



## GENERAL MEETING

Seskehkó:wa/September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Kawehnoke Recreation Center/Zoom Video Conference

6:00 pm

### AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
  - A. Council Attendance
  - B. Moment of silence
2. **COUNCIL AGENDA ACCEPTANCE**
3. **RULES OF ORDER**
4. **FOLLOW UP | Ohiari:ha/June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 General Meeting Action Items**
5. **PRESENTATION | MCA Strategic Plan**
6. **PRESENTATION | Detox Center**
7. **PRESENTATION | Department of Justice- Legislative Priorities 2022/2023**
8. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**
9. **RESOLUTION**
  - A. General Meeting Minutes dated Ohiari:ha/June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022
10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - A. October General Meeting
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**General Meeting Cancellation Protocol:**

MCR 2015/2016 - #260 In the unfortunate circumstance where a community member passes in one of the three districts, the meeting will occur as regularly scheduled in the other two districts where the member did not reside. A moment of silence will also be taken in their memory.



## **General Meeting Rules of Order**

### **Prologue:**

General Meetings are to occur the last Thursday of each month and will occur in each district on a rotating basis in Kawehno:ke, Kana:takon, and Tsi Snaihne.

The exception to this is with the General Meeting Cancellation Protocol: MCR 2015/2016 - #260 *In the unfortunate circumstance where a community member passes in one of the three districts, the meeting will occur as regularly scheduled in the other two districts where the member did not reside. A moment of silence will also be taken in their memory.*

The General Meetings are an opportunity for Community Members to hear information from Council and assist Council with issues that affect the community.

The following General Meeting Rules were originally developed at a community General Meeting in July of 2006. The principles for 'General Meeting Rules' is based on respect for each other, and all attendees are expected to behave respectfully and professionally at all times.

### **General Meeting Rules:**

1. Meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. and proceed to a maximum of 8:00 p.m. at which point the community will be asked if they choose to continue past 8:00 p.m.
2. Personal issues will not be dealt with in a public forum/General Meetings. Personal items can be dealt with on an individual basis with Council Members (or by appointment through the Mohawk Government Office).
3. If you have questions or comments during the meeting – raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged by the Chairperson. The Chairperson will keep note of the order that community members indicate to be acknowledged.
4. Please keep the questions and comments relevant to the point of order within the agenda and be considerate of the time used.
5. A list will be made of issues you wish to address to Council and if the answer cannot be provided at the current meeting, the issue will be taken back to Council table for further discussion and follow-up.





## **Grand Chief Monthly Activity Report Onerahtohko:wa/May 2022**

### **MAY 2, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE**

- The Executive Directors for the Social Development Council of Cornwall and the Cornwall United Way presented to Council the Cornwall and Area Vibrant Communities Safety and Well-Being plan. Council passed a motion supporting the plan.
- Council debriefed from the recent General Meeting and provided feedback on the hybrid model for consideration.
- A request to support the St. Kateri Tekakwitha Heritage Fund was discussed. Further clarification will be sought on the total project cost.
- Council discussed the current efforts to expand and finalize the three district walking trails. Portfolio will follow up to clarify the total cost of all projects.
- A request was made for MCA legal counsel to review and provide Council with an update on the public sale of a home in Kana:takon.
- Council was provided with an update on the current requirements for non-Akwesasne crossing the international border.
- A briefing was provided on an offer to tour Ottawa smart homes being constructed by Devcore Group. A tour date will be set up.
- A request was made for an update on the Cornwall Akwesasne Harbor development.
- MCRs passed: Approval of the issuance of a Cannabis retail license to community members; Approval of term extension for commission members on the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission; Approval of assignment of leases on Hamilton Island; Approval of (2) allotments of land for mortgages paid off; Approval of MCA Department of Health COVID-19 policy for long-term care;

Acknowledgement of Ontario's decision to revoke provincial directives; Approval of 2022 Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust Proceeds.

### **MAY 2, 2022 CALL WITH CANADA POST**

On the afternoon of May 2, 2022, I participated in a call with representatives of Canada Post to discuss how Akwesasne can support Canada Post for the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30. Since the federal government declared the day a public holiday, many organizations have been working to include First Nations in the acknowledgment of the significance of the day. On the call of May 2, the representatives requested assistance from the MCA. I committed to follow up with Canada Post after I have the opportunity to request that Council identify a working group to work on these National Day of Truth and Reconciliation requests.

### **MAY 3, 2022 SEAWAY SETTLEMENT**

On the morning of May 3, 2022, I met with the manager for the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office and MCA legal counsel to discuss the seaway settlement. Transport Canada had made an offer to settle the seaway case a few years ago, but due to the ongoing appeals of the Dundee settlement and the global pandemic, the MCA has been unable to take the settlement offer to the community. On the call of May 3, 2022, I received an update from the manager on the timelines for community education and potential referendum timelines.

### **MAY 3, 2022 CALL WITH HELENA JACZEK ON THE JAY TREATY**

On the morning of May 3, 2022, I participated in a presentation and discussion with Member of Parliament Helena Jaczek and members of the Jay Treaty Border Alliance. As part of the Jay Treaty Border Alliance lobbying effort, we hosted several zoom sessions with Members of Parliament who were unable to attend the meetings in Ottawa. On the call we provided Helena Jaczek with background

information on the Jay Treaty and asked her to support the creation of a table consisting of representatives from Canada and First Nations to work toward implementing the same border crossing rights for First Nations that are provided in the Jay Treaty.

### **MAY 5, 2022 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

On May 5, 2022, I participated in the monthly Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Finance Committee meeting. Representatives from the Bank of Montreal (BMO) provided the Finance Committee with an overview of a proposed agreement between the MCA and BMO. The representative explained the current services offered by the bank to the MCA and explained that the agreement was an updated version of the already existing services. An update on the MCA investments held by BMO was provided to the committee as well. Following the BMO update, a representative from Canoe Procurement presented the services they offer to the Finance Committee. It was explained that Canoe Procurement works with many municipalities and some First Nations on procurement for large assets. The Finance Committee received the information and will consider the offer by Canoe Procurement at a later date. The Finance Committee determined that they would recommend to Council that the surplus Akwesasne Community Fund dollars be split with the Akwesasne Community Healing Fund and that calls outs for applications should proceed. The committee also discussed the walking trails and identified the surplus OLG funds as a source of funding for an allocation of \$300,000 for the trails to be completed in each district. The committee agreed to recommend to Council the allocation of the \$300,000. The committee received an update on a recent submission to the Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust for resources to support a trust coordinator position and an update on the MCA social responsibility fund and agree to further discuss at a future meeting.

### **MAY 5, 2022 LIBERAL PROVINCIAL CANDIDATE**

On the afternoon of May 5, 2022, members of our Council met with Kirsten Gardner the Ontario Liberal candidate for the June 2, 2022

provincial election. At the meeting of May 5, Kirsten introduced herself to our Council members and explained her liberal political platform for the upcoming election. Council members explained our community's priorities to Kirsten and explained the challenges we face in Akwesasne due to the international and provincial borders. Kirsten spoke about the liberal party priorities in relation to Indigenous people and she shared her local priorities with us. We wished Kirsten well and thanked her for reaching out to Akwesasne to hear our priorities.

### **MAY 5, 2022 BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES FUND**

On the afternoon of May 5, 2022, the Executive Director, the Chief of Police, and I met with representatives from Public Safety Canada to receive information on the Building Safer Communities Fund. Earlier in April the MCA received notification that Akwesasne was selected to be a recipient of the Building Safer Communities Fund. On the call of May 5, the Public Safety Canada representatives explained that the fund is designed for community based strategies and initiatives to combat gun and gang violence. The representatives requested that Akwesasne develop a work plan to submit for the funding. On the call with the Public Safety Canada representatives, I expressed disappointment that the funding was designed for programming and prevention, I explained that efforts against gun and gang violence required more police personnel and not programming but we would accept and use the funding regardless. The Chief of Police for the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service will develop a work plan for the funding.

### **MAY 6, 2022 WOLINAK ABENAKI FIRST NATION**

On May 6, 2022, Chief Dwayne Thomas and I travelled to Wolinak Abenaki First Nation in Quebec to tour their newly opened casino. In late 2021, I had been contacted by the developers of the casino and invited to tour the Grand Royal Wolinak Casino. This casino is owned and operated under a license granted by the community and not the province.



On the tour of May 6, 2022, we were shown the state-of-the-art facility and discussed governance and license for the facility. The Wolinak Nation is exercising their authority over the facility in order to create an economy and revenue stream for the community.

### **MAY 9, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE**

- A representative from the First Nations Fiscal Management Board (FMB) provided an overview of services provided and available to Akwesasne.
- Council discussed the need to recognize individual accomplishments within the community and requested the committee on the Ionkwakwé:nion Book of Accomplishments meet to begin planning.
- Chief Edward Roundpoint was identified as next week's chair in the absence of the Grand Chief.
- Council identified Chiefs to work with community partners on planning for September 30, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.



- An overview was provided on concerns raised with a current MCA housing development; the Executive Director and Grand Chief will follow up.
- Council was reminded of proper email etiquette and protocols for responding.
- A request was made for an update call with Indigenous Services Canada regarding funding for the Wade Lafrance Memorial Road, a call will be set up with the portfolio and Canada.
- The Executive Director provided Council with an update on the current status of the conversation with the Akwesasne Powwow. Continued updates will be provided.
- MCRs passed: Approval of tuition agreement with the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario; Approval of allocation of DCSS surplus funds to the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club; Approval of agreement and funding for DCSS, ACESS and Iohahiio for trades program; Approval of update to MCR reference tool 2022; Approval of funding from MTO for the detailed design of Hamilton Island Bridge; Approval of (3) amendments to Akwesasne Canada funding agreements.

### **MAY 10, 2022 INTERVIEW WITH HEALTH CANADA**

On the morning of May 10, 2022, I participated in the interview with the office of Audit and Evaluation for Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada on the evaluation of the legalization and regulation of cannabis. The purpose of the call was for the evaluation team to get Akwesasne's feedback on the implementation of the legislative legalization of cannabis. I explained to the reviewers that we had not been consulted on the development of the legislation and we had only met with Health Canada after the legislation was passed. I explained the complexity of the international border through our community and the necessity for Akwesasne to develop its own legislation governing cannabis. Given our community is in two provinces it made the necessity even more urgent for Akwesasne to enact our own regulatory framework. I provided the reviewers with an overview of Akwesasne's legislative framework to regulate

cannabis and expressed the need for the federal government to revenue share with First Nation communities who have cannabis producers within their territories.

### **MAY 10, 2022 TOUR PROPERTY DUNDEE**

On the morning of May 10, 2020, Chief Tim Thompson, Chief Edward Roundpoint, Chief Vince Thompson, and I travelled to Huntingdon, Quebec to visit with property owners who were considering selling land. I had recently received a call from the property owners who expressed that they would like for the Mohawks of Akwesasne to have the right of first refusal on purchasing the property. On May 10 we were provided a tour of the property and discussed potential options with the owner. No price was provided to us, but the owners committed to following up with us to discuss a price.

### **MAY 11, 2022 WALKER CLIMATE CARE 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

On the evening of May 11, 2022, I was invited to attend a 50th year anniversary for Walker Climate Care. The evening was an opportunity for members of the community to join in the celebration of the anniversary. Walker Climate Care is a Cornwall based company that has provided expert heating, ventilation, and air conditioning services since 1972.

### **MAY 12, 2022 INDSPIRE AWARDS**

On the evening of May 12, 2022, I was invited by Enbridge Gas to attend the 2022 Indspire Awards at the Shaw Center in Ottawa. Over the course of the evening 12 Indigenous and Metis individuals were recognized for their achievements within their communities or profession or a combination of both. The award recipients are nominated by peers or community leaders and reviewed by a national committee. The Indspire Award ceremony is an annual event that takes place in Ottawa.

### **MAY 12, 2022 CANADA BORDER SERVICE AGENCY**

On the morning of May 12, 2022, I hosted a call with Eric Lapierre the Northern Ontario Regional Director General (RDG) for Canada Border

Services Agency (CBSA) regarding wait times and staff shortages at the Cornwall Port of Entry. I expressed my frustration to the RDG and explained the impacts that the staff shortage is having on the wait times. The RDG explained that management at the Cornwall Port of Entry was working with the region to mitigate the staff shortage. On the call of May 12, I informed the RDG that I would be bringing this issue of wait times and staff shortages to the executive level within the CBSA.

### **MAY 13, 2022 INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA**

On the afternoon of May 13, 2022, we hosted a call with representatives from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to discuss our capital submission for the Wade Lafrance Road and to discuss support for our Additions to Reserve (ATR) process. On the call of May 13, the Community Infrastructure Manager Nico Paul provided us with an update on the Wade Lafrance Road and expressed that the Ontario Region was working to get the project approved. The Council members on the call explained the urgency of the project and the impacts it has on the community. While on the call the RDG and I discussed the possibility of a ISC staff member being assigned to the Akwesasne file to work specifically on additions to reserve. The RDG agreed to follow up on both discussion items and to provide us with an update.

