



COUNCIL TRAVEL REPORT

For Immediate Release:

Ohiarihkó:wa/July 17, 2025

AFNQL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY IN BEAUPRÉ, QC ***CHIEF SCOTT PETERS, CHIEF SARAH SUNDAY-DIABO AND CHIEF TESHA ROURKE***

Tsi Snaihne District Chief Scott Peters, along with Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo (Tsi Snaihne) and Tesha Rourke (Tsi Snaihne), attended the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) Chiefs Assembly, held in Beaufort, Quebec, from June 18-19, 2025.

This important regional gathering brought together leadership from across Quebec and Labrador to discuss shared priorities, build strategic partnerships, and advocate for First Nations communities. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne was well represented, with the Chiefs engaging in key meetings and presentations throughout the two-day event.

BREAKOUT SESSION SUMMARIES:

Meeting with Minister Mandy Gull-Masty:

The Akwesasne delegation had the opportunity to meet with the Honourable Mandy Gull-Masty, newly appointed Minister of Indigenous Services Canada. Chiefs extended congratulations and presented community-specific needs and priorities. The minister welcomed the discussion and committed to forwarding Akwesasne's concerns to the appropriate federal Ministers for follow-up and further dialogue.

Honoring Regional Chief Ghislain Picard:

A special moment during the Assembly included a presentation to Regional Chief Ghislain Picard in recognition of his 33 years of service as the Quebec Regional Chief for the AFNQL. Akwesasne presented Chief Picard with a quilt as a token of gratitude for his decades of dedication and leadership.

NETWORKING & COLLABORATION:

- Productive discussions took place with representation from Listuguj First Nation, opening the door for future collaboration on Conservation Laws and Enforcement Programs – a shared priority among coastal and river-based communities.
- The Assembly provided a valuable platform for reinforcing nation-to-nation relationships and exploring opportunities for mutual support and knowledge-sharing.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

Sustaining our inherent rights, facing challenges together to build a strong and healthy future.



KEY TAKEAWAYS & NEXT STEPS:

- Akwesasne's concerns were clearly communicated to federal leadership, and the Chiefs will continue to follow up as updates are received from Minister Gull-Masty's office.
- The presentation to Regional Chief Picard highlighted the importance of recognizing longstanding contribution to First Nations advocacy and governance.
- Relationship-building with First Nations like Listuguj signals progress toward stronger inter-nation partnerships in areas like environmental stewardship and enforcement.
- Continued participation in AFNQL assemblies ensures that Akwesasne remains actively involved in shaping regional policy, advocacy efforts, and community-driven solutions.

