# ONKWE/TA:KE

## THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 13 Issue 2

FREE

Enníska/February 2024

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COMMUNITY SKATE WITH FIRST RESPONDERS



## LOCAL FEMALE YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL INITIATIVE TO "FILL THEIR BASKET"



Over the course of five weeks, ten female youth between the ages of 13-17 participated in Tetewata'therí:ke — We are Filling our Basket. An initiative led by the Akwesasne Child and Family Services Traditional Support Unit. This was a great opportunity for this group of young ladies to expand their cultural knowledge, learn new teachings, make new friends, and create lasting memories. Read more on page 21.

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

#### **AKWESASNE WINTER CARNIVAL**

February 16-18, 2024 Join in on the fun and enjoy a variety of activities held throughout Akwesasne! Schedule of events listed on back page.

#### **FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING**

February 29, 2024 – 6 p.m. Kana:takon Recreation Center

## MOHAWK COUNCIL OF **AKWESASNE** 2021-2024

**Grand Chief** Abram Benedict

## Kana:takon District

Chief Fallon David Chief Cindy Francis-Mitchell Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs Chief Tim Thompson

#### Kawehno:ke District

Chief Vanessa Adams Chief Jackie Benedict Chief Edward Roundpoint Chief Vince Thompson

#### <u>Tsi Snaihne District</u>

Chief April Adams-Phillips Chief Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo Chief JoAnn Swamp Chief Dwayne Thomas

#### **Administration** Donna Roundpoint

A/Executive Director

Heather Phillips Director Dept. of Finance & Administration

Leslie Papineau Director Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment

Cactus Cook Sunday Director Dept. of Justice

Joseph Morin-Lauzon Director Dept. of Community & Social Services

Amber Montour Director Department of Health

Donna Lahache Director Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education

Shawn Dulude Chief of Police/Director Dept. of Public Safety

Kylee Tarbell Director Dept. of Economic Development

# WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS

She:kon and welcome to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's community newsletter, Onkwe'ta:ke, which means "For the people." The primary goal of this publication is to deliver MCA's news and updates straight into the hands of community members. Should you wish to stay connected in other ways, the following channels are provided:

MCA departments and services, please or important messages right to your cell 2250.

E-newsletter: Register for a weekly e- Website: News and general information newsletter delivered straight to your email can be found on our website at www.akinbox. It's a great way to quickly stay up to wesasne.ca. This includes job postings and date! Sign up by visiting <u>www.akwesasne.</u> Council contact information. <u>ca/siqnup</u>.

Instagram and Snapchat!

**Contact:** If you have any questions about **Mobile/Cell Text Alerts:** Receive urgent email info@akwesasne.ca or call 613-575- phone. Sign up by visiting www.akwesasne.ca/textalerts.

Local Media: Find our news and infor-Social Media: Visit us on Facebook, Twitter, mation in Akwesasne's long-serving local media, CKON 97.3 Radio and Indian Time Newspaper.





This year marks the 30th annual Akwesasne Winter Carnival! Festivities throughout the community will be from February 16-18, 2024. Full list of activities and events can be viewed on the back page!



MCA's Department of Health is restructuring in order to provide community members better healthcare delivery. The new changes can be viewed on page 5.

Akwesasne Zero 2 Six will be moving from their Kana:takon location to 191 Rita Lane on Kawehno:ke.

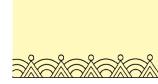
The program will be closed starting February 20, 2024 with limited programming. They anticipate to resume full programming at their new location on March 11, 2024. Stay tuned to their Facebook page



for more updates. The Sahatihahará:ne Detox Center will be hosting AA and NA meetings on Thursdays at the SDC building located at 44 James Lane in the District of Kawehno:ke from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. If you have



The February 2024 MCA Medical Clinic calendar can be viewed on page 17. Please be reminded that a valid health card (OHIP/QHIP) is needed for all appointments.



On January 10 at the St. Regis Recreation Center, to provide an overview on their program, as well as a College Student Appreciation & Wellness Dinner tips on how to deal with stress relief. was held for current college and university students hosted by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and Mohawk Students also received a delicious meal catered by Council of Akwesasne and sponsored by the Native TNT and wellness bags. Connections Grant.

Nia:wen to all that participated and to those that made A panel of guest speakers from the SRMT Tribal this event possible. Good luck on your upcoming Vocational Rehabilitation Program (TVR) were present semester!







J

**FEBRUARY 2024** 

any questions, please contact the SDC at 613-932-5050.



## **COLLEGE STUDENT APPRECIATION & WELLNESS DINNER**

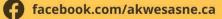












- @MCAkwesasne
- @MCAkwesasne

youtube.com/MohawkCouncilofAkwesasne

- @MCAkwesasne
- ♂ @MCAkwesasne

## **NEWS**

## MCA AND CBSA ANNOUNCE PERMANENT DOMESTIC LANE AT CORNWALL POE TO IMPROVE TRAVELLER EXPERIENCE

On January 30, 2024, the Mohawk Council of QUOTES: Akwesasne (MCA) and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) announced that the Domestic Lane at "The Domestic Lane demonstrates what's possible the Cornwall port of entry has been made permanent when we listen to one another and work together," following a successful two-year pilot project.

port of entry, the Pilot Project was launched in late port of entry for Akwesasne residents who need 2020, which designated a lane specifically for domestic to cross regularly for school, work, shopping and travel. Since its launch, travellers have benefitted healthcare. We're committed to ongoing dialogue from a smoother border crossing experience at the and collaboration with the Mohawk Council of CBSA Cornwall port of entry, including shorter wait Akwesasne as we continue to build a path to support times and reduced congestion.

The now permanent Domestic Lane is accessible to travellers who have not entered the United States. that have been made, and will ideally continue to be It includes those who are travelling directly to and made, to improve the border crossing experience from Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island). Domestic travel for residents of Akwesasne," said MCA Grand Chief include Akwesasne residents and non-residents and Abram Benedict. "We continue to work with the signage at the port of entry clearly indicates which CBSA to ensure the concerns of our community lane is for domestic travel only.