### **MAY 13, 2022 PROVINCIAL CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE**





On the morning of May 13, 2022, members of our council met with Nolan Quinn Conservative provincial candidate for Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry. The meeting of May 13, 2022 was an introductory meeting with our Council, but also an opportunity for us to describe and discuss our community priorities with Mr. Quinn. Mr. Quinn shared his political party's platform with us, but he also described his personal priorities if he gets elected to provincial parliament.

## **MAY 16, 2022 PAROLE BOARD OF CANADA CHAIRPERSON INDIGENOUS CIRCLE**



On May 16, 2022, I participated at the Parole Board of Canada Chairperson Indigenous Circle meeting in Gatineau. The circle provides advice to the chairperson on policy and insight to ensure the programming offered by the Parole Board of Canada is sensitive to Indigenous People within the corrections system. The circle also provides advice on ensuring Indigenous people are aware of Parole Board services. At the meeting of May 16, the circle members received an update from the Chairperson Jennifer Oades on the resumption of in-person Parole Board hearings. The Chairperson explained that some sites were still doing virtual hearings, but many

had adjusted to hybrid modes of delivery. The circle members also received an update from staff on the development of a working group on diversity and systemic racism. It was explained that the working group will help guide the internal work the board will do to combat racism but also to educate the workplace. The circle reviewed a draft cultural protocol information sheet that will be used within the administration of the Parole Board. The committee provided input into the protocol and the ongoing hybrid model being used for board hearings. The committee meets twice a year to provide guidance and advice to the Parole Board of Canada Chairperson.

### **MAY 16, 2022 CANADA BORDER SERVICE AGENCY**

On the evening of May 16, 2022, I participated in a zoom call with the President of the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). On the call I expressed my concern with the ongoing staff shortages at the port of Cornwall and explained that the shortages have resulted in wait times, I further explained that wait times lead to the increased risk of negative interactions between Akwesasne travelers and the Border Services Officers. I explained to the president that I was continuing to keep pressure on the management to find a solution and that the solution should not be a hinderance to the domestic lane. The president agreed to follow up and work with his management team to find more resources for the port of Cornwall. On the call of May 16, we also discussed the collaborative efforts the MCA and CBSA have been doing over the last few years. The president reported that the domestic lane will no longer be a pilot project but will continue as an indefinite operation. I also expressed my desire to work collaboratively with CBSA to recruit members of Akwesasne to apply to CBSA as border officers.

### **MAY 18, 2022 MINISTER OF CROWN INDIGENOUS RELATIONS**

On the evening of May 18, 2022 members of our Entewatatha:wi (Nation Building) portfolio and I met with Marc Miller, Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations in Ottawa to discuss the Akwesasne Canada self-government negotiations. We requested the meeting with Minister Miller to discuss the status of our self-government

negotiations and to discuss barriers but also to offer our willingness to find a solution and arrive at a final agreement for our community's consideration. Portfolio members explained the outstanding items to the Minister and expressed the importance of each outstanding item. Minister Miller committed to continuing dialogue and working toward a solution.

### **MAY 17-19, 2022 ANNUAL TRAINING ON RISK ASSESSMENT**

On May 17, 18, and 19, 2022, I participated at the Parole Board of Canada's 2022 Annual Training on Risk Assessment (ATRA) in Gatineau, Quebec. The ATRA training is provided to parole board members annually on various topics and this year's training was titled "Intersectionality in Assessing Risk: Strengthening our Responsiveness to Indigenous Peoples. The three-day training was designed to provide parole board members with insight, tools, and thoughts to consider when working with Indigenous people during parole board hearings. The participants were broken up into three groups and rotated over the three days into a number of workshops on a variety of topics dealing with Indigenous people. The workshops included mental health, social history, and cultural safety. During the afternoon of each day a main plenary session took place with keynote speakers sharing their experiences in the justice system, their prison experiences, and the struggles they underwent to overcome their challenges within the system and after release. Other guests participated on panels to offer insight from an academic perspective on trauma and healing. The Minister of Public Safety was scheduled to address the forum but sent his regrets due to being required in the House of Commons.

### **MAY 20, 2022 CANADA BORDER SERVICE AGENCY**

Following my call with the Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) President earlier in the month, I hosted a follow up call the Director of Indigenous Affairs Secretariat for CBSA to discuss some follow up steps from the call. We discussed some the recruitment initiative and agreed that we would continue to support one another on this, as well we discussed the upcoming Jay Treaty Border Alliance Summit

happening in Windsor Ontario in the coming weeks. I also expressed the need to keep Border Collaboration Initiative (BCI) updated on recruitment and the efforts to find more resources for the Cornwall port of entry.

### **MAY 24, 2022 UNITED STATES CUSTOMS BORDER PROTECTION**

On the morning of May 24, 2022, I participated in community engagement session hosted by the U.S. Customs Massena Port of Entry and Massena Border Patrol Station. The engagement session was hosted at the Rourke family establishment on Rourke Road. The engagement session was an opportunity for customs and border patrol to provide the participants with an update on their collaboration initiatives and to receive feedback. The session was attended by the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, Saint Regis Tribal Police, Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. The Massena Port of Entry Director welcomed the participants and provided an overview of the agenda for the session.



Representatives from the United States Department of Homeland Security also attended the meeting and provided welcoming remarks and gave an overview of the work being done to support closer collaboration with Tribal partners and the agency. The director for the Massena port explained the ongoing communications between Akwesasne and the port but also explained that several challenges



faced at Massena were unique to Massena because of Akwesasne's unique geographical location. A representative of the United States Border Patrol described the close communications he has with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police and expressed the need to ensure his upcoming detachment commander replacement understood the importance of communications with Akwesasne. He described that many new agents to the area need to be educated about Akwesasne so that issues and incidents are avoided or minimized. The event wrapped up with an open question and answer session with the participants.

### **MAY 25, 2022 CHIEFS OF ONTARIO LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

On the morning of May 25, 2022, I participated in the Chiefs of Ontario (COO) Leadership Council meeting on the zoom platform. The COO secretariat provided the leadership with an update on correspondence to Ontario on the need to ensure First Nations are included in the High-Speed Internet Program, updates were also provided on Additions to Reserve (ATR), Duty to Consult, and the Chiefs of Ontario restructuring. The Assembly of First Nations National Chief presented her Healthy Path Accord to the Leadership Council and requested support from the leadership. The Ontario Deputy Minister of Indigenous Affairs provided an update to the leadership on files currently on hold in Ontario until the Ontario government has formed its cabinet following the provincial election.

### **MAY 26, 2022 CORNWALL HARBOUR CO-OWNERS**

On the morning of May 26, 2022, I attended the Cornwall Harbour co-owners meeting at the Cornwall Civic Complex. The Cornwall Harbour Master provided the committee with an overview of his responsibilities and answered questions on the day-to-day operations. Representatives from Jacobs Consultancy Canada provided the committee with an overview of proposed environmental work on the property. The Project Manager provided an update on the workplan, survey work, and proposed property improvements. The committee received an update from the signage

committee on the efforts to design and install a new sign on the property.

## **MAY 27, 2022 BI-WEEKLY MEETING WITH SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBE**

Our Council has been meeting with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) on a bi-weekly basis as part of our ongoing commitment to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of these meetings is to provide an opportunity for Council and our Emergency Operations Center to share information on our pandemic response with our counterparts from the SRMT. Topics for these weekly discussions include updates on current positive cases of COVID-19, upcoming state, provincial, and federal directives, updates from the monthly border calls, and other COVID-19-related discussions.

## **MAY 30, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE**

- MCA legal counsel provided a report on the status of the public sale of a repossessed home and outlined claims made against the property. Council agreed to proceed with the sale based on the legal report.
- A briefing was provided to Council on the implications of Quebec Bill 96 and the exemption built into the bill.
- MCA Department of Infrastructure, Housing, and Environment representatives provided Council with an overview on a housing project development and the proposed action plan to have an archaeologist survey the property to preserve any burial sites.
- Council discussed the deteriorating state of the Jake Fire Ice statue in Kana:takon and agreed to the formation of a Chiefs Committee to examine a replacement but also to recommend an Akwesasne beautification project.
- Grand Chief provided Council with an update and overview on recent and upcoming meetings with various stakeholders and partners.
- Council was reminded of the importance of confidentiality and the implication of breaches.

- MCRs passed: Approval of reallocation of community callout funds from the previous year to the Akwesasne Healing Fund; Approval of (2) band transfers to the Mohawks of Akwesasne; Approval of Indigenous primary health care funding agreement; Approval of funding for Community Justice Program; Approval of Transitional and Housing Support funding agreement; Approval to proceed with MCA strategic plan community engagement; Approval of (2) Council Meeting Minutes.

### **MAY 31, 2022 CIBC INVESTMENT REVIEW**

On the morning of May 31, 2022, I met with our investment managers from CIBC. The purpose of the meeting was for the representatives to provide me and our Director of Finance and Administration with an update on our current investments. CIBC currently manages the Dundee settlements as well as another two million dollars for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. The representatives explained that over the last several months the markets have not yielded a great return because of several factors in the world economy but explained that the balanced investments managed by CIBC has ensured the fund has sustained the changes. The CIBC representatives will present the report to the MCA Finance Committee in August.

### **MAY 31, 2022 NEW YORK STATE LAND CLAIM**

On the afternoon of May 31, 2022, members of the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office (ARRO), portfolio, and I met with John Bickerman, who was recently appointed by the United States District Court to mediate the case against the State of New York. The meeting of May 31 was an opportunity for Mr. Bickerman to introduce himself to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and to better understand our position. At the meeting we explained to Mr. Bickerman we have a desire to reach a settlement, but we had some fundamental positions that needed to be respected. Over the next several months Mr. Bickerman will meet with the plaintiffs and respondents to work to find a mediated settlement. Should the efforts to negotiate a settlement fail, the parties will continue with the court process.



## **Grand Chief Monthly Activity Report**

**Ohiari:ha / June**

**2022**

### **JUNE 1, 2022, INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA - WADE MEMORIAL LAFRANCE ROAD**

On the morning of June 1, 2022, I hosted a call with the Director of Community Infrastructure for Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) regarding our funding submission for the Wade Lafrance Memorial Road. On the call of June 1, 2022, the director informed me that our funding submission for Wade Lafrance Memorial Road had been approved and that we would be receiving an amendment to our contribution agreement for the funding to complete the project.

### **JUNE 1, 2022, HOPKINS POINT TOUR**

On the morning of June 1, 2022, I travelled to Hopkins Point with justice portfolio Chiefs to meet with Carly Norris, Senior Counsel for the Public Prosecution Service of Canada. The Program Manager for the Akwesasne Community Justice Program had been communicating with Carly Norris regarding a case in the Valleyfield Court. Our manager invited Carly Norris to tour our community and Hopkins Point. On June 1, 2022, I met the representative from the prosecution office at Hopkins Point. We were welcomed by one of the cottagers for lunch and we discussed the complexities of Akwesasne and the



Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) reporting requirements. The meeting on June 1st was an opportunity for the representative to experience the implications the international border has on our community.

### **JUNE 2, 2022, FINANCE COMMITTEE**

On June 2, 2022, I attended the monthly Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Finance Committee meeting. MCA Legal Counsel provided an overview of his legal opinion on the interpretation of the Akwesasne Financial Administration Law (AFAL) concerning the investment restrictions described in the law on transfer payment funds. The committee discussed large cash transactions and agreed that the MCA would accept cash as payments and for purchases. The committee discussed the composition of the finance committee and agreed to continue to work to get community representation. The committee agreed to recommend to Council that OLG surplus funds be used to support the completion of the walking trails in each district. A request will be made to CIBC to provide the committee with an update on the current investments.

### **JUNE 2, 2022, ACC FUTURES**

On the afternoon of June 2, 2022, I met with representatives of ACC Futures. ACC Futures is the project manager for the owners of the Cornwall Harbor and is working with each party to create a vision for the property and to assist with its development. The meeting on June 2, 2022, was an opportunity to update and dialogue on the status of the project.

