



Onkwe'ta:ke

For the People

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Monthly Community Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 3

Ennisko:wa/March 2012

Mohawk Council Discusses Jury Duty Letters with Former-Supreme Court Justice

Over the past months, Kawehno:ke residents have been receiving Jury Duty Notices from Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General. The Ministry is requesting that local residents register as potential jurors for Ontario courts. In response, Grand Chief Mike Mitchell has been in contact with the Attorney General's Office to discuss and resolve this contentious issue.

Aboriginal people are underrepresented on juries, and thus raising serious questions about the legitimacy or legality of representation. As a result, the former-Attorney General called for an independent review to look at Aboriginal participation in the Ontario jury system, which is being led by the Honorable Judge Frank Iacobucci—a former Supreme Court Justice that recently met with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne on February 28th to hear Akwesasne's concerns and perspective.

Judge Iacobucci has been tasked with understanding why there is a lack of Aboriginal representation. He is also looking at ways to improve the historically stressed relationship between Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General and the Aboriginal people in the province. His findings and recommendations will be included a report that is to be submitted to the Ministry in August 2012.

The meeting concluded with the Judge stating that Kawehnoke residents will continue to receive jury duty letters. MCA will continue to take the same position that the Mohawk community will not be responding to the jury duty questionnaire in the immediate future. Following the findings of Judge Iacobucci regarding future relations with First Nation Communities in Ontario and the Ontario Court System, Akwesasne residents may reconsider completing the form to participate in the Ontario Jury duty.



(l to r): Bonnie Cole; Christine Houde; Honorable Justice Frank Iacobucci; Peggy Francis; Candice Metallic; Grand Chief Mike Mitchell; Joyce King.

Kawehnoke residents should not be ordered to report for jury duty under acts of intimidation or threats. The jury duty questionnaire should not cause fear that if it is not returned within five days that the recipient will be subject to a \$5,000 fine. Should they choose not to participate, they can bring their letters to the MCA's Justice Department. A standard letter will be prepared on your behalf indicating that you choose not to participate in Ontario's judicial process. You will be required to sign the letter before it is sent, along with the Ministry's unanswered questionnaire.

The Akwesasne Justice Department is located in the Angus Mitchell Memorial Building in Kanatakon
For more information, please call 613-575-2348 x. 2400.

Table of Contents

MCRs.....	page 7
CBSA FAQ.....	page 8
Estate Administration.....	page 10
MCA Quebec Liasion.....	page 12
Kanien'keha Tsi Tawatati.....	page 14
Respect for Walleye.....	page 18
Thompson Island.....	page 20
Job Postings.....	page 25
Student Artwork.....	page 27

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

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Mitchell

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Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

Chief Rachel Roundpoint

Kawehno:ke District

Chief Abram Benedict

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Tsi Snaihne District

Chief John Adams

Chief Joe Lazore

Chief Karen Loran

Chief William Sunday

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community newsletter, is
published by MCA's
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call (613) 575-2348 Ext. 2212.

Wat'kwanonweraton/Greetings

Ennisko:wa/ March

She:kon,

I hope everyone in the community is safe and healthy. I am very honored to introduce the latest edition of the community newsletter, Onkwe'ta:ke (For the People). Now that spring is coming, it is time to think of "spring cleaning," as a fresh start from our crazy winter weather. For Council, we continue to work diligently—ensuring that all work continues to be undertaken in the best interest of Akwesasronon. There is still a lot of work to done before the June 23rd General Election, such as the referendum on the Kawehnoke-Easterbrook Specific Claim that will be held on May 26th.



Below are some updates on meetings and projects that are still ongoing:

- Phase #3 of the Tsi Snaihne Waterline on Sugarbush Island will be starting soon.
- The feasibility study for the Kawehnoke East-End Waterline is almost ready for submitting to AANDC.
- The top layer of pavement will be installed this spring on First St. in Kanatakon.
- Retro-fitting of the Kanatakon Water Treatment Plant has begun. Community members that still need to have pressure tanks/pressure relieving valves installed can call me at (613) 575-2348 ext. 2254. Please leave your phone and number. This upgrade is necessary, as the water pressure will be increased and could potentially damage older pipes following the plant's retro-fit.
- The addition to the basement of Kanonhkwatsheri:io is almost complete and the Akwesasne Child and Family Services (ACFS) have begun relocating there.
- For health, we ask community members that have OHIP and QHIP to use Canadian Hospitals for any medical services. OHIP and QHIP will only cover medical expenses for medical services provided in the northern-portion of Akwesasne or in Canada. Individuals that seek medical attention elsewhere will be responsible for medical costs.
- In 2009, a Task Group was established to develop the Akwesasne Matrimonial Property Law and the Landlord and Tenant Law. Our lawyer is currently reviewing the Akwesasne Matrimonial Property Law prior to having it go through our law enactment process. The Land and Tenant Law is being reviewed by the Justice Department.