Border Collaboration Initiative, a joint effort by international border." the CBSA and MCA to improve the daily lives of all who travel through the Cornwall port of entry. The CBSA is committed to working in collaboration with Indigenous partners in providing integrated border services that both support national security and public safety priorities and facilitate the free flow of admissible people and goods. As part of its commitment to Reconciliation, the CBSA has been working with Indigenous Peoples and communities on border mobility to build a relationship based on respect, partnership, and recognition of Indigenous rights.

said CBSA President Erin O'Gorman. "By reducing wait times and speeding up processing, the Domestic Recognizing the particular geography of the Cornwall Lane has improved the experience at the Cornwall this community."

"The Domestic Lane is an example of improvements members are heard. Through our partnership, we will continue to find modern solutions to address the The Domestic Lane was developed as part of the historic complications created by the drawing of the



Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) – Cornwall Port of Entry

**FEBRUARY 2024** 



The Department of Health is proud to announce a strategic reorganization, marking a significant step toward elevating healthcare services and aligning with the evolving needs of our community. This initiative underscores our commitment to continuous improvement, cultural competency, and community-centered care, all while cultivating an environment of adaptability, kindness, respect, and mutual support.

## Key Highlights of the Reorganization

#### **1. New Leadership:**

We proudly introduce key leaders who bring not only many years of expertise, but also a deep commitment to empowering each other. Their leadership will play a pivotal role in steering the department towards our goals while embracing change. We welcome the following to their new Associate Director role:

- vices

#### 2. Sector Realignment:

cludes:





## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO REORGANIZE FOR BETTER HEALTHCARE DELIVERY**

Karole Mitchell - Community Health Services

• Wennietanoron Oakes - Mental Health & Wellness Ser-

• Lesley Bero - Clinical Care Services

Chelsea Swamp - Continuing Care Service

Responding to the dynamic healthcare landscape, the department has strategically realigned its sectors to provide more client-focused and targeted services. The new structure in-

• <u>Health Administration (Sector 1)</u>: Strategic leadership focusing on administrative aspects of health services.

• Community Health Service (Sector 2): Dedicated to community-based healthcare programs and services.

• Mental Health & Wellness Services (Sector 3): Prioritizing mental health, addiction services, land-based healing, traditional medicine and wholistic well-being.



WENNIETANORON OAKES

- <u>Clinical Care Services (Sector 4)</u>: Overseeing medical clinics, chronic disease management, and patient navigation with a commitment to cultural competency.
- Continuing Care (Sector 5): Specialized services for the elderly and long-term care.

#### **3. Program Enhancement:**

Each sector will now have dedicated leadership who will be overseeing and enhancing specific programs critical to our community's health and well-being. This includes a heightened focus on kindness, respect, support, and ensuring that we uplift one another throughout our healthcare journey.

#### 4. Improved Collaboration:

The reorganization aims to encourage greater collaboration among different sectors, resulting in a more integrated approach to healthcare service delivery. Community focus and mutual support will be the cornerstone of our collaborative efforts.

## What This Means for the Community:

Enhanced Services: The reorganization will streamline operations, resulting in more efficient and effective healthcare services.

New Leadership: The community is invited to join us in welcoming our new leaders, whose wealth of experience will contribute to our continued success, integrating compassion and respect into our services.

Focused Approach: The realignment ensures a more focused and targeted approach to addressing the diverse healthcare needs of our community.

The Department of Health is committed to ensuring a seamless transition during this period of change. For more information, contact Health Communications Officer Ryan King at ryan.king@akwesasne.ca.



LESLEY BERO



CHELSEA SWAMP

## **COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT**

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



## December 11, 2023

- Council received a briefing on a historical issue from 1987 and the seizure of Akwesasne property that is being returned as a result of reconciliation efforts.
- A briefing was provided on a request from a recent District Meeting for Council to reconsider its

## December 18, 2023

- Legal counsel presented a draft MCA Housing Mortgage Regulation and reviewed the regulations line by line with Council.
- The Director of Finance and Administration presented the framework of process and rationale for the upcoming MCA salary review.
- Council reviewed a recent informational video created by MCA

• Council discussed a proposed partnership opportunity for an

referendum.

position on the NY State Claim

- upcoming Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) project; further information will be sought.
- A request for MCA sponsorship to host a funding agreement was discussed. Administration will seek further clarity on the request.
- MCRs passed: Approval of (2) allotments of land (loans paid off); Approval of assignment of lease (Clark Island); Approval of assignment of lease (Thompson Island; Approval of assignment of lease (Pilon Island); Acceptance of resignation from Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission; Approval to

proceed with offer to purchase Ontario surplus lands; Approval of funding agreement with Solicitor General; Approval of changes to Department of Public Safety organizational chart; Approval of (2) upgrade loans to community member(s); Approval to rescind MCR for upgrade loan; Approval to rescind previous MCR for mortgage guarantee; Approval of (2) BMO Mortgage guarantees; Approval of project award for Iohahi:io multi trades; Approval of grant application; Approval of 2022 Long-Term Care Resident trust account; Approval of 22/23 audit for Ministry of Education; Approval of MCA 22/23 consolidated audit.

Communications Unit; Council endorsed the video for distribution.

- A request from a community Elder was presented and will be followed-up on by administration.
- MCRs passed: Acceptance of (4) Council Meeting minutes; Acceptance of tender award for security cameras at all AMBE facilities; Acceptance of Indigenous Lan-

quage Cultural Grant; Acceptance of amendment to Akwesasne/ Canada funding agreement; Approval of 22/23 audit for Ministry of Health, Children Mental Health; Approval to proceed with MCA salary review; Approval of MCA Housing Mortgage Regulations; Approval of retainer agreement for dispute review.



- proceed with a new call out.
- limits.

## January 15, 2024

• A representative from a2z Strategic Consulting provided Council with an overview of the upcoming session with MCA senior leadership and requested feedback from Council on the strategic plan evaluation timelines.

#### January 29, 2024

- Council's consideration.
- Commissioner.

• Council received a briefing from a recent meeting with Akwesasne International Pow Wow representatives. A follow-up meeting will

A request for the financial administration of the Iroquois Caucus account was discussed and approved for transfer to Six Nations of the Grand River.

# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

 Council discussed a conflict-ofinterest concern with respect to an applicant to the MCA Finance Committee. The committee will

• An update was provided on the current cheque signing authority

• Council discussed and set the agenda for the upcoming General Meeting on January 25,

2024 which is taking place at the Kawehno:ke Recreation.

- A briefing was provided on the Border Collaborative Initiative Working Circle and efforts to update the Akwesasne Residents Remission Order.
- An overview was provided on a meeting request from the new Bridge Director for the Seaway International Bridge Corporation

(SIBC). A meeting will be scheduled.