### **JUNE 2, 2022, INTERVIEW WITH CBC**

On the afternoon of June 2, 2022, I provided CBC radio with an interview regarding the Government of Canada's recent legislative announcement to restrict access to handguns in Canada. I explained

to the CBC representative that our community of Akwesasne has been mentioned at various times related to gun trafficking, but few politicians have been in Akwesasne or spoken to Akwesasne about this issue. I explained the social differences in access to guns between Canada and the United States and how our community is impacted by being right in the middle. I expressed that for the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) to secure the community and combat gun smuggling through Akwesasne they needed more resources. Additional investments into First Nation Policing will allow police forces like AMPS to purchase additional equipment to combat crime. The article can be found at: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thehouse/government-firearm-restrictions-border-1.6477042>

#### **JUNE 2, 2022, WILLIAM OSLER HEALTH SYSTEM FOUNDATION**

On June 3, 2022, I hosted a call with Sheldon Caplin from William Osler Health System Foundation regarding CIBC Gallant MacDonald. CIBC is one of the MCA's investment managers and the call of June 3, 2022, was a reference call for CIBC. I explained to Sheldon that CIBC Gallant MacDonald has met and exceeded all the MCA's expectations and that they regularly communicate with MCA on the status of the investments and any foreseen issues.

#### **JUNE 3, 2022, MINISTER OF CROWN-INDIGENOUS RELATIONS**

On the afternoon of June 3, 2022, our Council hosted the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Marc Miller to commemorate the anniversary of the National Inquiry into Missing Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. We welcomed the minister to Kana:takon, and provided him with an overview of programming the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne provides to its members and those affected by loss and human trafficking. Following our presentation, we

hosted dinner with several community elders. During the dinner, Minister Miller was presented with an ash basket by the elders.

## **JUNE 6, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE**

- Legal Counsel presented two financial structures for Council's consideration for the long-term management of settlement proceeds; the MCAs ARRO manager will follow up with additional research on the two options.
- Council discussed and set the General Meeting agenda for June 23, 2022.
- A briefing was provided on the current Conflict of Interest Declaration form required under the Akwesasne Financial Administration Law (AFAL).
- Council agreed that the next Council meeting will take place on June 27, 2022.
- A briefing was provided on a series of meetings on the Jay Treaty and the upcoming Jay Treaty Border Alliance Summit happening at the end of the month.
- Council discussed the current mask mandate and requested administration review and provide a recommendation.
- MCRs passed: Approval of DCSS Surplus Allocation to the Akwesasne Storm Minor Lacrosse Association; Approval of Project Tender Award for the Full Roof Replacement for Tsiionkwanonhso:te; Approval of 2022/23 Legislative Development Priorities; Acceptance of Tuition Agreement with Upper Canada District School Board.

## **JUNE 7, 2022, BORDER PARTNERS MEETING**

Every month MCA's Public Safety Portfolio Chiefs, representatives from the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and I participated in the monthly

call with the Port Directors for the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the United States Customs and Border Protection (USCBP). The calls now occur on the first Tuesday of the month on the Zoom platform. These calls are designed for Akwesasne to receive regular updates from the Port Directors on current traffic volumes, any issues with local travelers, and reports of COVID outbreaks at the port if any. These meetings also allow our local governments to provide relevant updates to the CBSA and USCBP representatives.

### **JUNE 7, 2022, ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

On the morning of June 7, 2022, I participated in the St. Lawrence College Board of Governors Academic Committee. The committee received a presentation from the staff on the approval of micro-credential and requested the Senior Vice President delegate the ability to approve courses for micro-credentialing. The committee approved the request and will recommend the board approve the delegation. The committee also agreed to recommend to the board a preoperative nursing program. Unfortunately, due to a scheduling conflict, I was unable to attend the full board meeting on June 7, 2022.

### **JUNE 8, 2022, COVID CALL**

On a bi-weekly basis throughout June Council met with the MCA's Administration to specifically discuss and receive updates on our response to COVID-19. These meetings provide an opportunity for Council to thoroughly discuss our current precautions and travel restrictions. While discussions may occur at length during these bi-weekly Wednesday meetings, decision-making is reserved for the regular Council Meetings.

### **JUNE 8, 2022, TRANSPORT CANADA**

On the morning of June 8, 2022, I welcomed representatives from Transport Canada to Akwesasne. Marc Olivier Ranger had recently

been appointed as Director General, Crown Corporations and Portfolio Governance which includes the Akwesasne file. Given the pending Seaway Claim settlement, and the ongoing lobby work we have been doing concerning the bridge tolls, it was important to host Marc in Akwesasne. Over the course of the morning, we toured the community, and I explained the jurisdictional complexity of Akwesasne and highlighted the challenges created by the border and the tollbooth.

### **JUNE 8, 2022, EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING**

- MCRs passed: Approval of Funding Agreement Government of Quebec for Additional Police Resources; Approval of Appointment of Five Community Members to the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission; Approval of Upgrade Housing Loan to Community Member.

### **JUNE 9, 2022, BREAKFAST WITH JUSTIN TOWNDALE**

On the morning of June 9, 2022, I met with Justin Towndale for breakfast to discuss the ongoing relationship between the City of Cornwall and Akwesasne. Justin is a current City of Cornwall Councilor and is a candidate for Mayor in the upcoming municipality election.

### **JUNE 9, 2022, QUEBEC PRESS CONFERENCE**

On the morning of June 9, 2022, I attended the Kana:takon Recreation for a press conference with the Quebec Minister of Public Safety Geneviève Guilbault and Quebec Minister of Indigenous Affairs Ian Lafrenière regarding funding for the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Services. Recently the government of Quebec and the Government of Canada have come under pressure from the public to stop gun violence within large cities in Canada. At the press conference, the Quebec ministers announced that Akwesasne would be receiving an

additional \$6.2 million over the next five years to increase the staff complement to help curve gun smuggling.

### **JUNE 10, 2022, MISSISSAUGA OF THE CREDIT FIRST NATION**

On the morning of June 10, 2022, I participated in a call with Chief Laforme, a member of his Council and a staff member for the Mississauga of the Credit First Nation. The Chief had reached out to discuss the Akwesasne Justice program. The purpose of the call was to learn more about the Akwesasne court and governance system in place to support the court. I explained to the representatives the history behind the Akwesasne Court, and the processes used to develop Akwesasne laws.

### **JUNE 10, 2022, HYDRO-QUEBEC**

On the morning of June 10, 2022, I hosted a call with a representative of Hydro-Quebec to receive an update on Hydro-Quebec's upgrade projects to stabilize the system. The representative explained that tree pruning was occurring over the next several weeks and that testing was being conducted on load stability. A follow-up call will be scheduled in a few months to receive an update on the work.

### **JUNE 13-16, 2022, CHIEFS OF ONTARIO SPECIAL CHIEFS' ASSEMBLY**

On June 14, and 15, 2022, I travelled to Toronto to participate in the Chiefs of Ontario Special Chiefs Assembly. Representatives from the Elders Knowledge Keepers, Woman's Caucus and the Ontario First Nations Young People's Council provided the chiefs in assembly with an update on the files each council has been working on and participating in over the last year. The Ontario Regional Chief addressed the Chiefs and described the priority areas his office has been working on and discussed the recent Ontario election. The chiefs in assembly provided insight and concerns with the current

provincial government and highlighted areas the Chiefs of Ontario Office needs to keep updated on. Over the course of the two days, I was in attendance, the chiefs received several updates on various files, including the Chiefs of Ontario organizational restructuring process, the First Nations delivery credit, the national language funding model, and the collaborative table on justice with Ontario. The Chiefs received an incredibly detailed briefing of the proposed settlement with Canada for the transformation of the Ontario Child welfare system. The assembly was able to ask questions of the technical team on the financial compensation of the proposed settlement and how it will support families and children. A presentation was provided on the Metis Nation rights assertion and the impact on First Nation communities. The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Chief delivered an in-camera update to the chiefs on her perception and observations of the AFN organization.

### **JUNE 16, 2022, NEW YORK STATE CLAIM**

On June 16, 2022, members of our New York State land claim negotiating team met with the other claim plaintiffs, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs. The meeting was facilitated by the court-appointed mediator who is assisting in mediating the claim between the state and the counties. The court-appointed mediator felt it was important to meet with the plaintiffs to ensure the upcoming all-party meeting scheduled for later in the month will be productive. At the meeting on June 16, the parties discuss the elements of the proposed settlement agreement with the state and counties.

### **JUNE 11, 2022, GOVERNOR GENERAL DINNER**

On the evening of June 11, 2022, we hosted the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference participants for an evening presentation and dinner. Before COVID the conference participants



had visited Akwesasne, this event was the first time since COVID that they were having in-person conferences. We hosted the 20-plus participants for dinner and provided them with a presentation on the Akwesasne Justice Department and the Akwesasne Court.

### **JUNE 10, 2022, CBSA UNION**

On June 10, 2022, I participated in a call with Customs and Immigration regarding the Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) Port of Cornwall and sensitivity training for the officers. On the call, I explained the collaboration between the MCA and CBSA on the training. We discussed the possibility of training being incorporated into the core training at Rigaud. The union is not responsible for the training and implementation but expressed concern about ensuring the officers are trained sooner than current practices at the Cornwall Port of Entry.

### **JUNE 21, 2022, TOUR MP ERIC DUNCAN & MP PIERRE PAUL-HUS**

On the afternoon of June 21, 2022, I welcomed Members of Parliament Eric Duncan and Pierre Paul-Hus to Akwesasne. Earlier in the year Chief Adams and I provided testimony to the Standing Committee for Public Safety and National Security regarding gun smuggling. Following that presentation, I offered the members of the Conservative Party of Canada on the committee to tour Akwesasne. On the tour on June 21, 2022, I explained the challenges we face as a community on the international border and explained that the Government of Canada needed to make additional investments in First Nation policing so that Akwesasne can continue to resource our police with the tools needed to keep the community safe.

### **JUNE 22, 2022, TRANSPORT CANADA**

On June 22, 2022, members of our Property Acquisition Team (PAT) met with representatives from Transport Canada and Canada Lands



Company (CLC) to receive a presentation from CLC on the Transport Canada surplus lands within the City of Cornwall. At the meeting on June 22, the CLC representatives explained that they would conduct a pre-assessment of the lands and make a report on uses for the surplus lands. The PAT team agree that a pre-assessment should be done and that we would meet again in September to receive an update. CLC agreed to share with us the contact information for other First Nations the CLC has worked with on community development.

### **JUNE 22, 2022, UCDSB SIGNING**

On the evening of June 22, 2022, I attended Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education and Training Institute to participate in the tuition agreement signed with the Upper Canada District School Board and the Ahkwesasne Mohawk Board of Education. Before the signing of the agreement, I welcomed the representative from Upper Canada and provided opening remarks about our long-standing working relationship with the Upper Canada District School Board and Akwesasne.

### **June 23, 2022, NYS CLAIM**

On June 23, 2022, I travelled to Lake Placid to participate in a mediation session for the New York State land claim with all party litigants. The mediation was ordered by the courts to find a settlement between the Mohawk Plaintiffs and the respondents, New York State, Franklin, and St. Lawrence County. Most of the day the counties and state worked with the mediator and the Mohawk plaintiffs met among us.

### **JUNE 27, 2022, JAY TREATY BORDER ALLIANCE**

On June 27, 28 and 29, 2022, I travelled to Windsor Ontario to Participate in the Jay Treat Border Alliance 5th Annual Summit.

During the first day of the summit, the community participants received a briefing on recent lobby days in Ottawa with members of parliament. The participants discussed the current barriers being faced by communities and discussed the right of entry request of Canada. A briefing was provided to the summit on the recent UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) legislation to get Canada to recognize the Jay Treaty principles. The Tribal Nations at the summit provided an update on the advocacy of the Senate and House to support legislative changes to the blood quantum requirement for entry into the United States. The Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness addressed the participants and committed to getting the government-to-government table established to work through the right of entry request. Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) provided a presentation to the representatives of the Indigenous Affairs Secretariat and the current undertakings happening at the secretariat to support CBSA regions and communities. Community participants expressed discontent with the recent restrictions at the border because of COVID and the imposition of the ArriveCAN app. Many communities expressed a desire to establish local lines of communication with CBSA to assist in mitigating issues at the border. The third and final day was hosted in Detroit Michigan with a panel of representatives of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), United States Customs, the United States Border Parole and United States Coast Guard. The panelist took turns discussing their function within DHS and their interactions with Tribal Nations.

### **JUNE 30, 2022, CHIEFS OF ONTARIO SPECIAL CHIEFS' ASSEMBLY**

On the afternoon of June 30, 2022, I participated in a Chief of Ontario Special Chiefs Assembly to discuss the recent accusations made by the Nation Chief Roseanne Archibald against the Assembly of First Nations. At the Chiefs of Ontario assembly earlier in the month the

National Chief made several allegations against the AFN. On the call of June 30, 2022, the Chiefs in assembly discussed the developments since the assembly and received a confidential briefing on actions being taken by the AFN Executive Committee.



## July-August 2022

**Chief Vince Thompson**

**District of Kawehnoke**

[Chief.vince.thompson@akwesasne.ca](mailto:Chief.vince.thompson@akwesasne.ca)



**Portfolio:** Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment, OVS, Economic Development

**Selected Committees:** Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure, Iroquois Caucus Harvest Working Task Group (ICHWG), Property Acquisition Team (PAT), the Youth and Elders Cultural Committee.