I hope the information provided is beneficial. Should you have any questions, concerns, or would like to learn more about the initiatives mentioned above, do not hesitate to contact me at (613) 575-2348 ext. 2254.

Niawenko:wa,

Chief Florence Phillips
District of Kana:takon

Report From Chief Brian David

"Economic development for me means building the kind of environment for job creation to flourish...jobs suited to skills we have in our community that are long term and sustainable. If the jobs are sustainable, we have the beginning of a sustainable economy to develop."



Relationship Building

A significant amount of the work in economic development involves building an effective network of relationships. This is something that the team has been working on over the past two years. Last month, we attended the annual gala of the Canadian Council of Aboriginal Business at the invitation of SNC Lavalin. While there, a possible contact for solar panels was identified as well as a representative of the Prime Minister's Trade Mission in China that may be looking for a manufacturer. This information was turned over to Brian White who has been working on developing a solar panel manufacturing plant. In addition, a number of markets have been identified in Ontario and California, which will be explored. My role in this area has been the identification of opportunities.

Iroquois Consulting is a relatively new group on the scene. Iroquois Consulting is based in Akwesasne

with partnerships of established companies (primarily) in the United States. The local representative is Mr. Kelly Mitchell. The team met with Kelly throughout the month of February to discuss how the company could be of assistance in the area of planning, site location studies, land usage and site location studies, engineering work and major construction works. The team will continue to examine possibilities in this capacity.

On February 16, 2012, the article, "Time to get tough on contraband tobacco," was published in the *Standard-Freeholder*. The article made some very derogatory remarks directed to Cornwall Island and to Akwesasne. I hand-delivered my letter of response to the *Standard-Freeholder* on February 24th. The letter of response expressed how the article did not reflect the truth and reality of our people and community, and undermined the investments we've made over the past two years in building an economy. On February 27th, we met with the *Standard-Freeholder* and arrived at a mutually satisfactory understanding that should have the effect of balancing future articles.

Portfolio Projects

The work on the "fiber optic project" is well underway and my mission is to bring fiber optic to the homes of Akwesasronon. This will dramatically increase connectivity speeds at the home computer level and will have benefits in education and economic development. Such an infrastructure could provide an efficient outlet for economic participation in the global

MCA EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Sheree Bonaparte
Executive Director

Donna Roundpoint
Asst. Exec. Director

Jay Benedict
*Director
Technical Services*

Joyce King
*Director
Justice Department*

Sandra Benedict
*Director
Housing Department*

Maggie Terrance
*Director
Dept. of Community &
Social Services*

Saka Pembleton
*Director
Dept. of Health*

Barry Montour
*Director
Akwesasne Mohawk
Board of Education*

Jerry Swamp
*Chief of Police
Akwesasne Mohawk Police
Service*

James Ransom
*Director
Tehotienawaken*

Report from Chief Brian David

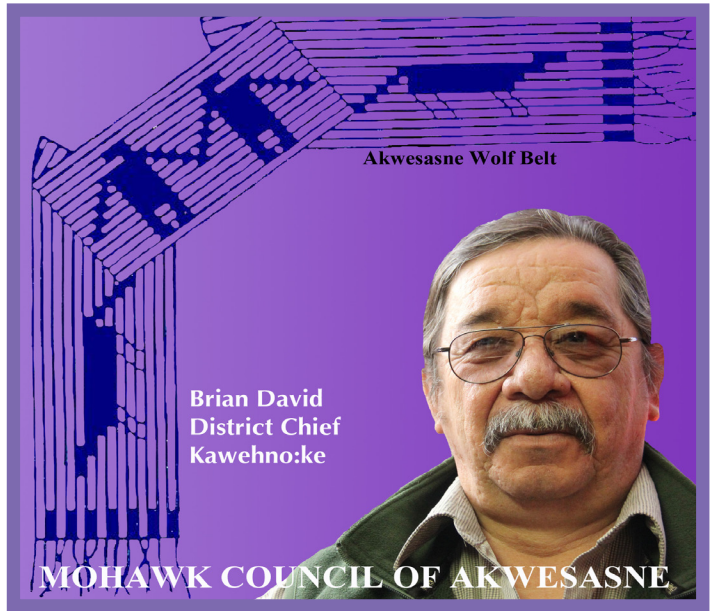
economy. Additionally, businesses are generally more apt to locate their operations in communities that have fiber optic as part of their infrastructure. The preliminary report on this study should be completed in March 2012, and should provide Council with the information on whether to proceed. I should note that we were able to secure 50% of the funding for this study from the Province of Quebec, as they are highly interested in the project.