- MCRs passed: Approval of agreement with Onkwehonwe Midwives Collective (OMC) and MCA for funding transfer; Approval of assignment of lease (Hamilton Island); Approval to rescind previous MCR for declined lease; Approval of housing loan upgrade to community member.
- Chief Edward Roundpoint agreed to chair next week's meeting in the Grand Chief's absence.
- MCR's passed: Approval of 22/23 audit for Tsiionkwanonhso:te; Approval of (2) amendment(s) to Ak-

wesasne-Canada funding agreement; Approval of three members of Council to conduct the interview process for the position of Executive Director.

• Council discussed a request for the MCA to consider Ministerial loan guarantees for community members bank mortgages. A briefing note was requested for •

• An update was provided on an upcoming Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission posting for a

 Council reviewed a letter received from the Mohawks of Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust Overseers regarding the residency of our Trustees. Grand Chief will follow up and report back.

• An overview was provided on an upcoming meeting between the Hydro Québec CEO and the Assembly of First Nations of Québec and Labrador. An invitation will be extended to the CEO for Hydro Québec.

- Council reviewed the agenda for the upcoming General Meeting which has been rescheduled to take place Thursday, February 1 at the Kawehno:ke Recreation.
- MCRs passed: Approval of funding application to Indigenous Services Canada for Iohahi:io Longhouse and Pavilion; Approval of allocation of surplus funds to purchase Kindle tablets for Post Secondary Students; Approval of Ministry of Community, Children, and Social Services Generic Audit;

Acceptance of Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement for Communications Program.



## **COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT**

## **TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF JOANN SWAMP UPDATES**



**Monthly Report:** January 2024

## **Portfolios:**

Dept. of Community & Social Services (DCSS), Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment (DIHE), Government Secretariat, Nation Building (Entewatathá:wi)

## **Selected Committees:**

Office of Vital Statistics (OVS), Youth, Elders, Culture, Language (YECL), Hydro Québec, Residency Law Amendments, Chiefs of Ontario Women's Chiefs, Partnership with OPG and MCA (POM)

## **MONTHLY NOTABLES:**

was held on January 15, 2024, with taining Ministerial Loan Guarantees 17 community members in attendance. Chief Diabo and I provided updates on community concerns.

## **Follow-Up Items:**

- 2023 DCSS Donation to Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center
- Tsi Snaihne Fire Department **Capital Project**
- Return to Hybrid General Meetings (Virtual Option)
- DCSS Surplus Monies
- MCA Financial Position
- Update on Fibre to the Home (FTTH) Project
- Need for Navigator of Quebec Businesses/Organizations
- Cannabis Quality Assurance
- General Meeting Business from the Floor

## **COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP UPDATES:**

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

Housing Authority – Monthly updates were given, and Chiefs were The Tsi Snaihne District Meeting tasked on finding out about enter-(MLG). This was in place before and had concluded, so it was removed. Chiefs discovered that it was not

removed and only one Ministerial Loan had been approved at that time.

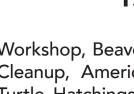
Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment – A meeting was held to discuss the multi-trades building located at Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education and Training Institute. HSP Consultants will be overseeing this project along with the Director of DIHE. First Nation Construction was awarded the project.

An update was provided by Jp2g Consultants regarding the Hawthorne Road in Tsi Snaihne. They mentioned contracts need to be signed, sent to programs and consultants, and awaiting a schedule to be submitted.

The DIHE Portfolio meeting on Capital Projects was held and the projects are: Space Needs (six projects), HAVFD Station #3, Hawthorne Road Extension, New Sand Dome (Roads Program), Capital Planning Study Update, LED Street Lights on McCumber Road and Southern Kawehno:ke, New Tsi Snaihne School Project, Kana:takon Beach Project, Hamilton Island Bridge Project, Various Road Projects, Building Condition Assessments.

Environment – Attended a meeting with Environment and received updates on the following: Trapping

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- Portfolio meeting to review the issues to discuss about at negotiations. The Director is going to organize an Enforcement Symposium in February 2024. The booklet on Entewatatha:wi will be printed out MCA Executive Director position. for the community to present the self-government agreement. We also discussed Fiscal Relationship Agreement.

Akwesasne-Canada Main Table Negotiations - The group discussed the International Border Matters, ESGA Provisions, Akwesasne Up-

Additional Community Meetings dates, Periodic Review, Childcare, – I have been assisting community In January 2024, I began working **Closing Remarks.** members with estates, housing, out of the Tsi Snaihne Recreation and land disputes in addition to Center on Tuesdays, unless meet-Office of Vital Statistics – Attendsupport letters for Jordan's Prin- ings are scheduled in-person. ed the monthly OVS meeting and updates were given on the MRZ In- ciple. There has been community Niawenhkó:wa, take Sessions, Membership Board, concern on lack of air conditioners Chief JoAnn Swamp OVS Survey Project (working on and HVAC units at AMBE schools. St. Regis Island, Yellow Island and Quotes are currently being worked then moving to Tsi Snaihne). Addi- on and the installation date is set



# **COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT**

## **TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF JOANN SWAMP UPDATES**

and Campeau Road Land.

Workshop, Beaver Dams, Garbage tional updates include MCR for the for Summer 2024. Cleanup, American Eel Coalition, Membership Review, Ross Island Turtle Hatchings, Ross Island Dig, Updates and Encroachments.

Nation Building (Entewatathá:wi) Personnel, Akwesasne Membership Board, Ross Island and OVS Survey Project.

> **Council Meeting** – An emergency Council meeting was held to pass an MCR and to also discuss the The acting Executive Director has Attended monthly meetings with returned to their former position as of January 2024. After much discussion, the consensus was to inquire with Donna Roundpoint on her interest in the Acting ED position again.

Met with MCA Economic Development Director and staff to discuss Received updates from Director on issues regarding the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center and the economic development level regarding contractors crossing the border. I will be gathering additional information to see what needs are to be met for the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center.

> Chiefs of Ontario Elected Women Chiefs. Was provided with updates and progress is ongoing regarding sex trafficking, missing and murdered women, LGBTO, suicides, etc. All issues will be brought up at the COO Regional Meetings.

# SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

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## FACEBOOK STATS

## Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in January

- 1. Akwesasne: Land Where the Partidge Drums (Video)
- 2. Akwesasronon Actor Kiawentiio Tarbell in Netflix's Avatar: Last Airbender
- 3. Tetewata'therí:ke We Are Filling Our Basket
- 4. Konterennótha Youth Girls Singing Group (Video)
- 5. Non-Insured Health Benefits Welcomes New Medical Transport Driver

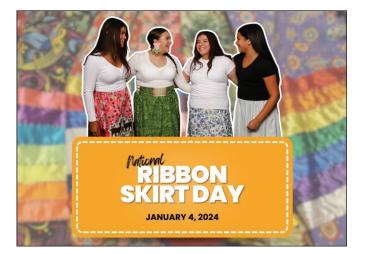
## Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in January

- 1. Akwesasne: Land Where the Partridge Drums (Video) 131,118 Reached
- 2. Akwesasronon Actor Kiawentiio Tarbell in Netflix's Avatar: The Last Airbender 48,153 Reached
- 3. Konterennótha Youth Girls Singing Group (Video) 17,454 Reached
- 4. Tetewata'therí:ke We Are Filling Our Basket 9,341 Reached
- 5. Rock & Skate (Graphic) 7,752 Reached



## **TWITTER STATS**

Top Post in January



> YOUTUBE STATS

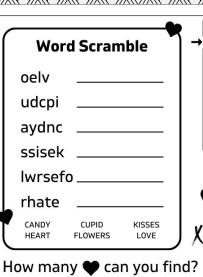
<u>Highest Viewed Video on the MCA</u> <u>YouTube Channel for January</u>

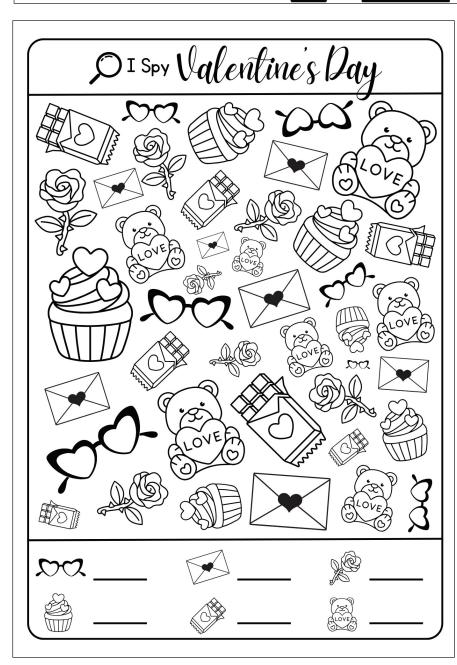
Akwesasne: Land Where the Partidge Drums



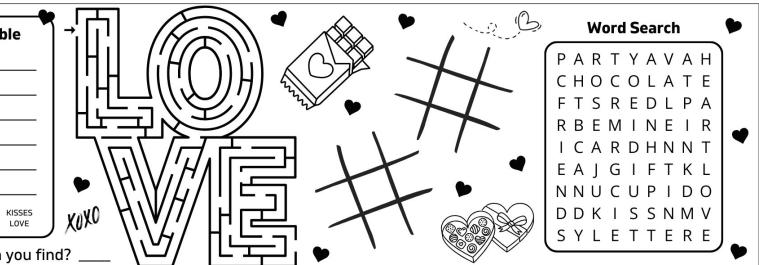
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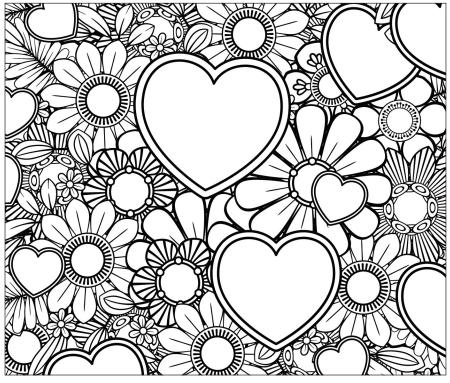




## CHILDREN'S PAGE



COLOUR THE PATTERN



## YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why were the scientists a perfect match? Because they had great chemistry.

Where do snowmen love to dance? At a snow ball.

What do you call two birds in love? Tweethearts.

## **AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT**

## YOUTH REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

Do you have a Youth involved in the legal systems of Ontario or Québec? The Akwesasne Community Justice Program can provide support if you need help finding legal aid, programs, services, and an advocate in court. Please contact Youth Reintegration Worker Mike Benedict at 613-575-5000 ext. 2416 or mike.benedict@akwesasne.ca.

## YOUTH REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

## Who is eligible?

Aboriginal Youth (status and non-status, Metis, and Inuit) between the ages of 12-17 years at the time of offence, who have been found guilty and are currently • on probation, conditional supervision or community supervision.

## **Program Objectives:**

- Provide community based services that are culturally appropriate.
- Provide services that address assessed individual needs or conditions of Aboriginal Youth.

To support and assist rehabilitation and reintegration of Aboriginal Youth back into the community.

## **Services:**

• We work collaboratively with Youth Probation

Officers and Youth to ensure conditions and recommendations are met.

- We provide intervention trainings/workshops to Youth, parents, and/or caregivers.
- We have an inventory of community resources that are available to Youth and parents/caregivers.
- We assist parents/caregivers and Youth in understanding their rights and responsibilities.
- We work closely with all agencies and facilities to effectively meet Youth needs through coordinated case management, consultation and case conferences.
- We are available to assist Youth in custody by providing counselling, supportive services, advocacy and referrals.
- We offer continuous support and supervision to Youth and with their families.



## **DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

On January 4, 2024, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne worked hard together to prepare themselves for the employees attended a one-day Health & Safety Refresher final event – Health and Safety Scenarios. The teams then Training at the St. Regis Recreation Center. The training discussed in-depth true to life health and safety scenarios was led by part-time Health & Safety Officer Cheryl and worked together to develop an action plan on how Jacobs, who explored a variety of topics and allowed to address the issues, what steps need to be taken, who employees to gain insight on how they can maintain a needs to be contact, was first aid needed, if so, was it healthy and safe workplace. Some of these topics include: rendered and what reports would need to be completed.