- Attended The Entewatatha:wi MCA/Canada Self Government Negotiations 2 day session.
- Met with and provided Enbridge Gas Reps and Contractors a tour of Kawehnoke.
- Attended a Coast Guard luncheon at the Elders Lodge on Kawehnoke. This meeting was to restart the Networking with The Coast Guard.
- Attended the Entewatatha:wi portfolio meeting briefing on Taxation.
- Attended the DIHE Portfolio meeting updates on the reconstruction projects Hilltop and Park Street that's taking place in Kanatakon.
- Attended the Cannabis Law review presentation to Council.
- Attended a meet and greet meeting with the new owners of The Nav-Can Training Centre.
- Attended a Parks Canada meeting subject matter discovery of artifacts on Gordon Island.
- Attended a meeting with SIBC and fellow Chiefs on the development of the Kawehnoke recreation area within the corridor.
- Attended a Entewatatha:wi portfolio Chiefs meeting with Cumberland Strategies .
- Attended and chaired the Iroquois Caucus general meeting over two days, which was held here in Akwesasne. Various topics were discussed that are a concern to the Caucus.
- Attended the CBSA/MCA Domestic lane working group meeting, the table was reviewing traffic flow stats and next steps concerning the Domestic lane usage.
- Attended the Beautification Committee Working Group meeting who are tasked with the beautification of the three Districts and Mohawk council's facilities.
- Attended Economic Development portfolio meeting presentation by Iroquois Sullivan Consultant Group. Discussions were had on the possibilities on creating a partnership for future development projects and help build greater compacity in Akwesasne.

- Attended a Chief and Council meeting with AMPS, Chief of Police and the Police Commission to discussions on the drug issues that are affecting Akwesasne.
- Attended the monthly MCA/ SRMT Covid related updates and information sharing meeting.
- Attended a Entewatatha:wi portfolio follow up meeting with the Cumberland Strategies Group to discuss the strategy to help with the outstanding issues that remain in the Self Government Negotiations Agreement.
- On a positive note back in July, I attended a DIHE portfolio meeting announcing the securement of funding for the reconstruction project of Wade Lafrance Memorial RD in the Syne district, which is scheduled for ground breaking in mid August 2022..

This is all I have to report at this time. If I forgot or left out any details, perhaps my chiefs can provide additional information.



# Monthly Report



**Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell**

**Monthly Report for July/22**

## **Portfolio: DCSS, Government Secretariat, Justice, Economic Development, & Entewatatha:wi –Nation Building**

*This monthly report is provided as part of the Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios, and Monthly Activities.*

### **Monthly Notables:**

- Attend all Council Meetings, Participate in Portfolio Meetings, District Meetings.
- Attend the AFNQL Health & Social Regional Meeting in Quebec City from July 12-14/22
- AFN Annual General Assembly in Council Chambers: July 5 -11:30am – Introduction
- Participated in Meeting with Minister Patty Hajdu, Indigenous Affairs & Anne Scotton at Kahwenoke Recreation via zoom.
- Met with Community Recreation member Laura Thompson, on activities, lots of amazing work being done by the team at Kanatakon Recreation, the landscape is beautiful, sports box is near completion, the beach area has been cleaned up, if anyone gets a chance look it is so beautiful. Nia:wen Laura and Team on your demanding work and dedication to recreation.
- Met with community members regarding ongoing land issues.
- Kanatakon District Meeting: Update from community member on Ice Cream Social, World Cleanup Day on September 17-18, Tenant issues with Sweetgrass Manor, Narcan Training for Elders
- Attended Sensitivity Training on July 17/22 presented by DOH, DCSS, Nia:wen for the invite.

### ***Entewatatha:wi Nation Building:***

**Entewatatha:wi Nation Building Portfolio Session: Rachel Lazare –PM – July 5 & 6 /, 22**

- Akwesasne Proposal for Inclusion of s. 87 Indian Act Tax Exemption Principles in ESGA Tax Exemption Discussion:
- Akwesasne Proposal for discussion Expropriations.

***DCSS: Joey Morin-Lauzon, Director –July 28-22-out of office Update provided:***

- Brief Portfolio on MCRs | Lease Agreement & Org Chart, Prevention ACFS Discussion (prev. definition, large projects, community engagement sessions and media strategy, Caring society graphic; Akwesasne Boy and Girls Club, DCSS Salary Grid; Special Needs; Eligibility Review Officer Function at CSP

### ***Economic Development:***

**Economic Development: Kylee Tarbell-Director July 20/22 -update provided by Director, unable to attend due to funeral.**

- Indigenous Transportation Initiative Fund; Rogers Tower; Fiber to the Homes; Cannabis MCR Review; Arena – DCSS Partnership; Walking Paths Update; Other Business - Portfolio Meeting for August.

### ***Justice Portfolio: Joyce King, Director of Justice – July 14-22***

- Submission to Executive Director on the top 3 priorities for Justice: Akwesasne Court Negotiations; Legislative Development; ARAP objectives. Updates provided on each of the programs.
- Akwesasne Court, Akwesasne Representative and Advocacy Program, Akwesasne Community Justice Program, Legislative Development, Community Members Update.

### **Oversight Committee-Cannabis Law – Connie Lazore, July 4, 11, 18, 26 /22**

- Review of legal review of cannabis law to ensure all areas of change are reflected from discussion with the team.
- Reviewed Cannabis Draft Law line-by-line review at Council Meeting at July 11/22.

### **Working Task Group Connie Lazore: July 7 & 21/22**

- Update on Legislative Development
- Election Law Changes
- Selection of task group for upcoming FY 22/23.
- Childs Right & Responsibility Law review
- Law Enactment Procedure Regulations & Law Template Changes Review

### **Chiefs & Technicians Committee on Justice: July 20 2-4pm**

- Recap meeting minutes from April 2022, Indigenous Justice Strategy, Presentation from Department of Justice Canada seeking feedback on engagement process, MNO Rights Assertions Resolutions, Anti-Racism Strategy, Justice Sector, Review of Terms of Reference, Next. Meeting Date and Topics

### ***Government Secretariat: July 19/22 - Chelsea Francis- Govt Manager***

- **Communication Update** – Filling a new position, MCA Open House coordination – Employee wellness initiative, working with ED & EA to ED and Employee Advocate, CBSA planning event, mass texting.
- **ARRO:** New hire – Helping with Archeology, looking for another new hire to assist with IT and file locating, NYS Land Claim, in person session, Online course is about 70% for cultural training, looking to have a two-day session that will include community tours, hoping to get and MOU for cultural training that expands, ATR liaison to work with ARRO
- **N. Jacobs Liaison:** QLO Update, Board meeting, Friends of Lake St Francis would like to build relationships with MCA, Strategic Planning with OPG Aug. 16th looking to build in a mini boat tour or Tour at Saunders if the boat tour does not work out, Visitors center – Garry Miller Art project, former student at the Mohawk Institute, exhibit in communities that had children attend the Mohawk Institute. Look to present at the leadership meeting to all councils, Cultural Portrait Editing the French translation.
- *Nation Building was not able to attend meeting.*
- **Follow up items:** Tri-Leadership Political Protocol Briefing Note; Canada Political Protocol

### ***Committees/Working Groups:***

#### ***Finance Committee: Chair – July 7/22***

- Acceptance of Meeting Minutes dated June 2nd, 2022; Honorariums –, Increase in Travel and Meal Rates discussion, Purchase of Alcohol, Clarification on EFT's

#### ***Governance Committee: July 5/22***

- Meeting rescheduled to next month

#### ***MCA/OPG Committee: July 12/22 - rescheduled until August 16/22.***

#### ***Book of Recognition/Waterways/Beautification Committee –July 26/22***

- September 30/-Truth & Reconciliation discussion
- Signage replacement in each district
- Waterways signs for no-wake zone
- Jake Fire Statue replacement

#### ***Border Collaboration Initiative Community Relations Working Circle –***

#### ***CBSA/MCA Domestic Lane Working Circle:***

- The meeting is cancelled and postponed until August as a new Supervisor has been announced.

#### ***Co-Owners Meeting: MCA /CORNWALL -Civic Complex – July 28/22***



- Approval of the minutes of the last meeting on May 26, 2022, Port Lands Work Plan 2022, Report: ESA Phase II update July 2022, Project Manager Update Reports: Fence Removal Postponement, Provide Secured Access to Greenspace at the Port Lands, Bike Path, Port Land Summer 2022 Events, Picnic Tables , HST Partnership discussion- verbal update Committee, Updates Elaine MacDonald, Sign Committee Report: Sign Committee update July 2022, Communications, Next Meeting -Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 25, 2022, at the Civic Complex: Salon B

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

*To update on any lobbying initiatives, positive outcomes, or financial goals.*

- *Ongoing collaboration with Entewathata:wi Self Government Negotiations particularly good dialogue and movement with team who are knowledgeable and dedicated.*



# Ohiarihko:wa/July 2022

## Monthly Report



**Chief Sarah Lee Diabo**

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### District of Tsi Snaihne

**Portfolio:** Ahkwesasahne Board of Education, Department of Health and Department of Justice

*This monthly report is provided as part of Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios, and Monthly Activities.*

### Monthly Notables:

- Attended the AFNQL for the Health and Social General Assembly July 12-14th held in Quebec City.
- Participated in the Women's Leadership with Chiefs of Ontario, this was a virtual meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended the Green Team monthly meeting, focused on Terms of Reference, vision and mission statements.
- Attended all the Weekly Council Meetings and met with community members.
- I was out of the office from July 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, due to COVID +, had all my meetings virtually.

*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.*

## Committees/Working Groups

### Akwesasne Mohawk Justice

- Participated in the Working Task Group meeting on the Emergency Management Law, 2 meetings for this month to begin the review of the recommendations from legal review.

- Attended the Oversight Committee Meeting discussion was on the community session for the Cannabis Law are scheduled to held in each district. Update on the Legislative Development, Review of the Law Enactment Procedural Regulation (LEPR) and review the Law Template.
- Attended the monthly portfolio meetings with the Director on July 14 discussions were had on the boat registrations, MCR Process, Akwesasne Court Negotiations, Child Rights and Responsibilities law, and Court Negotiations.

### **Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education**

- Due to the summer hiatus, there was no portfolio meeting with the Board of Trustees and Director.

### **Department of Health**

- Due to unforeseen circumstances the monthly portfolio meeting was cancelled.

### **Financial Status/ Lobby Progress**

- Continue to sign EFTs and checks on a weekly basis or as needed.



## Seskeha/August 2022 Monthly Report



**Chief Sarah Lee Diabo**

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### District of Tsi Snaihne

**Portfolio:** Ahkwesasahne Board of Education, Department of Health and Department of Justice

*This monthly report is provided as part of Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios, and Monthly Activities.*

### Monthly Notables:

- Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup> at Kanatakon Recreation Center. Introduction of new commissioners.
- Due to the passing of a TsiSnaihne District Community Member the monthly district meeting was canceled.
- Participated in the Truth and Reconciliation Committee meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup>
- Green Team meeting and worked on goals, mission and vision of the team on August 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended all Weekly Council meetings for the month of September

*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.*

## Committees/Working Groups

### Akwesasne Mohawk Justice

- Participated in the Emergency Management Law review, went line by line on the draft of the law.
- Participated in the Oversight Committee monthly meeting. Legislative development updates on the 3 laws -Cannabis, Emergency Management and Election Law. The

next 3 upcoming laws that are in the development phase are the Child Rights Law, Residency Law and Fire Code Law.

### **Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education**

- Attended the Board of Trustees meetings
- Received Directors updates
- Reviewed the 2021-2022 Annual report
- Training for the staff before the school year
- Attended the Bursary awards ceremony for the students 2022 graduates held at Kanatakon Recreation on the August 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Participated in the Mohawk Language strategic plan on revitalizing the language, working on ways to preserve the language and collaboration with other departments on ways to incorporate the language.

### **Department of Health**

- Update on the status of the Detox Center, a presentation will be given at the September General Meeting.
- Status of the current health emergency –Monkey Pox is not in Akwesasne
- Status of COVID, new mask mandate and get prepared for spike in the fall with students returning to school/university. The MCA Quarantine program is still running.

### **Financial Status/ Lobby Progress**

- Continue to sign EFTs and checks on a weekly basis or as needed.



## **Chief JoAnn Swamp**

### **Monthly Report**

**June 2022**

#### **Council Chiefs Meetings on Mondays:**

June 6 & 27, 2022      Council meetings took place from 9 to noon.  
MCRs were passed and discussions took place.  
No meeting on June 13 & 20- Chiefs attending Chiefs of Ontario Meetings.

June 2, 9, 16 2022      Worked in the Satellite Office had two phone calls and signed checks.

#### **COVID Updates**

June 8,22/22      COVID updates were given by EOC, The GC/Chiefs and ED.