Jobs will be created in the short and long term as this project moves along.

Earlier in the year, the team submitted an application to the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) to approve of funding and FIT application for a Waste to Energy Project. The fuel source is wood-waste from Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto. The end product is 7 Megawatts of electricity. In addition, non-usable heat from the process is to be used to support a chain of greenhouses for year round agriculture. The team received a letter from the OPA indicating that their program was under review and that applications were not being considered at this time. During the month of February, a decision was made to examine the prospects of proceeding without the involvement of the OPA. There is a fair bit of optimism that a business case can be made for an independent operation. Possible site locations will take place next month, and a business case could be presented to Council before the end of this term. There will be jobs created in the short and long term as this project moves along.

OPG Community Consultation

The MCA has consulted the membership for views on how the OPG Settlement dollars should be managed and invested. On February 15th, an evening meeting to this effect was held at the Snye Homemakers and was well attended. Chiefs Karen Loran, Bill Sunday and Joe Lazore assisted in the facilitation of discussions. A similar session was planned for Kanatakon on February 16th, at the Health Atrium. Chiefs Florence Phillips, Bill Sunday and Joe Lazore were in attendance. On February 18th, a similar session was held in Kawehnoke with



Chiefs Bill Sunday, Joe Lazore and Louise Thompson, assisted in facilitating this meeting. There were some excellent ideas that came out these meetings, and a commitment was made to do another round of similar meetings in April.

General Attendance

Hoople Creek Meetings
Easterbrook Planning Feb 6th
Aboriginal Trusts Feb 8th
Angler's Meeting (Hoople Creek) Feb 18th
Judge Iacobucci re; Jury Duty
District Meeting Feb 27

Preview of March 2012

In past years, I served as a witness in the Federal Seaway Case. The Seaway Case is currently in the stage called "Examination for Discovery". This is the stage where both parties get to question possible witnesses and also examine the evidence which each party will likely use at trial. I've been asked to set aside the last two weeks of March in order to testify. It can be a fairly intense exercise, so I'm taking the first two weeks of March to prepare (reviewing the history, the facts and story as we know it).



Report from Chief Abram Benedict



Akwesasne Child and Family Service (ACFS) Designation:

On February 16th 2012, I traveled to Toronto with the Acting Director of Community and Social Services, Robyn Mitchell, and the Program Manager of ACFS, Rae Seymour, to meet with Brian Teefy, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Children and Youth Services. This meeting was to update Mr. Teefy on the progress of the ACFS designation. In September 2011, Akwesasne received conditional Children's Aid Society designation. The condition is that there is a list of specific requirements that have to be met within a specified timeframe so that full designation can be attained. The specific requirements are: (1) ensuring that ACFS policies and procedures comply with applicable legislation, (2) that ACFS implements an information management system and a financial system, (3) that staff of the ACFS require specific training and (4) that a protocol agreement is to be developed for use with other agencies, then implemented, to ensure the necessary cooperation and communication are in place for the ACFS to operate as a fully designated Children's Aid Society. Akwesasne has been granted an extension on the timelines because we have been dealing with delays that are beyond our control. The unique geographical challenges of Akwesasne, our challenges of being a border community and delivering child protection under two separate

legislations and the effect this has on service delivery had to be explained to Mr. Teefy. Mr. Teefy is new to the Chief of Staff position, but he is experienced as he was formally in the Premiers office. At the meeting, we briefed Mr. Teefy on the progress Akwesasne has made with the designation requirements. We also requested additional capital dollars to assist with the Kanonhkwa't'sheri:io renovation, in order to accommodate the additional staff required at ACFS as a result of the expected full designation. Mr. Teefy informed the MCA that with the recent release of Don Drummond, Ministries within the Ontario government are being asked to reduce spending (since the Drummond report was all about Ontario reducing spending). The request for additional capital dollars will be followed up with Mr. Teefy. The Department of Community and Social Services continues to make progress on the list of requirements for full designation and this is realistically expected to be achieved by the summer of 2012. This spring, an invitation will be sent to the Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskin, inviting him to Akwesasne to tour our community and visit the ACFS program.

Education Update:

In December 2010, the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), announced the creation of the National Panel on First Nation Elementary and Secondary Education to examine on reserve education and make recommendations for improvement. In June 2011, the National Panel visited Akwesasne and toured the territory to experience firsthand the challenges faced by our border community.