- Understanding the Basics of the Internal Responsibility System
- Health & Safety for Managers
- Sharps Training
- Annual Building Fire Plan Review

The group took a pause on learning and enjoyed a delicious Services: Provided lunch meal for lunch then returned to put their new knowledge Department of Finance & Administration: Door Prizes, to the test through a team building exercise. Each group Emergency Car Kits, and Windshield Washer Fluid was asked to discuss their thoughts on the current Human Resources: Door Prizes health and safety culture within the MCA organization SRMT Office of Emergency Management: Two Family and provide insight on how it can be changed. They also Emergency Kits shared personal health and safety experiences within the CAA Management/Twinleaf: \$25 Gift Cards organization and their solutions to solve any issues.





**FEBRUARY 2024** 

## MCA STAFF PARTICIPATE IN HEALTH & SAFETY REFRESHER TRAINING

- Basic Awareness of the Canada Labour Code Part II

Excellent discussions were provided by staff as they

This was the first ever Refresher Health & Safety Training and mighty successful. Niawenhko:wa to all the MCA employees to participated, Cheryl Jacobs for facilitating, and the departments and program who donated door prizes and food.

Executive Services & Department of Community & Social

MCA Emergency Measures Program: First Aid Kit Door Prizes

# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

## **CIBC FOUNDATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education and Training Institute would like to congratulate Bryli Thompson and Chanelle Smoke on being the recipients of the Community Development Scholarship. This scholarship was made in partnership with Indigenous Institutes Consortium (IIC) and the CIBC Foundation. Bryli is a student in the General Arts and Science Pre-Trades Program and Chanelle is a student in the Personal Support Worker Program. Well done and congratulations on your achievement!

Niawenhkó:wa to the IIC and CIBC for their partnership and enabling our Indigenous learners to cover some of the students expenses.



**Responses due** 

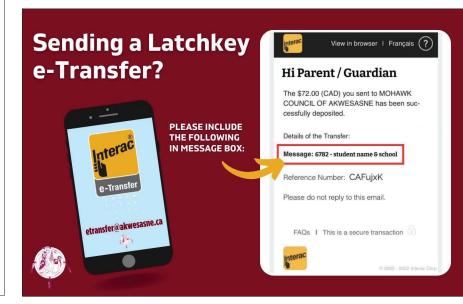
As Soon As Possible

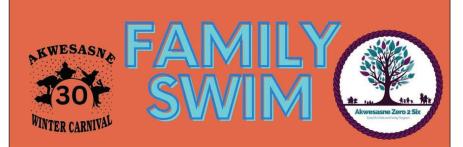


Proud scholarship recipients, Bryli Thompson and Chanelle Smoke.

## AMBE LATCHKEY PAYMENTS VIA **E-TRANSFER**

A reminder to parents paying Latchkey bills via e-Transfer - When sending your e-Transfer, please put "6782 - Student Name & School Name" in the message box. This ensures your payment is guickly credited to your students account. Nia:wen for your cooperation.









**FEBRUARY 2024** 

**FEBRUARY 2024** 

# AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Drop in to the Cornwall Aquatic Centre for a FREE family swim.

Hosted by Akwesasne Zero 2 Six in celebration of Akwesasne Winter Carnival.

All ages welcome!

Saturday, February 17, 2024 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

# PD Day change due to 50LAR ECLIPSE

Scheduled PD Day for April 26, 2024 has been changed to April 8, 2024.

## **AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION**



Contact Us

Office: 613-933-0409 or 613-575-2250 ext. 1400

Ahkwesahsne Mohawk School 613-932-3366

Tsi Snaihne School 613-575-2291

Kana:takon School 613-575-2323

Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education & Training Institute 613-575-2754 or 613-575-2250 ext. 4100

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM PROVIDES OPEN GYM TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

The MCA Community Health Program is providing open access to its fitness center on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 12-2 pm.

The fitness center is located at the bottom floor of Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility and open gym will be held from January 9 - April 25, 2024.

Community members accessing the Community Health Fitness Center must fill out a waiver prior to using the fitness equipment. Participants are also required to sign in for every visit.

Staff will be on-site to supervise the fitness area. No personal training will be offered at this time and no outdoor shoes permitted.

If you have any questions, please contact the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.





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	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SAHATIHAHARÁ:NE DETOX					1	2	3
AA AND NA MEETINGS	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
THURSDAYS   12 - 1 PM	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Meetings will be held at the SDC building located at <b>44 James Lane</b> in the District of Kawehno:ke.	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Future meetings will be scheduled.	25	26	27	28	29		

Mohawk C	council of Akwessane ment of Health
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613-575-2341 ext. 3220 Jordan's Principle: 613-575-2341 ext. 2650

Wholistic Health and Wellness: 613-575-2341 ext. 3115

FEBRUARY 2024

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# MEDICAL CLINICS CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2024

TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Dr. Saylor - By Appointment Dr. Levac - By Appointment Dr. Robinson - Same Day/By Appt. Blood Work - By Appointment Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment	2 <u>Akwesasne Medical Clinic</u> Blood Work - By Appointment <u>Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic</u> Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment	3	4
6 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Dr. Saylor - By Appointment Dr. Wysote - By Appointment Dr. Horn - LTC, Horne Visits, Appts. Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic Xanet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Day/By Appt. Blood Work - By Appointment	7 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Dr. Horn - By Appointment Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic. Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Day/By Appt.	8 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Dr. Saylor - By Appointment Dr. Levac - By Appointment Dr. Robinson - Same Day/By Appt. Blood Work - By Appointment Awehnocke Medical Clinic Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Torres - By Appointment	9 <u>Akwesaane Medical Clinic</u> Blood Work - By Appointment <u>Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic</u> Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment	10	11
13 <u>Akwesasne Medical Clinic</u> Dr. Horn - LTC, Home Visits, By Appointment <u>Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic</u> Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Day/By Appt.	14 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Dr. Horn - By Appointment Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Day/By Appt.	15 Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic. Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Torres - Phone Appointments Dr. Levac - By Appointment	16 <u>Akwesasne Medical Clinic</u> Blood Work - By Appointment <u>Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic</u> Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment	17	18
20 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Dr. Wysote - By Appointment Dr. Horn - LTC, Home Visits, By Appointment Kawehnc:ke Medical Clinic. Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Day/By Appt.	21 Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Day/By Appt.	22 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Dr. Horn - By Appointment Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Torres - By Appointment	23 Akwesasne Medical Clinic Blood Work - By Appointment Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic. Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment	24	25
27 <u>Akwesasne Medical Clinic</u> Dr. Saylor - By Appointment Dr. Horn - LTC, Home Visits, By Appointment <u>Kawehncike Medical Clinic</u> Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Day/By Appt. Dr. Wysote - By Appointment	28 <u>Akwesasne Medical Clinic</u> Dr. Horn - By Appointment Dr. Robinson - Same Day/By Appt. <u>Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic</u> Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Baier - Same Da/By Appt.	29 <u>Akwesasne Medical Clinic</u> Dr. Saylor - By Appointment Dr. Levac - By Appointment Dr. Robinson - Same Day/By Appt. <u>Kawehnc:ke Medical Clinic</u> Janet Brant, NP - By Appointment Dr. Torres - Phone Consults			CONTACT US Akwesasne Medical Clinic: 613-575-2341 ext. 3215 Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic: 613-932-5808 613-575-2341 ext. 1110