June 24/22      Updates from St. Regis Mohawk Tribe. This meeting was put on a monthly schedule now that COVID eased up a bit.

#### **DIHE Portfolio Meetings:**

June 20, 2022      DIHE monthly meeting.

#### **Environment Meetings:**

June 24, 2022      Environment Monthly meeting.



### **Housing Portfolio and Authority Meetings:**

June 22, 2022                      Monthly Housing Portfolio Meetings.

### **Nation Building Entewatatawi Meetings.**

June 1, 8, 14, & 24, 2022 Entewatathawi Prep Sessions.

June 28 & 29, 2022              Akwesasne Canada Negotiation Sessions.

### **DCSS Portfolio Meeting:**

June 23, 2022                      Monthly DCSS Meeting.

### **Government Secretariat Committee Meeting** (No meeting)

### **OPG – POM/MCA Meetings:** (No meetings)

### **Community Consensus Committee Meetings:** (No Meetings)

### **YECL Committee Meetings:**

June 20, 2022                      Monthly YECL Meeting

June 22, 2022                      Special meeting on YECL: discussed project between  
Akwesasne and Quebec. Deadline approaching.

### **OVS COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

June 17, 2022                      OVS Monthly Committee Meeting.

### **Other Meetings Attended:**

Tsi Snaihne District Meeting on June 15, 2022

General Meeting in Tsi Snaihne on June 23, 2022

Strategic Planning Session in the three districts: June 6, 8, 9, 2022

Meeting with Sol. Gen Julie Erbland: June 7, 2022

Minister Miller visits Akwesasne at St. Regis Recreation: June 3, 2022

Line by Line FAL with Tara White: June 10, 2022



## **Chief JoAnn Swamp**

### **Monthly Report**

**July 2022**

#### **Council Chiefs Meetings on Mondays:**

July 4, 11, 18 and 25 2022 Council meetings took place from 9 to noon.

MCRs were passed and discussions took place.

#### **COVID Updates**

#### **DIHE Portfolio Meetings:**

#### **Environment Meetings:**

July 21, 2022 Environment Monthly meeting.

#### **Housing Portfolio and Authority Meetings:**

July 27, 2022 Monthly Housing Portfolio Meetings.

#### **Nation Building Entewatatawi Meetings.**

July 6th, 2022 - Entewatatawi Prep Sessions.

#### **DCSS Portfolio Meeting:**

July 28th, 2022 Monthly DCSS Meeting.

#### **Government Secretariat Committee Meeting**(No meeting)

**OPG – POM/MCA Meetings:**(No meetings)

**Community Consensus Committee Meetings:** (No Meetings)

**YECL Committee Meetings:** (No meetings)

**OVS COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

July 15, 2022

OVS Monthly Committee Meeting.

**Other Meetings Attended:**

- TsiSnaihne District Meeting on July 30th, 2022
- Conference in Quebec City with FN of QC & Labrador Health & Social Service Commission on July 12, 13 &14th, 2022.
- COO Womens Meeting July 8, 2022
- Minister Patty Hajdu visit at Kawehnoke Community Centre: was on zoom.
- AFNQL pre meeting for Chiefs attending this conference. July 7, 2022
- July 27th, 2022 met with three community members regarding land.

Scheduled day to work at the Office is Thursdays when I am not in a meeting. I usually sign checks and take phone calls.



# July/August 2022 Monthly Report

## Chief April Adams-Phillips



Portfolio: DIHE, Social, Health Committee/Working Groups: Public Safety, YECL, PAT, AFN Language

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### Monthly Notables

- Weekly Council Meeting
- Monthly covid update MCA (Mohawk Council of Akwesasne) internal
- SRMT/MCA Biweekly Covid update
- Monthly the Border Partners Call via Zoom MCA Public Safety Chiefs and Representative's from SRMT (Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe), Port Directors from CBSA (Canada Border Service Agency), USCBP (United States Customs and Border Protection), update on current traffic volumes any issues with travelers and we provide relevant updates to CBSA and USCBP
- DCSS (Department of Community & Social Services)
- DOH (Department of Health)
- DIHE (Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment)  
Hilltop Rd & Park st reconstruction and Wade Lafrance reconstruction updates. Completion this Fall 2022
- Minister Patty Hajdu visit, Council focused on capital projects needs and explained the challenges created on the international borders on our people and service delivery. We requested advocacy from the Minister regarding the self-government negotiations and the recent lobby efforts to recognize the Jay Treaty
- Akwesasne Childs Right Law

- Cannabis Law line by line review
- Youth, Elders, Culture and Language
- Akwesasne Child Rights Community input Sessions per district and Elder Session
- Department of Health and GC and Health Portfolio prep meeting Re:- Mr. Murphy Lavailee and Claire IsaBelle,, unfortunately the meeting was postponed to a later date..
- Beautification meeting
- September 30<sup>th</sup> planning
- Book of recognition planning
- CBSA BCI leadership table
- Public Safety portfolio meeting
- AMPC



# Monthly Report

**Chief Dwayne Thomas**



## Monthly Report for July 2022

### Portfolios: Health, Economic Development, Governance

*This monthly report is provided as part of Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios, and Monthly Activities. Every Monday Council Meetings 9 a.m., every second Wednesday COVID updates with Council, EOC, Executive Director 9 a.m., Every second Friday meeting with SRMT, Executive Directors, and Both Councils 9 a.m.*

### Monthly Notables:

1. July 1- Attended the swearing in ceremony at the SRMT
2. July 4- Council Meeting
3. July 5-8- Hosted Don Lyons from Indigenize LLC in a tour of Akwesasne
4. July 5- Upper Canada School Champions for Kids Golf Tournament
5. July 6- Met with a community member about Economic Development opportunities
6. July 7- AFNQL Health Pre-meeting
7. July 8- At Economic Development/Tourism meeting at Atshaktha
8. July 11- Cannabis Line by Line Review with Council
9. July 12-14- AFNQL Health and Social General Assembly, Quebec City
10. July 18- Cornwall Harbor Meeting
11. July 19-Government Secretariat Meeting, Green Team Meeting
12. July 19- Gave ED Tour of Snye
13. July 22- Meet with Norman King
14. July 25- AFNQL Debrief
15. July 27- Iroquois Caucus prep meeting
16. July 28-29- Iroquois Caucus General Assembly

### Works in Progress:

1. Ongoing work with Clarkson University-Upcoming meeting with new administration
2. Quebec Hydro Grants and Sponsorships
3. OPG Corporate Social Responsibility
4. Eastern Ontario Agricultural Committee
5. Wellness for Staff and Community with Indigenize LLC.
6. Hunter Homes and Shelters- Potential partnerships



## **Collaborative Opportunities:**

Bi-weekly meeting with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Chiefs, EOC, Executive Directors. Discuss issues in Akwesasne.

Clarkson University- Co-create opportunities for programming in Akwesasne

OPG- Create partnerships, sponsorships, and job opportunities and creation in Akwesasne and at OPG.

Quebec Hydro- Sponsorships and Grants for organizations, entrepreneurs, and social endeavors.

Scheduled day in office Tuesday.



# Monthly Report

**Chief Dwayne Thomas**



## Monthly Report for August 2022

### Portfolios: Health, Economic Development, Governance

*This monthly report is provided as part of Council's aim towards providing a transparent and efficient governing system, which will also provide information to members of the community on updates of Mohawk Government, Portfolios, and Monthly Activities. Every Monday Council Meetings 9 a.m., every second Wednesday COVID updates with Council, EOC, Executive Director 9 a.m., Every second Friday meeting with SRMT, Executive Directors, and Both Councils 9 a.m.*

### Monthly Notables:

1. August 2-DOH Prep meeting with Grand Chief
2. August 3- DOH Portfolio Meeting
3. August 3- Meeting with Queens University Medical Department
4. August 4-Meeting with Deputy General Director
5. August 9- Government Secretariat
6. August 9- Meeting with Grand Chief and Director of Health
7. August 11- Student Bursary Presentation
8. August 16- Green Team Meeting
9. August 16- OPG Joint Steering and tour of facility
10. August 24- Economic Development
11. August 24- Supper meeting with Akwesasne Harbor Development Committee
12. August 25- Harbor Co-owners meeting
13. August 25- Meeting with Chief of Police, Police Commission, Council
14. August 31- Overdose Awareness Day

### Works in Progress:

1. Ongoing work with Clarkson University-Upcoming meeting with new administration
2. Quebec Hydro Grants and Sponsorships
3. OPG Corporate Social Responsibility
4. Eastern Ontario Agricultural Committee
5. Wellness for Staff and Community with Indigenize LLC.
6. Hunter Homes and Shelters- Potential partnerships
7. Queens University Partnership

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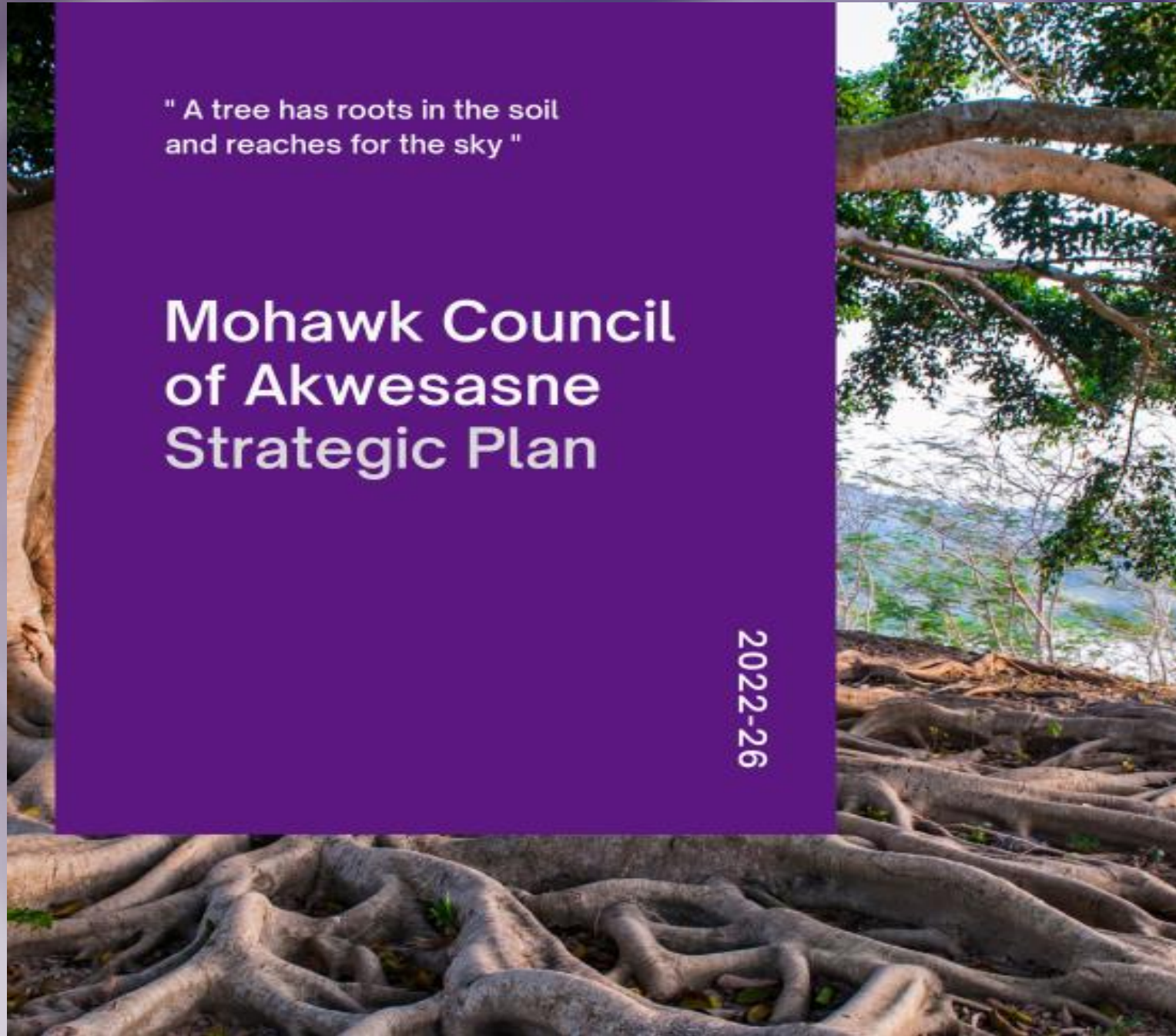
Quebec Hydro- Sponsorships and Grants for organizations, entrepreneurs, and social endeavors.

Scheduled day in office Tuesday.

