



## General Meeting Action Items/Questions February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

### Action Items/Questions

1. Does MCA have control over how much social assistance is given to each individual? MCA should not have control over it. **A.** This is something we could look into – **DCSS Portfolio Chiefs**

- The Department of Community and Social Services does have control over the amount of funding given to Income Assistance applicants as we negotiated a unique Income Assistance Program by not signing the 1965 welfare agreement. That being said, our income assistance funding was only ever substantial enough to provide the rates we currently go by minus the yearly increases due to cost-of-living calculations by Indigenous Services Canada. Our amount has not changed substantially since 1966. The amounts need to be updated due to inflation. Income Assistance Reform has been going on for several years, however due to COVID-19 it was put on hold. DCSS has done several initiatives to assist community members on income assistance such as "one-time payments in the amount of 3-500.00 for several months between the fiscal years 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023. DCSS has also done three rounds of food card and gas card handouts based on family size (just in 2022-2023). DCSS has also been responsible for all food security initiatives for the Northern Portion of Akwesasne. As a temporary measure until Income Assistance Reform is complete, we will be continuing these initiatives as well as looking at a temporary increase to Income Assistance to recognize that our community members on Income Assistance cannot wait for reform. DCSS is the designated department responsible for the management of Income Assistance Funding. The responsibility of this funding is designated to us by Indigenous Services Canada. ISC puts us through yearly audits of all income assistance files and funding. Should we run a deficit in Income Assistance it is not ISC who will be paying that it will be Mohawk Council.

2. What happened to the Snow Plow in the Village **A.** We can find out. – **DIHE Portfolio Chiefs**

- That particular snow plow has run its course and is out to pasture.

3. The stop signs on Third Street, you said it had to go through a traffic study, what is the status of that? **A. Chief V. Thompson will follow up with DIHE.**

- The Traffic Study is pending. There is a human resource need within the Dept. and an MCR will come forward at the next Council Meeting which will identify how the positions will be financed.