## **RTMENT OF HEALTH**

1 ext. 3340 Health:

Non-Insured Health Benefits: Home & Community Care: 613-575-2341 ext. 1618 lakhihsohtha Lodge: 613-575-2507 Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center:

613-932-5050 Tsiiokwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility: 613-932-1409



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## **ELDERS DAY OUT AT LUCKY STRIKE LANES**

On January 19, 2024, MCA's Wholistic Health and Wellness Program held an Elder's Bowling outing at Lucky Strike Lanes in Malone, N.Y., part of their Elder Enrichment Programming. The elders were on a roll at Lucky Strike Lanes partaking in some friendly competition, laughs, good food and tons of fun!

Niawenhko:wa to the MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program for hosting a wonderful event. Everyone had a ball! Be sure to follow MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program on Facebook to be in the loop of their future activities and events!





## NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS WELCOMES NEW MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION DRIVER



Non-Insured Transport Driver. Harvey on January 15th.

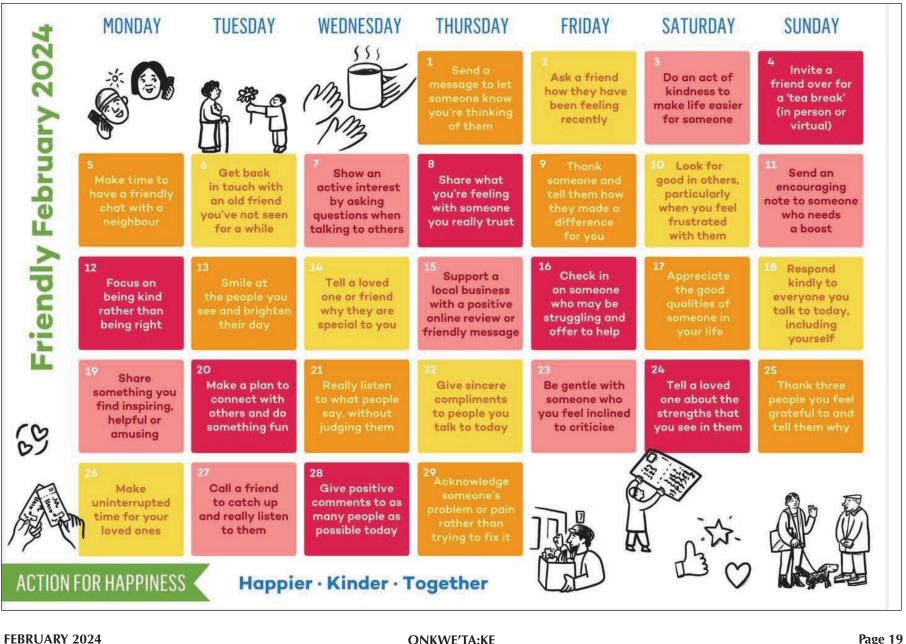
The Mohawk Council Harvey comes to the NIHB program with 38 years of of Akwesasne's (MCA) trucking and driving experience. He has worked as Health an Ice Road Trucker hauling track horses, and also Benefits Program (NIHB) worked numerous years as a long-haul trucker. He would like to welcome is very excited to work with the NIHB clients and Harvey Arguette to the looking forward to the unique experience that comes NIHB team as a Medical with medical transportation.

started with the program Please join us in welcoming Harvey to the Non-Insured Health Benefits team!



With January in the rearview mirror, it's time to look and goals, and refocus on maintaining your physical forward to the shortest month of the year. And what and emotional health and well-being throughout the better way to welcome February than with a Friendly month. February inspirational calendar to reinvigorate your Remember you are not alone. Let's all work on being January motivation! happier and kinder...TOGETHER!

February is a beautiful month that carries the sound of spring to our ears as March is right around the corner. For more information on ways to improve your health February is also known for being the month of love, & wellness, feel free to contact the MCA Health but you don't have to be in love to take advantage of Promotion and Prevention Program at 613-575-2341 the fresh start that this month brings! February is the ext. 3107. perfect time to cherish friendships, celebrate dreams



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## FRIENDLY FEBRUARY

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## **ROCK & SKATE FUN AT A'NOWARA'KO:WA ARENA**

On January 13, Akwesasronon laced up their skates Akwesasne Family Wellness Program and Akwesasne and hit the ice at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena for a glow- Zero 2 Six for hosting Rock & Skate! Be sure to follow in-the-dark family skate! Adults and kids alike were the program's Facebook pages to be in the loop on thrilled to get on the ice, skate alongside friends and upcoming events! family, while enjoying the tunes and colourful lights.

It's great to see the kids of all ages and levels participating and having fun. Skating's a great winter activity to enjoy during the winter months and a fun form of exercise!

Niawenhkó:wa to the MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program, Akwesasne Child & Family Services,





The winter solstice is the shortest day of the year and the and goal setting. Apryl Thompson led a modern hoop official start of winter. It is the beginning of a new cycle style beaded earring class. Chazy Cook taught the young and a day to reflect on the year that passed. Sunlight women different hair braiding styles and Colleen Nolan steadily increases each day after the solstice. Although facilitated a moccasin making workshop. This group of it is the darkest day of the year, it also brings the promise young women took the initiative to begin a lifetime journey of learning, adding to their medicine bundles, learning of light. about themselves, their culture, and the importance of It was only suiting that the Tetewata'therí:ke ("We are their presence in the world.

filling our basket") opening circle began December 21, the evening of the winter solstice, with a tobacco burning Lauralee added, "So much of our culture was lost to our and the Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen. With the support people during residential schools and this is us giving it of the Akwesasne Child and Family Services (ACFS) back to our youth." Traditional Support Unit, the circle included ten female Niawenhko:wa to all individuals that helped teach within youth between the ages of 13-17 where they met twice our circle! a week over the course of a five-week period working together to expand their cultural knowledge, learn teachings, make new friends and create lasting memories.