" A tree has roots in the soil  
and reaches for the sky "

# Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Strategic Plan


2022-26





# Our Strategic Journey Began



AKWESASNE MOHAWK COUNCIL RESOLUTION		File Reference:
MCR #: 2021/2022-#198		
		
THE	MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE	FOR WRITING TO PLACE IN THE RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE
AGENCY	SOUTHERN ONTARIO DISTRICT	
PROVINCE	ONTARIO/QUEBEC	RECORDED VOTE
PLACE	Admin. 1 Building	For: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried
DATE	1st. November 2021	Against: <input type="checkbox"/> Decried
DO HEREBY RESOLVE:		
Moved: <u>[Signature]</u> Seconded: <u>[Signature]</u>		
<p><b>WHEREAS</b>, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne was elected by the community in June 2021 for a three-year term; and,</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b>, the Council comes to the table with an open mind to serve the Community who elected them; and,</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b>, Community needs have shifted in light of the Covid-19 pandemic; and,</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b>, Council wants to ensure the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne services and priorities are aligned with potential new Community needs; and,</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b>, the Council was approached with a gesture of Reconciliation by the firm a2z strategic consulting to guide us in our strategic planning journey at no cost for consulting fees; and,</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b>, the Council wants to bring all voices to the table to construct an inclusive and comprehensive strategic vision that will lead to positive results for all Akwesasnon.</p> <p><b>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED</b>, that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne accepts the gesture of Reconciliation from a2z strategic consulting and approves the launching of the strategic planning process.</p>		
<p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>		
<p><u>[Signature]</u> (Chairman) (11:00 - 11:15)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Deputy Chairman) (11:15 - 11:30)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (11:30 - 11:45)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (11:45 - 12:00)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (12:00 - 12:15)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (12:15 - 12:30)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (12:30 - 12:45)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (12:45 - 1:00)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (1:00 - 1:15)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (1:15 - 1:30)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (1:30 - 1:45)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (1:45 - 2:00)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (2:00 - 2:15)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (2:15 - 2:30)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (2:30 - 2:45)</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> (Councilor) (2:45 - 3:00)</p>		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne accepts the gesture of Reconciliation from a2z strategic consulting and approves the launching of the planning process.









# Our Strategic Journey

## A collaborative approach

The Council wanted to ensure that we brought as many voices to the table as possible to build this next chapter of a strategic vision for our community. We hosted an in-person kick-off session in November 2021 to begin building the priority framework with the Council and Management team. In early 2022 several in-person and online sessions were held. In addition, in June 2022, we hosted Community validation meetings in each district. These sessions allowed the Community to provide input and ask questions to Council, the Directorate team, and the consultants. The result is the document that follows.

## Steering Committee

The MCA Strategic Planning Steering Committee was the working group that advised MCA in the development of the MCA 2022-2026 Strategic Plan.

### Chairperson:

- Abram Benedict, Mohawk Government, Grand Chief

### Mohawk Government Members:

- Corine Francis, Executive Assistant
- Chelsea Francis, Government Support Manager

### Mohawk Council Members:

- Tim Thompson, District Chief
- Vanessa Adams, District Chief
- Heather Phillips, Executive Director

### Department of Health:

- Amber Montour, Director
- Ryan King, Health Communications Officer

### Department of Social Service:

- Caroline Peters, Community Support

### Department of Education:

- Donna Lahache, Director of Education

### Employees:

- Gina Thompson, Program Manager Housing
- Mae (Allison) Lazore-Green

# Our Strategic Journey

## Collaborating with MCA Management

A session was conducted in November 2021 with the management team to review the current state of the MCA and its services. Through lengthy discussions and targeted activities guided by the consulting firm, we reviewed our current services and identified 7 key priority areas for the future. In the weeks that followed these priorities were detailed into goals and the corresponding outcomes for each goal.

## Working with MCA Employees

Once Goals and Outcomes were drafted, departmental consultations were organized in order to bring more voices to the table and provide feedback on the emerging vision. Strengths and challenges for each service area were identified and the plan was refined.

## Listening to Community

Once the plan became more defined, it was time to bring it forward for feedback to the entire Akwesasne Community through three district meetings. MCA wanted to ensure that the upcoming strategic vision was in-line with community concerns and moreover, community vision for continued growth.

### **Sessions were held:**

June 6th at the Kawehno:ke Recreational Center

June 8th at the Kanatakon School

June 9th at Tsi Snaihne Recreational Center

Feedback was gathered and the plan was refined some more.





# Our Strategic Journey

## Priorities

Priorities were first determined through the November 2021, strategic session for the MCA. Priorities provide the focus for Council and Management to know where to put energies and monies based on the identified needs. Through different activities, participants were able to provide information, ideas, and concerns. This information was reviewed, and preliminary priorities emerged. The Strategic Plan Steering Committee reviewed these priorities and then the 7 priorities were used in the different consultation sessions in 2022.

## Goals

The 2022-2026 Strategic Plan have goals that are ambitious forward-looking targets with the intention of ensuring that our community is not only sustained but also strengthened for future generations. Goals are written in a way to develop collaboration by removing barriers between the different departments. Thus, MCA aims to work more efficiently and less in silos.

Each department is being challenged to contribute their creativity, skills, and effectiveness to ensure that MCA reach the goals in the Strategic Plan. The goals were determined through conversations with the MCA Management group and refined through department meetings and community meetings.

## Outcomes

Outcomes create a clear portrait or snapshot of success required to meet the goal. Outcomes tell us what we are intending or want when we succeed or attain the vision set by the identified goal. Each goal can have several outcomes. Each of these outcomes help the move the organization closer to reaching the goal. Outcomes are written to create the portrait of what we are targeting. Essentially the outcomes create a vision of what success will look like.



# Our Strategic Journey

## Tree Metaphor

The plan is structured as follows:

**PRIORITIES**



**GOALS**



**OUTCOMES**

## Strategic Plan Tree Metaphor

A tree is solid and has a clear structure, a tree gets its strength from its roots (our ancestors, community, our past). The Core of a tree is its trunk (Council, Management and Employees). The tree has larger branches that grow from the trunk (our priorities) and smaller branches (goals and their outcomes) and finally little branches and leaves (projects and programs) and they fit together as one growing and thriving tree.

# Strategic Community Priorities

## Priority 1: Governance/Politics

Akwesasne is on its journey towards self-determination and self-government. This process is well on its way in Akwesasne, MCA, through its different departments, already embodies many facets of self-governance. These aspects will continue to be strengthened in a way that respects our Akwesasne history, culture, and traditions. The roles and responsibilities within the MCA structure need to be actively communicated to community members and solidified through community feedback. Current laws and regulations need to be integrated into the everyday life of Akwesasne. As the community continues to move through the process of self-determination towards autonomy with various external governments, new elements of self-governance or self-determination will need to be refined. Over the years, Community will help clarify priorities for self-determination and through active participation, they will help shape how this is done. An active and involved community sends a strong message to non-first nations governments in terms of the community's readiness for self-determination.

## Priority 2: Economic Development

Economic Development provides the structure whereby the community can build growth and prosperity. Many different First Nations in Canada have found innovative ways to do this that respect their traditional and cultural background which then helps strengthen their community's financial situation in a culturally respectful manner. In Akwesasne, present effective economical activities need to be identified and preserved. These will be the foundation for future economic development. Businesses and partnerships that are not flourishing may need to be, after careful review, encourage to adapt/change their processes or focus in order to meet a continually changing need in society. Organizations that aim to meet the basic needs of the community will be prioritized in terms of active financial support as well as the creation of effective support programs for different community members (gender, age, at risk, etc.) so that they can become more active in building the community. Local business will be encouraged to use/develop new technologies and to form innovative partnerships with outside groups/businesses/government to create sustainable success.

## Priority 3: Culture and Language

We know that preserving and revitalizing our Akwesasne Culture and Kanien'kehá Language is essential to us for our present and future success as a viable First Nations community. Recent consultations have determined that we need to increase ways to integrate our language and culture into our daily lives. Whether it is by having our children educated totally or partially in Mohawk, to using our Thanksgiving Address to help focus our mind and spirit or by taking Mohawk language courses through work and leisure activities—the integration of our language and culture needs to be a priority for every community member. New technologies are being used to preserve and share the language and cultural knowledge so that it is accessible to all. Akwesasne learning resources will continue to be created locally so that they can support the language learning of children, students and adults in the different centers, schools and places of work. Fluent Mohawk speakers need to be encouraged to lead in the teaching and integrating of Mohawk. The responsibility for language will be shared between individuals, families, districts, and government. Everyone must do their part in order for the Akwesasne Culture and Kanien'kehá Language to flourish.

## Priority 4: Health and Wellbeing

Health and well-being remain a challenge for community, due to past traumas and many other factors. Akwesasne will continue to be supported and grow to be an inclusive and welcoming community that takes care of all its members, including its most vulnerable. We will work towards having responsive support systems available to community members throughout their healing journey. Akwesasne members need to be supported in their health journey both within the community and at times outside the community. We want to work towards building our internal capacity, with professional opportunities for our own community members provided to encourage our people to become health sector workers in Akwesasne. This would help the community be less dependent on outside services and provide support that is meaningful and responsive to our needs and varied contexts.

## Priority 5: Social Development

Community needs opportunities to socialize with access to infrastructures that are inclusive and accessible to everyone in the community. Community members of different gender, age and interests have varied needs in physical activity, in community and cultural activities as well as in the positive development of themselves as individuals, as families and active community members. The focus is to expand our ability to provide leisure and community-based activities for all ages as well as to develop the value of volunteerism and providing opportunities within the community to participate in volunteer-based activities. These volunteer-based activities provide the opportunities for community members to not only participate but to also lead. Leadership activities are very fulfilling and help develop the value of giving back. These activities need to be held in safe, accessible, and appropriate buildings and places. These activities need to occur in all three districts of the community. A community that can effectively engage in positive social activities will be healthier and happier.

## Priority 6: Environment & Infrastructure

The Akwesasne Community has worked hard to maintain its land, and to negotiate land agreements to regain its rightful lands. To protect its land, we must be in continuous communication with many different levels of governments (municipal, 2 provinces, the federal government, the Tribe, and the US government). This interaction complicates the process in terms of gaining back land or when trying to address environmental issues. Housing remains a priority in upcoming years with youth wanting to stay on territory and families growing, we need to work towards a plan to accommodate these emerging needs. With a finite area of land available and the consciousness of preserving the precious land we have, MCA will move ahead with caution in terms of building housing, managing present and future road systems, sewage systems, etc. Land management will be conducted with a 7 generations mindset of making decisions today that make sense today, but will also protect our generations in the future. Effectively managing the environment and infrastructure is essential for the community and it is very closely linked to the community's future well-being.

## Priority 7: MCA Service Efficiency

MCA delivers important and essential services to the Community as well as being the largest local employer. We strive to continually and consistently deliver quality services in an efficient and effective manner. We will work with our employees to ensure that they provide equitable and efficient services and treat community members well while performing these services. Investing in the continual development of our staff will ensure that our services remain up to date and innovative while remaining true to our roots and beliefs. MCA management must lead the workplace to create a safe environment so that their employees' energy can be properly focused on the community. The more effective MCA becomes at delivering quality services, the more the community members will be able to focus on the well-being of their families and of themselves.