On February 8, 2012 the National Panel released its report entitled "Nurturing the Learning Spirit of First Nation Students" which calls for a First Nations Education Act, the creation of a National Commission, the development of regional First Nations education organizations, adequate funding levels, and the development of a framework for accountability and reporting.

con't on page 7



Mohawk Council Resolutions

February 2012

Approved MCRs:

- MCR #271 Feb. 7, 2012 DOH Health Transfer
MCR #271 Feb. 7, 2012 DOH CCA Amendment
MCR #272 Feb. 7, 2012 Social AANDC FY 11-12 One time funding for ACFS
Case Management software purchase
MCR #273 Feb. 7, 2012 Ec. Dev Access to Territory Lepage Parts & Equip. Delormier
Trucking
MCR #274 Feb. 7, 2012 OVS lot 2, St. Francis Island
MCR #275 Feb. 7, 2012 Focus Meeting Tsi Snaihne Diagnostic & Wellness Center
Maple Key Health Group
MCR #276 Feb. 7, 2012 Public Safety-Enbridge Ltd. Safe Comm. Grant Proposal Sub
MCR #277 Feb. 14, 2012 DOH & DCSS parking lot expansion
MCR #278 Feb. 14, 2012 Roads acceptance of the Roads Program Annual expenditure
report & petition for subsidy MOT
MCR #279 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audits Dundee Land Claim Sched. Of Revenues
MCR #280 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audit CI Easterbrook Specific Claims
MCR #281 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audits Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities
Literacy & Basic Skills
MCR #282 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audits AMPS
MCR #283 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audit Sweetgrass Manor
MCR #284 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audits Family Violence
MCR #285 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audits Adolescent Group Home
MCR #286 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audits CI Riverview Apts (20) units
MCR #287 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audit of Kawenoke Riverview Apts (14) Units
MCR #288 Feb. 14, 2012 Housing CMHC section 95 phase 8 (8) Units
PWHC audit
MCR #289 Feb. 14, 2012 Housing CMHC section (12) units PWHC audits
MCR #290 Feb. 14, 2012 Housing CMHC section 95 (19) units PWHC audit
MCR #291 Feb. 14, 2012 Housing CMHC (17) Units PWHC audit
MCR #292 Feb. 14, 2012 Housing CMHC section 95 (9) units PWHC audit
MCR #293 Feb. 14, 2012 PWHC audit of CMHC section 95 Phase 8 (10) units
MCR #294 Feb. 14, 2012 AHWS audit PWHC
MCR #295 Feb. 14, 2012 SMM of Dec. 6, 2011
MCR #296 Feb. 14, 2012 SMM of Jan. 31, 2012
MCR #297 Feb. 14, 2012 ARRO Request for proposal for financial advisory services
To advise on Est. a Trust for the proceeds of settlement
MCR #298 Feb. 21, 2012 Ec. Dev Support Ohwista Corp
MCR #299 Feb. 21, 2012 OVS leases for 2012
MCR #300 Feb. 21, 2012 OVS addendums to lease for 2012
MCR #301 Feb. 21, 2012 Housing Bank of Montreal On Reserve Housing Program

Mohawk Council Resolutions

February 2012

MCR #302 Feb. 21, 2012 Ec. Dev Access to Territory Lepage Parts & Equip
MCR #303 Feb. 23, 2012 Snye Water Project Phase 3
MCR #304 Feb. 28, 2012 FNIH Amendment
MCR #305 Feb. 28, 2012 PWC CMHC section 95 Phase 7 (12) units
MCR #307 Feb. 28, 2012 Space Needs Accommodation Training
MCR #308 Feb. 28, 2012 ARFA Amendment No. 0005
MCR #309 Feb. 28, 2012 AHWS repair maintenance travel
MCR #310 Feb. 28, 2012 Housing Loan community member
MCR #311 Feb. 28, 2012 Housing Loan community member
MCR #312 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Aug. 2, 2011
MCR #313 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Aug. 23, 2011
MCR #314 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Aug. 30, 2011
MCR #315 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Sept. 22, 2011
MCR #316 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Sept. 27, 2011
MCR #317 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Oct. 18, 2011
MCR #318 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Oct. 25, 2011
MCR #319 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Nov. 15, 2011
MCR #320 Feb. 28, 2012 SMM dated Jan. 3, 2011
MCR #321 Feb. 28, 2012 Streamline Akwesasne Laws \$20,000
MCR #322 Feb. 28, 2012 Akwesasne Water Law WTG

Denied MCRs:

MCR #306 Feb. 28, 2012 AAT Honorarium Amendment

(Chief Abram Benedict Report) con't from page 5

Unfortunately, soon after the report was released with these recommendations, the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs released a statement saying “the timelines that we’re talking about are aspirational timelines. Money can’t do everything.” Akwesasne was referenced in the report and was compared to First Nations who are under self government agreements. Akwesasne’s comparison to other First Nations under self-government agreements demonstrates that our education system is a model for other First Nations. This is something we have been

striving to continue to improve over the last 30 years since we assumed control of our education system from Indian affairs.