The concept of Tetewata'therí:ke is based on filling our "life" basket with positive, healthy, productive and culturally sound life-skills. Although some of the things we carry in our basket are positive, there are times that what we carry in our baskets is not pleasant. Sometimes, we have individuals or families that need to "unpack" their baskets first. They need help to remove those traumas, heartaches and unhealthy coping skills.

Lauralee Arquette, Traditional Support Worker for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Community and Social Services, noted how "Tetewata'therí:ke is a space where you begin the journey to fill those baskets with good things, good experiences, healthy relationships, friendships, learn about healthy boundaries, traditional teachings, purpose, goal settings, positive choices, all while our hands are creating beautiful items."

Each young lady began by crafting a utility basket under the guidance of Basket Maker, Glenn Swamp. Glenn shared with the weavers that "the first splint represents you, then as you weave around yourself, you have your parents, your grandparents, your community...everything begins with you in the center."

Participants also utilized journals for self-reflection, sewed their own ribbon skirts and created vision boards

**FEBRUARY 2024** 

# **DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES**

## TETEWATA'THERÍ:KE — WE ARE FILLING OUR BASKET



## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES**





Do you enjoy birdwatching? Learn about a variety of beautiful birds you can spot throughout Akwesasne during the winter months! Some helpful tips on attracting these beautiful creatures may include setting up a bird feeder in your backyard, providing a source of water to help them stay clean and hydrated, and supply nesting materials in the area, allowing the birds to build their nests and settle in the area. Keep a look out for more bird tips on our Facebook page: MCA Environment Program!



During winter, some Common Redpolls tunnel into the snow to stay warm during the night. Tunnels may be more than a foot long and 4 inches under the insulating snow. Common Redpolls can survive temperatures of -65 degrees Fahrenheit. A study in Alaska found Redpolls put on about 31 percent more plumage by weight in November than they did in July.





Building a nest takes a female Cedar Waxwing 5 to 6 days and may require more than 2,500 individual trips to the nest. They occasionally save time by taking nest materials from other birds' nests, including nests of Eastern Kingbirds, Yellow-throated Vireos, orioles, robins, and Yellow Warblers.



FEBRUARY 2024

FEBRUARY 2024



## **BIRDS OF AKWESASNE**

## Birds of Akwesasne.

#### **Common Redpoll-Acanthis flammea**



Most people in North America get to see Common Redpolls only in the winter when the birds come to feeders or forage on small seeds in trees or in weedy fields. Listen for their sharp, buzzy call notes and energetic trills and chatters. Keep in mind that they often form fairly large flocks that seem constantly in motion.

## Birds of Akwesasne. house finch-Haemorhous mexicanus

House Finches are native to open and desert habitats, but have expanded their range, naturally and through introductions, and now can be found in almost any kind of human-altered habitat. They prefer edge habitats and are absent from dense coniferous forests.





- You can find them near houses and buildings, and they can be pretty tame, and they may even eat out of your hand.
- House Finches eat almost exclusively plant materials, including seeds, buds and fruits. Wild foods include wild mustard seeds, knotweed, thistle, mulberry, poison oak, cactus, and many other species. In orchards, House Finches eat cherries, apricots, peaches, pears, plums, strawberries, blackberries, and figs.

## Birds of Akwesasne. Cedar Waxwing-Bombycilla cedrorum



 The name "waxwing" comes from the waxy red secretions found on the tips of the secondaries of some birds. The exact function of these tips is not known, but they may help attract mates. Because they eat so much fruit, Cedar Waxwings occasionally become intoxicated or even die when they run across overripe berries that have started to ferment and produce alcohol.

## Birds of Akwesasne.

Dark-eyed junco- Junco hyemalis

They can be found in open and partially wooded areas, often on the ground, and are common across the continent.





Dark-eyed Juncos remain resident all year in northeastern and western US states and the Appalachian Mountains. Those that breed in Canada and Alaska migrate south in winter to the United States.

Both parents feed the nestlings. Young leave the nest 9-13 days after hatching. 1-2 broods per year, sometimes 3.

## DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING



## **DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE**, **HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT**

**ADMINISTRATION:** 613-575-2250 ext. 1003

MAINTENANCE PROGRAM: 613-575-2250 EXT. 1022
HOUSING: 613-575-2250 EXT. 1056
ENVIRONMENT: 613-575-2250 EXT. 1038
ROADS DEPARTMENT CENTRAL DISPATCH: 613-575-2340 OR 613-938-5476
WATER/WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE EMERGENCY: 613-575-2000
AFTER HOURS PAGER: 518-404-3352
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – FRIDAY 8AM-4PM 613-933-4924
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT (GARBAGE AND RECYCLING): 613-575-2250 ext. 1002



The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Environment displays and activities held by local environmental Program collaborated with the Raisin Region organizations, including MCA's Environment Program! Conservation Authority and partners as they Visitors also went on guided snowshoe tours around celebrated World Wetlands Day on Saturday, the marsh, led by MCA Environment Program's Keri February 3, 2024! The event took place at one of Horne-Burns, enjoyed hot chocolate, treats and had Ontario's most significant wetlands, the Cooper a chance to win some wetland-themed prizes. Marsh Conservation Area in South Glengarry, ON.

Niawenhkó:wa to all those who made this event It was a beautiful day with visitors dropping in during possible. The day served as a reminder of the need the free public event to learn about the Cooper Marsh to protect and restore wetlands for the benefit of and other wetlands through a variety of interactive both people and the planet.