## Branch 1: Governance and Politics



### **MCA maximizes its autonomy and authority in self- governance**

- Negotiations are effective and efficient between MCA and the external Government enforce MCA Authority
- Laws protect our People, and preserve our Akwesasro:non culture and way of living
- Increased authority and clear jurisdiction enhance the delivery of our programs and services

### **MCA refines and strengthens governance practices that serve as a compass for leadership**

- MCA clarifies and approves Charters for ABCT (Authorities, Boards, Commissions, Tribunals)
- Policies provide clear and consistent direction for decision making
- Clear mandates for personnel and elected officials ensure MCA's efficiency and effectiveness
- Governance structures ensure transparent and effective leadership

### **Community and Council work effectively together to ensure a safe and prosperous community**

- Consultation policy and process permits the efficient development of laws that are clear, accessible, and beneficial to the Community
- MCA uses innovative practices to engage community in having an active voice

### **Community Laws enhance quality of life in Akwesasne**

- Community laws guide the efficient, safe, and structured growth of Akwesasne
- Community laws are effectively communicated to ensure the understanding and cooperation of the community
- The legal system supports the enforcement of community laws





## Branch 2: Economic Development



### **Akwesasne is a self-sustaining and supportive community**

- MCA has a clear portrait of community needs
- MCA has a clear plan for sustainable economic and diverse development
- Akwesasne has diverse opportunities that maintain its people on territory (grow population, home of choice, job opportunities)
- Akwesasne has quality diverse product and service offerings within the community

### **Akwesasne invests in entrepreneurship to create and develop a competitive edge**

- Entrepreneurs are supported throughout their journey
- Youth are aware of the possibilities of entrepreneurship in their career path
- Special programs exist to support vulnerable groups

### **Akwesasne prioritizes investing in innovative opportunities that benefit the community**

- MCA has impactful partnerships that contribute to the growth of the community
- Akwesasne has its own certifying college and custom programs that meet our education and employment needs
- Technology enhances our service offerings
- Growth in Akwesasne tourism provides diverse opportunities for the community



## Branch 3: Culture and Language

### **Akwesasne is a bilingual community**

- Akwesasro:non are immersed in Mohawk Language and culture in their daily lives
- Community has access to language and culture training

### **MCA captures and preserves Mohawk Language and Culture**

- Elders and language speakers are recognized as keepers of Mohawk Language and culture ensuring preservation revitalization and sustainability
- Technology facilitates the creation and access to language and cultural resources for today as well as tomorrow

### **MCA honours and celebrates Mohawk cultural traditions**

- Traditional culture and practices are a collective priority for the community, local governments and educational institutions
- Akwesasro:non are empowered to maintain their role as keepers of the earth





## Branch 4: Health and Well-being

**Akwesasne is an inclusive and welcoming community that takes care of its vulnerable members**

- Akwesasro:non have access to equitable services and have their basic needs met
- Supportive infrastructures provide emergency shelter and safe zone
- Vulnerable populations have supportive programs throughout their lives
- Community-wide education programs help create empathy for the vulnerable

**MCA offers community members various medical and support services throughout their healing journey**

- Healing (traditional/non- traditional) approaches are adapted to different needs
- Akwesasne members are supported psychologically, physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually
- Enjoying nature has a positive impact on community members' health

**Akwesasro:non are guided in their health journey**

- Akwesasro:non are guided in their medical needs
- Patients are cared for until they have fully recovered

**Akwesasne has Akwesasro:non health professionals**

- Opportunities to pursue higher education in the health sector are encouraged, available and accessible
- Micro credentials are available to fill the various employment gaps in the health sector



## Branch 5: Social Development



### **Recreational activities are diverse and evolving**

- Akwesasro:non are engaged in positive social and cultural activities and events
- Akwesasro:non are physically active
- Elders have opportunities to network
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion are prioritized

### **MCA prioritizes infrastructure to provide the best facilities for the community**

- Facilities/infrastructure for a variety of social and cultural activities and events
- Facilities/infrastructure for a wide variety of physical activities exists in all 3 districts
- Internet access and equipment is accessible to everyone



## Branch 6: Environment and Infrastructure

### **Akwesasne land and territory are protected from environmental degradation**

- MCA exercises its jurisdiction on its land and territory
- Strong partnerships are created between Akwesasne and outside governments/agencies
- MCA is provided with data that informs their decisions related to managing and protecting the environment

### **Education curriculum from day care to adult learners include indigenous based environmental learning**

- The Community is empowered to take an active role in preserving the environment
- The Community is empowered to use environmentally sustainable practices

### **Akwesasro:non values for the environments are the compass that guides infrastructure decisions**

- Akwesasne is a well-structured territory with a vision to the future
- Infrastructures are well maintained
- Technology is used to improve energy autonomy and sustainability





## Branch 7: MCA Service Efficiency



### **MCA develops organizational efficient services**

- MCA offers services that reflect the needs of the whole community
- MCA has clear organizational goals and structures
- MCA communicates effectively internally and externally
- MCA recognizes, supports, and adapts innovation and excellence

### **MCA develops safe, effective, and innovative workplaces**

- MCA has clear expectations for its employees
- MCA employees are respectful with each other as well as with the Community they serve
- Collaboration between services areas is prioritized in planning
- Employees respect rules of confidentiality and act ethically
- Employee safety is everyone's responsibility

### **MCA develops effective management systems**

- HR needs are continually updated to ensure that MCA is fully staffed
- Finance has access to relevant data to ensure fiscal health
- Department and program needs are continually updated to ensure success in delivering quality services.
- MCA invests in employee development
- Employees have access to Health and Wellness activities and information
- Employees are hired, oriented, and onboarded in a timely fashion

# Nia:wen Questions?





# SAHATIHARÁ:NE DETOX CENTER

"BACK ON THE PATH"

P R E S E N T A T I O N



# OPENING MESSAGE

”

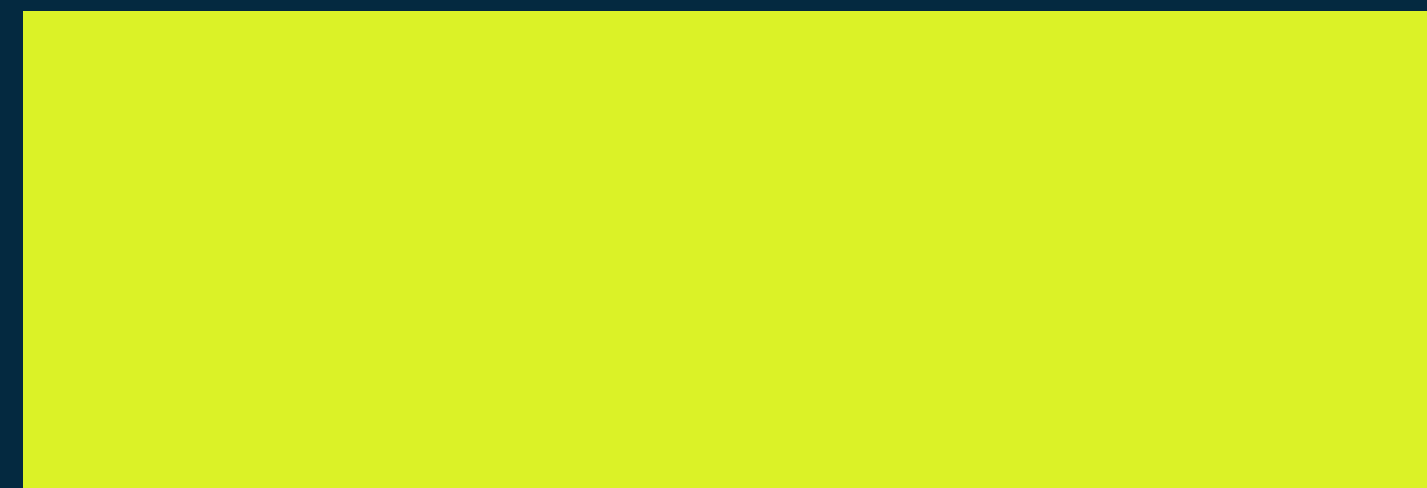
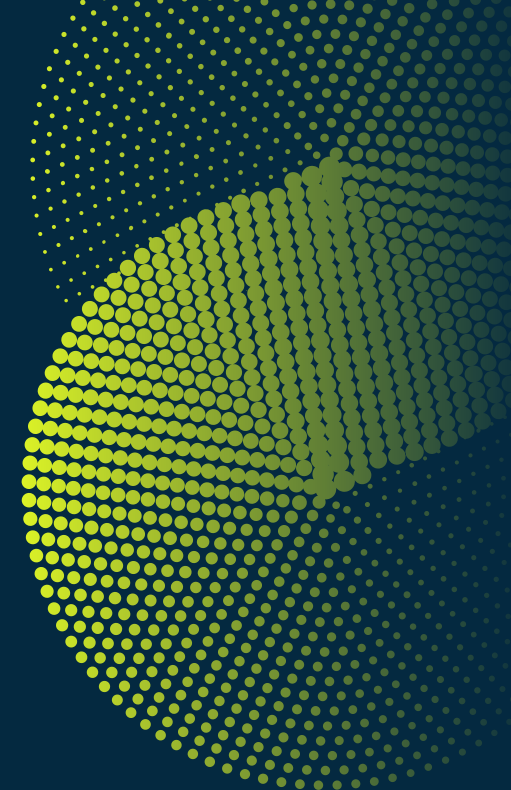
Addiction is neither a choice nor a disease, but originates in a human being's desperate attempt to solve a problem: the problem of emotional pain, of overwhelming stress, of lost connection, of loss of control, of a deep discomfort with the self. In short, it is a forlorn attempt to solve the problem of human pain. Hence my mantra: “The question is not why the addiction, but why the pain.”

*Dr. Gabor Maté*

“



# WHY IS DETOX IMPORTANT?



## **Opportunity for Change**

Withdrawal Management is the first step in the treatment process.



## **Because our Community Matters**

Everyone has a right to access services with dignity and respect by removing the stigma.



## **For Health and Healing**

Detox has been shown to reduce rates of infection, mortality, rebuild family relationships by using a bio-psycho-social model of care.

A calm, nurturing environment that promotes healing and renewed hope



# 8 PRINCIPLES THAT GUIDE WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

”

1. ENSURE SERVICES REFLECT EVIDENCE-INFORMED BEST PRACTICES
2. PROVIDE CLIENT-CENTRIC CARE
3. PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE CARE AND SUPPORTS
4. FOSTER A CULTURE OF RESPECT
5. ENSURE A CULTURALLY SAFE ENVIRONMENT
6. PROVIDE TRAUMA-INFORMED SERVICES AND SUPPORTS
7. COMMIT TO PROVIDING SERVICES THAT ARE ANTI-STIGMA
8. ENCOURAGE FAMILY, PARTNER, AND FRIEND INVOLVEMENT

“



# LEADERSHIP TEAM



## **PROGRAM MANAGER** Oversight

Provide daily oversight of the Addictions Services Program



## **PHYSICIAN/NP** Response

Provide observation and medical assistance for patients going through withdrawal symptoms



## **RN/RPN** Observation

Monitor vital signs and observe for signs of withdrawal



## **COUNSELORS** Intake

Help design a treatment plan for patients during, and after, rehab. Work with families affected by addiction

# OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## Mental Health Services

Counseling services for patients and families of addiction

## Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance, ANIHB & Local Pharmacies

### Pathways

Service Agreements

## Cornwall Community Hospital

### Partnership

Staff member on site daily

## Addiction Treatment Centers

### Referrals

Partridge House  
Onentoken

# CURRENT STATISTICS

**Suspected Drug-Related Deaths (Eastern Ontario Health Unit Territory)**  
(Year:# Of Deaths) 2019: 17 / 2020: 31 / 2021: 38 / 2022 (Jan-Aug) 28

*\*Source: Chief Office of the Coroner for Ontario*

## **Total Emergency Department (ED) for Opioid Poisonings Eastern Ontario Health Unit**

Year/Month of ED Visits for Opioid Overdose

**2016: 56**

**2017: 65**

**2018: 79**

**2019: 34**

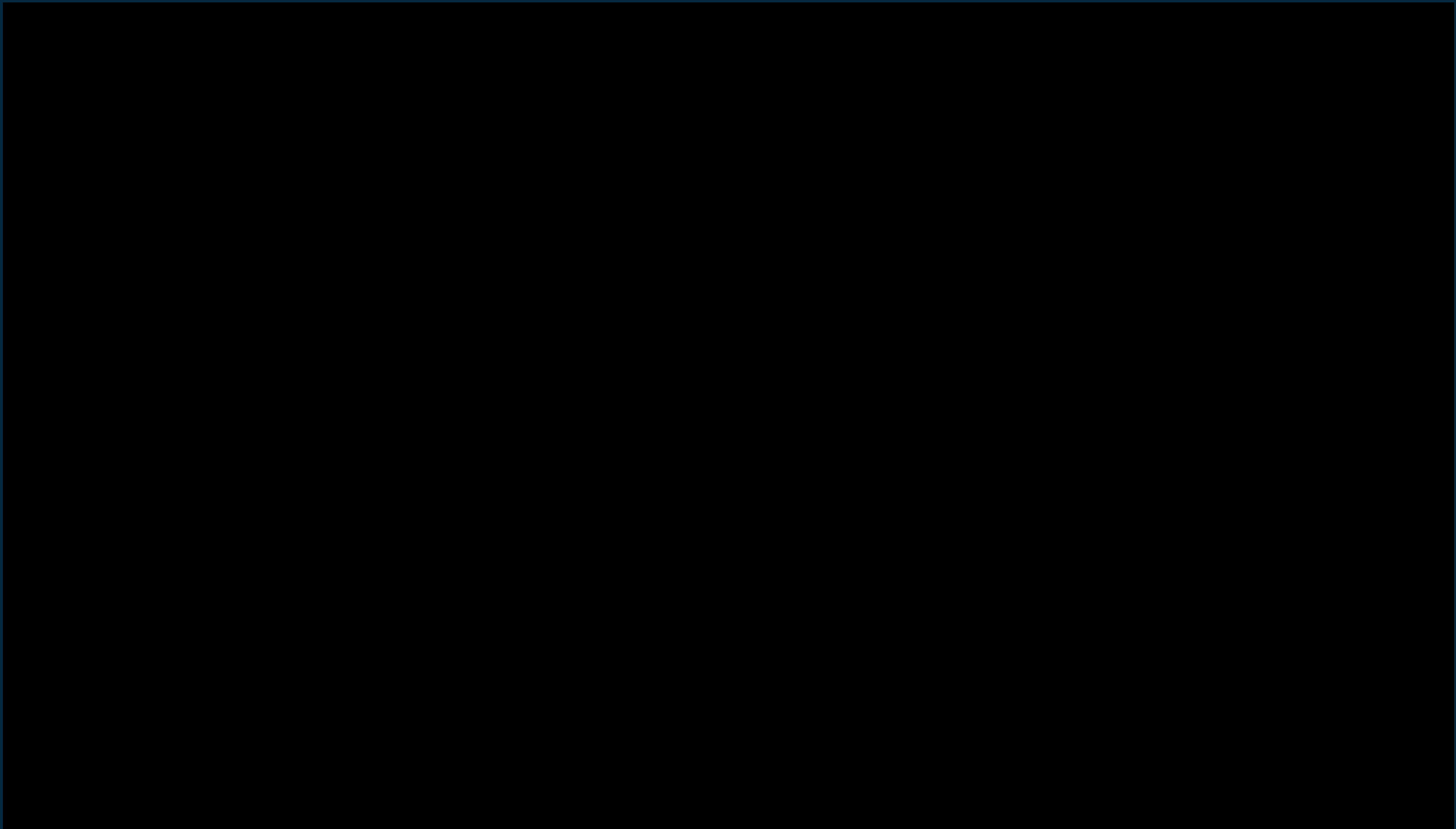
**2020: 86**

**Jan - May 2022: 38**

**June 2022: 6**

**July 2022: 15**

**August 2022: 14**



**DETOX TESTIMONIAL**



# THE WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT PROCESS

1. Intake includes pre-admission screening and admission
2. Withdrawal service setting considerations
3. Assessment
4. Orientation
5. Intoxication and Withdrawal Management
6. Treatment Recovery/Wellness Plan
7. Retention
8. Provision of bio-psychosocial and spiritual supports
9. Medication
10. Continuous program improvement
11. Staff qualifications and experience



