian waters. They conduct marine pollution response in the event that a chemical or pollution spill occurs in the waters. Maintenance of aids to navigational beacons such as buoys and lighthouses in shipping channels and coastlines. They oversee channel maintenance for water ways, and monitors communications and traffic management services to avoid traffic issues. Up north the CCG is also responsible to ensure that waterways are free of ice so that supply ships can reach northern communities.

Overall, the Canadian Coast Guard is mission-ready 24 hours a day, seven days a week and operate in almost all-weather conditions. Coast Guard vessels are often asked to head out to the sea to save lives, to provide assistance to vessels in distress, to provide safe passage for vessels transiting ice-covered waterways, and to free vessels which have become trapped in ice.

## ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #2 DEMOLITION PROJECT COMPLETE



Before, during and after. The former Mohawk Government Building (Administrative Building #2) demolition is now complete. Nia:wen to all of the crew and individuals that made this possible.

#### PATH TO RETIREMENT

If you are starting to approach retirement years, you may have many questions to ask yourself.

- Are you thinking about retiring?
- Do you every wonder if you will still have a mortgage
- payment when you retire?
- Do you think you are paying enough to have your mortgage paid off when you retire?
- Do you know what happens to your mortgage in an
- untimely death?

If these are questions you have and have not answered, we may be able to help.

An example: If you are 50 years old and only paying \$200.00 on your mortgage and still have a balance of \$50,000.00, it will take you approximately 21 years to pay it off. You will be 71 years old when your mortgage is finally paid off.

You should bev enjoying retirement instead of worrying about a mortgage payment?

Contact the Housing sector of Mohawk Council of Akwesasne to see if you are on the right path to retirement. 613-575-2250 extension 1052.



#### **CONTACT US!**

Administration (613) 575-2250 ext. 1003

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

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

Water / Wastewater Infrastructure Emergency (613) 575-2000 After Hours Pager (518)404-3352 Office Hours Mon – Fri. 8AM-4PM (613) 933-4924

Solid Waste Management (Garbage and Recycling) (613) 575-2250 ext. 1022

Housing (613) 575-2250 ext. 2300

Environment (613) 575-2250 ext. 1038

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

#### NO ICE IS SAFE ICE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne & Akwesasne Mo-nuts or granola bars, and a mechanical kit that includes: hawk Police Service would like to remind the public that use of our frozen rivers and ponds is unsafe as we tion key; screwdriver, wrenches and hammer; plus the have experienced a milder than usual winter thus far, without any "cold snaps".

Safety on waterways or the decision to use them appropriately is an adult's role. We want to avoid any accidents relating to the use of our waterways. Please keep water safety in mind at all times.

Avoid driving on the river. If it cannot be avoided, check ice conditions beforehand. Wear a buoyant snowmobile suit. Carry ice picks and make sure they are accessible. Always drive within your ability.

Tell someone of your outing, including where you are going, the route you plan to take, the description of your snowmobile and clothing and your expected time of return.

Always travel with a friend, and be prepared for the unexpected.

Never drive impaired. Alcohol, illegal drugs, even prescription and some over-the-counter drugs can slow your reaction time and affect your driving ability and decision making. If convicted of impaired driving on a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle the legal consequences are the same as they would be for impaired driving of a motor vehicle.

When operating a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle in the winter season dress appropriately. Wear clothing in layers and always carry extra dry clothing with you.

Carry a survival kit that includes: a first aid kit, matches or lighter in a waterproof container, a knife, saw or axe, a flashlight and whistle, high energy food such as

spare spark plug and drive belt; tow rope; extra igniowner's manual.

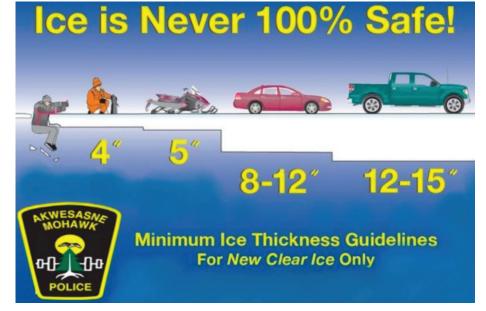
Check the weather forecast before heading out.

#### TYPES OF ICE

- Ice covered in snow Snow insulates the ice below and keeps it from getting cold enough to reach a safe thickness.
- Slush Slush indicates the ice is melting at the bottom and is not safe.
- Milky Ice This is formed from refrozen snow and is half as strong as clear ice.
- Blueish Ice This ice is strong and generally safe to walk on.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF MINIMUM ICE THICKNESS

- 12" for truck or SUV
- 9" for small automobile
- 6" for snowmobile or ATV
- 5" for small group spread out
- 4" 1 person with personal gear
- 3" or less Unsafe! Stay off ice.



# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

#### NO ICE IS SAFE ICE

#### KNOW WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL THROUGH

- 1. Do not remove clothing Clothing can provide buoyancy with trapped air.
- 2. Pick, Kick and Pull Turn toward the ice you came from, use your ice pick or claws to dig in and vigorously kick your feet while pulling yourself on to the ice by sliding yourself forward.
- 3. Roll away from Breakage Once back on the ice, roll away from the breakage to evenly distribute your weight and avoid breaking through again.
- 4. Having made it out, you need to immediately make your way to a dry and warm place. If you have symptoms of hypothermia seek immediate medical attention.

#### ICE MYTHS AND COLD REALITIES

Myth: Waterlogged clothing pulls you down in the water and makes you drown.

Reality: Actually, air trapped in your clothing will help keep you afloat temporarily. Once the clothes are soaked with water, they will be heavier, making moving and swimming more difficult.

Myth: The better you swim the better your chances of rescuing yourself if you fall through the ice.

Reality: Swimming proficiency plays only a small part in ice-related rescues. After as little as five minutes, cold water begins to rob you of your ability to move your limbs. This makes it very difficult for you to get out of the water, no matter what your swimming ability.

Myth: Snow on a frozen lake or river makes the ice surface stronger.

Reality: Snow acts as an insulating blanket, actually hindering ice formation and growth.

Myth: If the weather has been cold, the ice must be solid and safe.

Reality: Other factors that are largely independent of air temperature (e.g., wind, a layer of snow on the ice, currents and fluctuating water levels) can weaken ice and make it unable to bear weight. A sudden drop in air temperature, which is actually more dangerous than a sudden rise, can create cracks in the ice.

Myth: Thick ice is stronger than thin ice.

Reality: Even thick ice may be weak if it is "rotten" or contains layers of water. Rotten ice has frozen and thawed repeatedly, making it potentially fragile even when it appears solid.



# MOBILE/SMS ALERTS

Always stay in the loop with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne by registering for our new mobile/text alerts!

The service is free to utilize for our community members who wish to receive important updates and announcements.

# **SIGN UP HERE!**

Learn more and register for free mobile/text alerts from MCA by visiting <a href="www.akwesasne.ca/mca-mobile-sms-alert-sign-up">www.akwesasne.ca/mca-mobile-sms-alert-sign-up</a> or by scanning the QR code below.