FEBRUARY 2024

## **ENVIRONMENT**

## WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2024

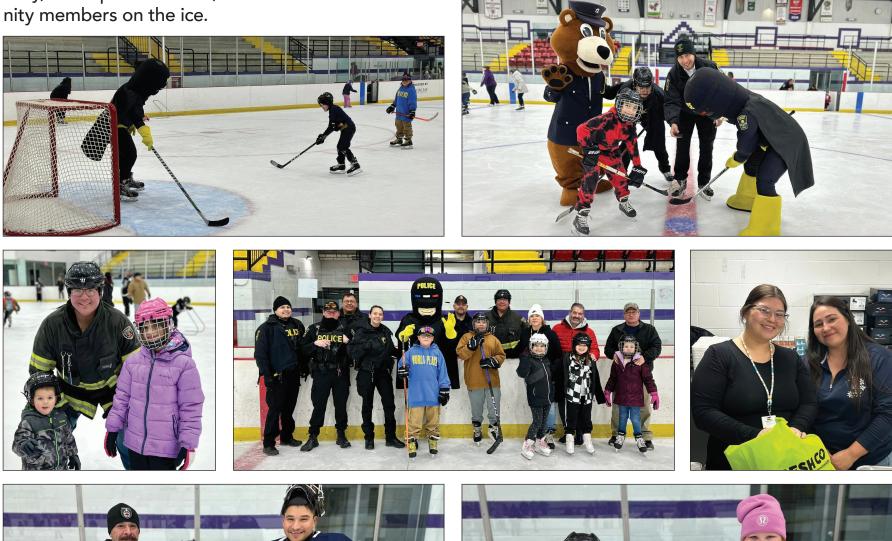
## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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## **COMMUNITY SKATE WITH FIRST RESPONDERS**

see our First Responders come together outside of Services Agency for making this event possible! duty, lace up their skates, and have fun with commu-

The A'nowara'ko:wa Arena has been busy this sea- Niawenhkó:wa to all that braved the cold weather to son with a variety of skating opportunities for Akwe- attend this event. A big thank you also goes out to sasne families to partake. On January 20, 2024, the Akwesasne Child & Family Services, Akwesasne Mo-Akwesasne Child and Family Services hosted a First hawk Police Service, Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance, Responders Skating event for families to come and Hogansburg Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department, skate with our local First Responders! It was great to Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, and Canada Border







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2	027 Theft - Auto
1	040 Theft Under
1	045 Frauds - Otl
2	061 Bail Violatio
2	063 Disturb the
1	073 Criminal Co
1	1000 Abandone
3	1001 Alarms
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38	1004 Assist Pub
3	1006 Document
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**FEBRUARY 2024** 

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

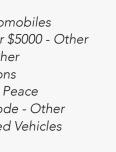
# IF WE CAN'T FIND YOU, WE CAN'T HELP YOU

When the snow hits this season, be sure emergency services can find you.

Please ensure that your home address is visible.

CENTRAL DISPATCH: 613-575-2000

AKWES	SASNE AWK
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POL	ICE



er Agencies - Ambulance
er Agencies - Cornwall PS
er Agencies - Other
er Agencies - Tribal PD
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## **JANUARY STATISTICS**

- 101 Firearms Act
- 1012 Civil Disputes
- 24 1013 Community Services
- 14 1014 Crime Prevention
- 1016 Domestic Dispute (Non-violent)
- 1018 Escorts Prisoner
- 1023 Judge's Order (Court)
- 1029 Suspicious Persons
- 1030 Suspicious Vehicles
- 13 1031 Suspicious Circumstances
- 1032 Sudden Death
- 6 1036 Warrant Bench/First
- 1037 Warrant Search
- 1041 Mental Health Act
- 1046 Crisis Intervention
- 1 1049 Medical Aid
- 1 1050 Youth Complaint

- 1056 Hazardous Conditions
- 106 Provincial Statutes Other
- 10 1063 Marine Patrol
- 107 Municipal By-Laws
- 1070 Sex Offender Registry
- 1 204 Sexual Assault
- 4 205 Assault Level 1
- 705 Dangerous Operation MV
- 1 711 Impaired Operation MV
- 3 715 Fail to Stop/Remain (CCC)
- 1 717 Fail to Stop / Remain (HTA)
- 1 720 Traffic Federal Statutes
- 29 721 Traffic Provincial Statutes
- 1 723 Traffic Parking Violations
- 5 726 PD MVC Over \$1000 (Prop. Damage)
- 1 Incident Type Not Listed

# AKWESASNE WINTER CARNIVAL

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:00 am - 9:30 am Senior Fitness • SRMT Diabetes Center for Excellence

10:00 am - 3:00 pm Hot Cocoa 5k Run/Walk • Generations Park

10:00 am - 4:00 pm Akwesasne Mavericks Concession Stand • Generations Park

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

10:00 am Volleyball & Jump Rope (Ages 8-10) / Indoor Yard Games/Tabling • Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club

10:00 am - 2:00 pm Puzzle Contest • Akwesasne Library

11:00 am - 1:00 pm Lina the Lizard Lady • Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Outdoor Bowling • Generations Park (Soccer Field)

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Family Rock & Skate • A'nowara'ko:wa Arena

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Newspaper Fashion Show • SRMT Seniors Center Sunroom

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm ACFS/WHWP Tabling & Recruitment • A'nowara'ko:wa Arena

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Akwesasne Wild U13 Concession Stand • Generations Park

12:00 pm - 8:00 pm Open House • A/CDP Clubhouse

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Snow Sculpture Contest • Generations Park

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

10:00 am - 11:30 am Family LEGO Building • Generations Park

10:00 am First Responders Boot Hockey Challenge • Generations Park

12:00 pm Draw for Door Prizes • Hogansburg Akwesasne Vol. Fire Dept.



11:00 am Crowning of King & Queen • OFA/SRMT Senior Center

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Family Fun Showshoe Games • Generations Park

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Safe Zone Dinner & Comedy Show (Adults 18+) • Akwesasne Mohawk Casino Winter Ballroom

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Tobacco Jeopardy • Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Aquatic Centre Swim • Aquatic Centre, Cornwall, ON

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Pool Tournament • OFA/SRMT Seniors Center

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Senior's BINGO • OFA/SRMT Seniors Center

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Wild Game Cook-Off • A/CDP Clubhouse

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Board Games • Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm Karaoke Contest • Turtle's Nest

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm S'mores & Moonlight Snowshoe • Generations Park

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Moonlight Snowshoe • Generations Park

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Open Mic (Adults 18+) • Seven Dancer's Coalition

1:00 pm (Doors open at 12:00 pm) BINGO • Kawehno:ke Recreation Center

Scavenger Hunt • Virtual Event hosted by CKON Radio

Igloo Building Contest • Virtual Event hosted by ACFS Traditional Support Program

**Prevention World Kindness Day •** Virtual Event hosted by A/CDP and ED0

Spirit Week • Virtual Event hosted by SRMT Social Services Division