I should also note that my February report has some minor errors in the financial section of the report. Corrections from the February update are: The annual allocation to the three District Recreation Centers should have said \$50,000 annually. The recent awards from the Community Callout fund should have reflected: Peter Delormier Memorial Fishing Derby Comm. \$1630. My apologies for the error.

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Frequently Asked Questions About CBSA

What steps have leadership taken to address the CBSA issues?

Despite efforts to work with CBSA to develop alternative reporting procedures, CBSA has not actively addressed our concerns. Akwesasne community members still experience long wait times, vehicle seizures and heavy-handed tactics by CBSA Officers.

MCA has hired a Community Advocate to implement a Complaints Process through the Justice Department. The goal is to assist individuals that have experienced severe treatment and/or penalties by CBSA with the filing of complaints. A majority of complaints are resolved at this level.

MCA has also submitted two Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) complaints on behalf of the community. The first complaint deals with the hardships endured by the community due to the location of the Port in Cornwall. The second deals with the problems members have been experiencing regarding accepted forms of identification by CBSA. In addition, MCA has assisted several members file individual complaints. The two submitted by the MCA and 23 individual Akwesasne complaints have been accepted by the CHRC, grouped together as one complaint and proceeding through the next level of the CHRC complaint process.

How do I file a complaint against CBSA?

If you feel you have been wrongfully accused or treated unfairly, you may wish to file a complaint against the CBSA.

MCA has implemented the following Complaint Process: Complete the complaint form available at the Port in Cornwall or MCA Justice Department. It will speed up the process if you fill it out while at the Port.

The MCA Community Advocate will conduct an interview, take a full statement and assist with the filling out of forms.

The Community Advocate will conduct an investigation and work with both parties to seek a solution.

Depending on the severity of the complaint and if the complainant wishes, the complaint can be submitted to the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

Why am I sent for a secondary search?

A number of factors guide CBSA in making the decision to refer individuals for further examination or investigation.

All individuals referred for secondary exam have the right to request the reason for the inspection. In addition, you have the right to speak to a CBSA Superintendent or, if available, the Aboriginal Liaison Officer at any time during the examination.

You can contact the Community Advocate if you feel you are being wrongfully accused or treated unfairly. You should also document important information such as the Officer(s) badge number(s), date, time, etc.

Is the Akwesasne Remission Order still in effect?

Yes, the Akwesasne Remission Order is still in effect. Although CBSA is currently located in Cornwall, the Akwesasne Remission Order (which exempts Akwesasne residents in the three districts from paying duties and taxes on certain goods), will continue to benefit the three districts of Akwesasne. Copies of the Akwesasne Remission Order, which includes the list of goods covered by it, are available at the Mohawk Government offices (613)575-2348 and online at www.akwesasne.ca.

When asked by a CBSA Officer if you have any goods purchased in the United States, you should inform the Officer when you have personal goods in your vehicle. Under the Akwesasne Remission Order, you will not lose your goods or be charged a duty as long as you declare them.

When do I have to declare currency?

Under the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act, currency or monetary instruments valued at \$10,000 Canadian funds or more must be reported to a CBSA Officer when brought in or taken out of Canada.

Under the Act, there are no restrictions on the amount of money that can be brought in or taken out of Canada, but currency and monetary instruments of \$10,000 or more must be reported. This also includes Casino winnings. You will not lose possession of the currency, but it must be declared.

What do I do if my vehicle is seized?

If your vehicle is seized, there is an established protocol in place. The Community Advocate, Ernie King, is the first point of contact. The Officers at the Port will notify him or he can be reached at (613) 575-2250 ext. 1029 or at (613) 930-3612. Remain with your vehicle so that all of the appropriate information is obtained.

MCA has assisted community members in paying for the first violation only. The assistance provided by MCA is re-

Frequently Asked Questions About CBSA

viewed on an individual basis of need, and will continue to be assessed on a case-by-case basis. MCA will not pay for any fines for vehicles seized because of contraband.

An appeal must be made within 90 days of the seizure. The Community Advocate and the MCA Justice Department coordinate the appeals process and are willing to provide assistance to those affected.

After Passing the US Customs Traveling to Kawehnoke, is a Delay Permissible Before Reporting to the CBSA Port in Cornwall?

CBSA Officials say no. Despite initially acknowledging that practical considerations would be made, CBSA is currently seizing vehicles for not reporting directly to Customs in Cornwall.

Funeral processions are one of the few exceptions. If you need to make arrangements, please contact a MCA District Chief at (613) 575-2348. If you prefer, the Mohawk Nation Office (518) 358-3381 and the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe (518) 358-2272 can also notify the Cornwall Port.

What forms of identification are accepted at all CBSA ports?