# INTAKE



## Admissions

Clients will complete a comprehensive intake phone assessment. This assessment gathers personal information as well as medical and substance use history to ensure our treatment program can provide the best care for you or your loved one.

## Action

The intake staff person will then review the detox facility services, and expectations of the client and facility, and schedule their arrival.

We fully recognize how difficult the decision is to go into detox. We will take all necessary steps to ensure their safety, security, and that they feel supported throughout the process.

As with any other medical facility or service, client information is kept strictly confidential.





# MEDICALLY SUPERVISED WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT COMBATS THE PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES OF ADDICTION SO YOU CAN FOCUS MORE FULLY ON YOUR RECOVERY JOURNEY.

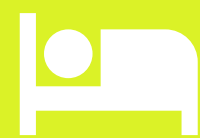
## Supervision

Our facility will be staffed 24 hours per day



## Comfort

Our physicians and nurse practitioners are available to prescribe medication as needed to assist with the detox process, cravings and withdrawal symptoms.



## Adjustments

If adjustments need to be made to medication, we can make those changes quickly.



## Safety

Withdrawal symptoms can be life-threatening for individuals with long-term dependency. Constant medical supervision ensures a safer detoxification process.



## Privacy

Each room is completely private, with a bed to ensure maximum comfort.



## Reduce relapse risk

Medical detox lays a strong foundation for the rest of your recovery.

# NEXT STEPS



01

## Step 01

Renovation of building



02

## Step 02

Opening the doors for admissions



03

## Step 03

Generally a 3-7 day period for admission



04

## Step 04

Treating the individual and prepare for the next step in transition planning process



# CONTACT US



Funded by Ontario's Addiction Recovery Fund and a collaboration between MCA's Department of Health and Department of Community & Social Services



**613-575-2341 ext. 3300**



**doh@akwesasne.ca**



**www.akwesasne.ca**



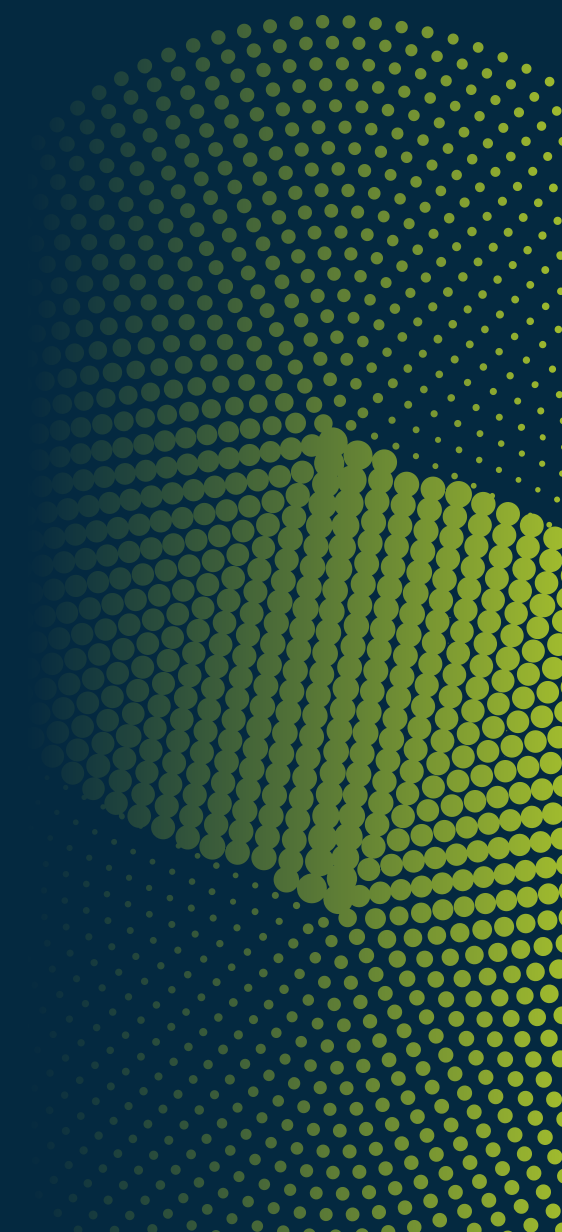
**44 James Lane  
Akwesasne, ON K6H 5R7**







**NIAWEN:KOWA**





# Community Withdrawal Management Services

*“We carry hope for our clients until they  
can carry it for themselves...”*



# Community Withdrawal Model

- Staff consists of nurses, a mental health and addiction counsellor, and a nurse practitioner.
- Safely monitor and support clients through withdrawals and through early recovery by providing psychoeducational tools, skills and resources.
- Motivate for change using motivational interviewing and other skills.
- Client centered and voluntary.
- Bilingual services in French & English



# Observation beds (Daytime Detox)

- 4 observation beds available between Monday-Friday 8am-4pm (closed on weekends). Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are operating 2 beds during regular hours
- Nurses available to do medical assessments and monitoring of withdrawal symptoms.
- Mon – Thursday we have a NP available who can assist in prescribing medication for clients who require treatment for withdrawal symptoms. Medications can also be acquired through the Emergency department or family physician.
- Nurses on site to manage medications to ensure client safety and ongoing monitoring, as well offer relapse prevention support as required.
- Can make referral to crisis beds in the community for client's who meet criteria for services.



# Community Outreach



- Our catchment area is SD&G and Akwesasne.
- Outreach screening done with all of our clients.
- For clients who meet criteria, we can provide home visits for withdrawal monitoring or support (this allows medical assessments in client's environment).
- Respond to consult requests to Winchester & Alexandria hospitals.
- Intake and other service planning can be done through outreach
- Telephone support is available Monday to Friday 8:00am- 10pm and Saturday/Sunday 11am to 7pm.



We provide outreaches to our clients with the CCH mobile clinic on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays!





# Cornwall Community Hospital

- Consult/Support on site to all CCH departments (ER, Psychiatry, Surgery, Medicine, ICU)
- When appropriate, client can access all CWMS programming from inpatient mental health unit or other hospital areas
- Collaborate with social work and other CCH staff for service and discharge planning while admitted



# CARE Program

- Program designed to help clients who are in Early Recovery and have successfully and safely completed a planned withdrawal.
- Learning to live and cope (feel, think & manage) without using substances.
- Self-esteem, self care, lifestyle changes (routines, better habits etc.)
- Teach skills to help clients be accountable and responsible for their health and wellbeing.
- Auricular acupuncture available upon request.
  - Helps with anxiety, sleep and post acute withdrawals.



# Close Collaboration With Other Agencies

- Addiction Services
- CAMHC
- Wellness Center, Akwesasne
- Recovery Cornwall, Change Health Care (methadone and suboxone therapy) – Point of Care testing (*Hep C*)
- Non medical detoxes in Kingston and Ottawa (transportation)
- CAS
- Cornwall Police, OPP, VSMART, MCRT
- Health Unit – Safe injection equipment
- Family Physicians, Nurse Practitioners
- Debbie Champ – Medical abortion services





# Recap

- Client centered & Voluntary.
- Day Beds, Community Outreach, CARE, Referrals
- Stages of Change & meeting people where they are at
- Collaboration with community programs
- Telephone Support available during days, evenings and weekends.
- Verbal referrals accepted 😊

*Thank  
You*



# Josip Kupina – CCH Foundation

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM6xDu\\_4bFw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM6xDu_4bFw)



**Exceptional Care. Always.**  
**Des soins exceptionnels. Toujours.**

[cornwallhospital.ca](http://cornwallhospital.ca)



## LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

### DRAFT AKWESASNE CANNABIS LAW

September 22, 2022

The Oversight Committee on Legislative Development was approved by MCR 2021/2022 - #055 dated June 2021. WTG's are developed from the OSC members and along with technicians specialized in the area of the specific law being developed

The WTG on the Cannabis Law convened their meetings on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and completed Phase I of LEPR August 29<sup>th</sup> with a second line by line reading with Council.

Initially the law was drafted in 2020/2021 by a Chiefs Committee, a first draft was forwarded to the Justice Department however with the presence of COVID19 during that time, there was no opportunity to progress the law through the Legislative Enactment Procedural Regulations.

The WTG members that have worked on the law include: OSC Members Lisa Francis Benedict, Chiefs: Julie Phillips Jacobs & Cindy Francis Mitchell, Justice Coordinator, Technical Support: Kylee Tarbell Director of Ec. Dev, Portfolio Chiefs: Edward Roundpoint & Vanessa Adams, and Legal Counsel.

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Council approved resolution 2022/2023 - #159 to accept in principle the Draft Akwesasne Cannabis Law.

5.6 of Legislative Enactment Procedural Regulation states: "An update on the Akwesasne Law may be presented to the community from the Oversight Committee by reading a summary of it aloud to the Members present at the General Meeting".

Today we are presenting a summary of the Draft Akwesasne Cannabis Law, from here we move into Phase III Community Consultation of LEPR.

**Table of Contents:** Read

**Preamble:** Standard clauses for Akwesasne Laws

**Purpose:** to regulate the possession and use of cannabis on lands under the jurisdiction of the MCA for the protection of the community and to establish a fair and transparent framework for the regulation of commercial activities related to Cannabis in Akwesasne.

**Part I - Title, Interpretation, and Application:**

**Title:** Akwesasne Cannabis Law

**Definitions:** Standard and additional definitions to support the law.

**Interpretation:** speaks to inherent right of self-government, structure of the law, age of majority, calculation of time (number of days), age of majority, immunity from liability, and a

chart for dried cannabis and the equivalent weight of different classes of cannabis shall be determined in accordance with the ratio set out in the chart.

**Application:** This law applies to all persons within Akwesasne Lands and all activities relating to the production, sale, distribution, and possession of Cannabis within Akwesasne lands.

## **Part II – Prohibitions, Authorizations, and Offences:**

**Prohibitions:** identifies the prohibited areas; for example; possess or consume cannabis in a public place, possess no more than 30 grams, number of plants, transportation of cannabis, and cannot supply cannabis to person under 18 years of age.

**Authorizations:** identifies the authorized area; for example, age limits, transportation of cannabis.

**Offences:** this section speaks to offences under the law and processes that will occur.

## **Part III – Cannabis Commerce:**

This section is relative to Commercial Activities Relating to Cannabis, Authority to Issue Licenses & Permits, Eligibility for a License, License Application, License Terms and Conditions, Amendment of Licenses, Permits, Suspension & Revocation (license/permit), and Administration. The section outlines the limitations, authorities, and processes under each section mentioned.

## **Part IV – Governance & Policy:**

This section speaks to Regulations, Delegation & Mandate, Directives, Administrative Agreements, Law Review, Employers, and the mechanisms to assist in guiding the implementation of the law.

## **Part V – Transitional Measures:**

Administrative, Amendments, Law Enactment and Reviews & Appeals. This section includes moving from the Interim Regulations (passed by Council Resolution on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 MCR 2018/2019-#212) to the law, ensures amendments may occur, and allows for reviews and appeals.

**Dates are being coordinated for the last week of October. The law will be printed and mailed to all households with the meeting dates included.**

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