All travelers, Akwesasne Mohawk members included, should be prepared to show one of the following forms of identification: a Current Certificate of Indian Status, a Canadian or American-issued Passport, an Enhanced Drivers License (EDL). MCA acknowledges and supports individuals' rights to use any of the Akwesasne Membership ID's; however, using the Band or Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (formally INAC) cards will expedite your border crossing. When using a Mohawk Nation Red Card, Haudenosaunee Passport or St. Regis Tribal Card, you can expect to be asked for another form of ID or more questions from CBSA Officers regarding your place of birth to determine citizenship.

Who is the MCA Community Advocate?

Ernest King has been hired by MCA to work with members in dealing with CBSA. He will assist with the complaints process, education and prevention. The Community Advocate responds to complaints against the CBSA and can be reached at CIA #3 Building on Kawehnoke, or the MCA Justice Department, (613) 575-2250, ext. 1029 or (613) 930-3612.

Who is the CBSA Aboriginal Liaison Officer?

James Marchand, member of the Kitigan Anishinabeg First Nation in Quebec, has been hired by CBSA as their

first Aboriginal Liaison Officer (ALO). Mr. Marchand has several years experience as a Border Service Officer. In this new position, he will act as liaison between the Akwesasne Community and CBSA, reporting all matters related to border crossing as it affects Akwesasne. His other job duties include CBSA's Community Education and strengthening the relationships to build and foster partnerships with the community of Akwesasne. He can be reached at the CBSA Port at (613) 937-2701.

Can I be referred to a secondary search if I'm leaving Kawehnoke?

CBSA can stop a person if they have reasonable grounds to suspect that the person has entered Canada without Reporting, pursuant to s.99.1 of the Customs Act. The CBSA can then question the person and inspect goods being transported by the person. The power to stop a person is limited.

If an officer has no reasonable grounds to believe that the person has entered Canada without reporting, the search of a vehicle travelling from Kawehnoke to Cornwall may be illegal and should be reported to the MCA Community Advocate.

Does the CBSA have the right to search through my cell phone?

CBSA does not have a clear policy on the search of laptops, cell phones and similar devices. The search is conducted under the general power to search goods in the possession of a person entering Canada. The CBSA has the power to copy information from a computer, a cell phone or a similar device if they have reasonable grounds to believe that the information is evidence of an offence or contravention over which CBSA has jurisdiction. If an officer has no reasonable grounds, then copying of information may be illegal and should be reported to MCA Community Advocate.

Is there a protocol for travelling with sacred cultural items?

Yes, if pulled over for a secondary search, inform the Officer when you are carrying sacred items. Officers are aware of protocols and should act accordingly.

Why must I show identification for small children travelling with me?

Under the Our Missing Children Program, CBSA officers are one of the federal government agencies on the alert for abducted or missing children. This is for the safety of the children you are travelling with.

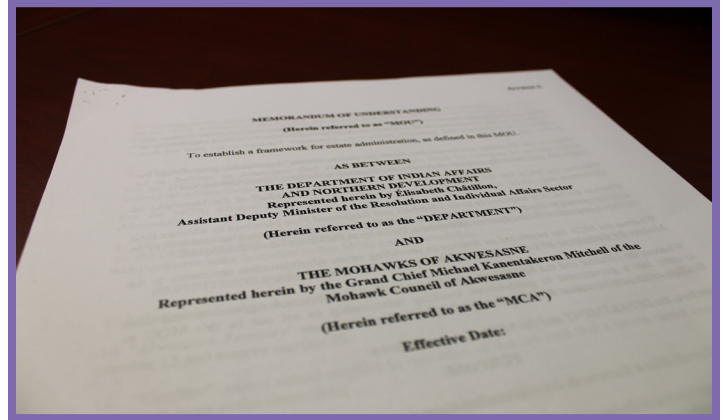


Moving Forward with Estate Administration

There is a need in Akwesasne for assistance in estate planning and handling estate administration within the territory. The process of handling estates was one that had taken years to resolve between family members. With each passing year, the complexity of trying to close these files increased. As previously announced, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development of Canada to develop a framework for estate administration.

The Office of Vital Statistics is in place to help community members learn about estates and the estate planning process; while also working in the areas of lands, membership and leasing. Estate planning can take place once a person reaches the age of 18, and is done by developing a Will to indicate what a person wishes to have done with their assets in the event that they pass on. Even if the only thing a person has possession over is their personal vehicle, there needs to be someone identified as repaying the loans for the vehicle (if there is one), cancelling insurance, and ultimately deciding what to do with the vehicle.

Wills are the best way to make a person's wishes known in regards to their estate assets. The estate assets being identified could be personal property, a home, a vehicle, jewelry, heirlooms, and other items of importance to the person. By writing a Will you are making sure that everything is distributed according to what you decide, rather than letting the Indian Act determine that for you. A common misconception is that individuals need to have a lawyer in order to draft a Will; but, to satisfy the legal requirements, the individual needs to write out their Will, date the document, sign the document and initial each page, and have two witnesses initial each page and sign it as well. Should an individual feel more comfortable contacting an attorney they can, but if the estate is simple it could be easier to handle on their own with the blank templates available in the Office of Vital Statistics. Once a Will has been completed, it can be dropped off to at CIA #3 on Kawehno:ke for storage. Wills



MOU between Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development of Canada

are kept on file within the Office of Vital Statistics in a secured, fire-proofed room that is specifically designed to retain these records. Wills can be updated as often as a person would like. The best approach is to draft a new Will and have it supersede the older ones.

Taking a look in the direction of estate administration, the Office of Vital Statistic will now be the first point of contact to open an estate file. Previously, a series of packages were sent back and forth between community member(s) and Aboriginal Affairs to appoint the Executor or Administrator of the will; currently, the Office of Vital Statistic has all of the forms needed to send just one package to Aboriginal Affairs in Brantford, Ont. This should cut down that initial timeframe of sending packages back and forth, streamlining the process for everyone involved.

A series of information meetings had been held in each district in early March to discuss this MOU and the assistance that will be provided by the Office of Vital Statistics to Akwesasne community members. If you were unable to attend these meetings and have questions regarding this MOU; or you want to learn more about estate planning or opening an estate file; contact the Office of Vital Statistics at 613-936-1548 to make an appointment.

*For More Information Please Contact Kyrie Ransom at
OVS 613-936-1548 ext. 1055*

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Substance Abuse Strategy

Chiefs Rachel Roundpoint and Karen Loran

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has taken a comprehensive approach in dealing with prescription and substance abuse in the community of Akwesasne. A strategy has been developed, with some initiatives already implemented, to respond to the harmful effects of drug abuse. It is a collaborative effort between the departments and programs of MCA, as well as community members of Akwesasne.

Native Connections

Since Native Connections opened in November 2011, MCA has been committed to assisting and supporting the community based program that provides healing through traditional teachings and cultural practices. Initially, funding was minimal, and the MCA has committed approximately \$172,000 to help cover costs until the end of March.

Breakdown of Costs Allocated:

November 22, 2011:	\$15,000
December 6, 2011:	\$10,000
December 13, 2011:	\$10,000
December 22, 2011:	\$30,000 (to cover up to January 31)
January 28, 2012:	\$107,200 (to cover up to March 31)
Total:	\$172,200

In addition, the MCA Department of Health has provided approximately \$30,574.05 towards food, program supplies, heat, Reliv products, etc. for the pro-

gram. The MCA recognizes the importance of Native Connections and has been dedicated in finding additional means of funding. Proposals have been sent to First Nations and Inuit Health Canada and the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care for Ontario. When a response on the funding proposals arrive, we will pass it to the community.

New Oxycodone Formulation: OxyNeo

Recently, Health Canada has approved a new formulation of OxyContin called OxyNeo. This formulation has been in the U.S. since the spring of 2010. Questions will arise about the new formulation as the old formulation disappears from pharmacy shelves in Canada in early 2012.

OxyContin is indicated for the treatment of moderate-to-severe pain when around-the-clock analgesia is needed for at least several days. Because OxyContin's controlled-release mechanism and extended dosing interval, each tablet contains a large quantity of Oxycodone. Patient's intent upon abusing OxyContin have cut, broken, chewed, crushed, or dissolved the tablets to release the medication all at once. OxyNeo is designed to discourage abuse or misuse of the medication by making the tablets more tamper resistant.

con't on page 15

Support a Drug Free Community!

An initiative of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Substance Abuse Strategy.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Wholistic Health & Wellness (Addictions & Counseling) (613) 575-2341 ext. 3100	Mohawk Police & Ambulance (613) 575-2000	CRIMESTOPPERS (613) 575-2255	ONEN'TO:KON TREATMENT SERVICES (450) 479-8353
Lonkwanonhsasetsi Adolescent Treatment Center (613) 932-5050	MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE 1-866-996-0991	Cornwall Detox Withdrawal Management Services (613) 938-8506	Grandparent's Support Group (613) 575-2341 ext. 3100
Iethinesten:ha Family Violence Program (613) 937-4322	Akwesasne Eagle Watch Promoting a Safe and Drug free Akwesasne facebook	Akwesasne Child & Family Services (613) 575-2341 ext. 3308 (613) 575-2000 (After Hours)	ASEO-STEOP ADDICTION SERVICES OF EASTERN ONTARIO (613) 936-9236 (800) 272-1937

Kawehnoke-Easterbrook Specific Claim

KAWEHNOKE-EASTERBROOK SPECIFIC CLAIM PROPOSED FINAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

REFERENDUM VOTE SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2012

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has recently concluded negotiations with the Canadian Federal Government regarding the Kawehnoke-Easterbrook Specific Claim on January 5, 2012, which is a "Loss of Use Claim" that was accepted by Canada for negotiations.

The basis of the Claim was breaches of the Crown's fiduciary responsibility to the Mohawks of Akwesasne during the period of 1816 to 1934. The breaches were failures to protect the interests of Akwesasne for 188.5 acres of land that spans from present-day Ronathahon:ni Cultural Center to the Fire Hall on Kawehno:ke.

The outcome of negotiations with Canada is the proposed Kawehnoke-Easterbrook Proposed Final Settlement Agreement, which lays out the terms of the proposed settlement. The land in question, formerly known as the Easterbrook Farm, was returned to Akwesasne's possession in 1934.

In the coming weeks, the MCA will be holding Special General Meetings that will delve deeper into the history and the details of the Kawehnoke-Easterbrook Specific Claim, as well as the terms of the Proposed Final Settlement Agreement. Information will be shared with those that will ultimately decide on the Settlement Agreement in a Referendum Vote scheduled for Saturday May 26, 2012.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne urges community members to attend these Special General Meetings to make a fully informed decision on May 26th. Community Educators are available to meet with families and other groups by calling MCA's Aboriginal Rights and Research Office (ARRO) at 613-575-2348.

The major settlement terms that are subject to ratification by voters are:

Compensation:

- \$4,448,932 million within forty-five days after the effective date of the Settlement Agreement to resolve past grievances associated with loss of use of the land in question.
- \$567,098 to recover costs relating to the Settlement Agreement's Negotiation and Ratification.

Other Key Points:

- Akwesasne forever releases and discharges Canada from any actions with respect to the Kawehnoke-Easterbrook Specific Claim and Negotiation Costs after Canada has fulfilled all of its obligations in the Settlement Agreement.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS:

KAWEHNOKE
Thursday, March 15, 2012
6pm @ Tri-District Elders Lodge

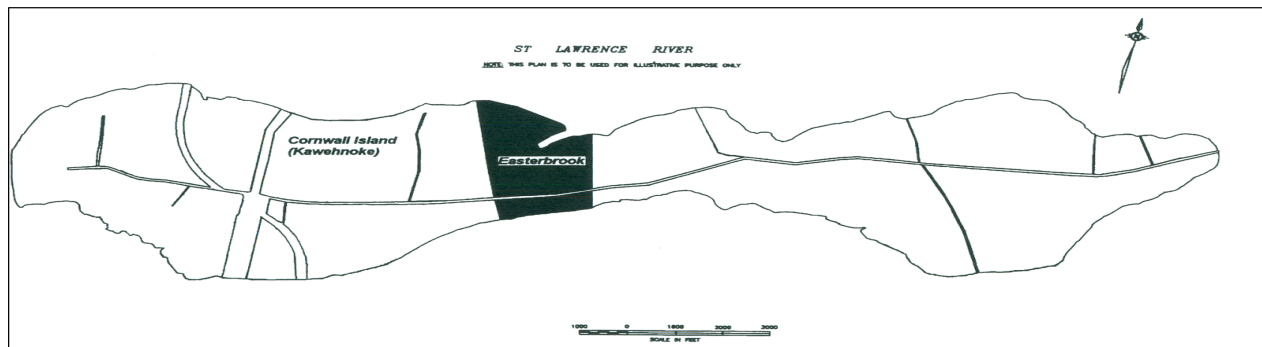
TSI SNAIHNE
Saturday, April 21, 2012
10am @ Snye Recreation Center

KANATAKON
Wednesday, May 16, 2012
6pm @ St. Regis Rec. Center

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MEETING:

SOUTHERN PORTION
Thursday, March 22, 2012
6pm @ Tsi Tetewatkins - Office for the Aging

For more information or to schedule an information meeting, please contact ARRO at 613-575-2348.



Deputy Referendum Officers Take Oath



left to right :Justice of the Peace Cecelia Square, Mary Ann Jacobs (Deputy Electoral Officer and Deputy Referendum Officer) Kanatakon, Leona Benedict Chief Electoral Officer and Chief Referendum Officer, Joan Mitchell DEO/DRO for Kawehnoke, Laura Morris DEO/DRO, Laura Benedict DEO/DRO for Tsi Snaihne, Cheavee Willie DEO/DRO for Kanatakon
Missing: Theresa Benedict (Kawehnoke), Delia Thompson (Kanatakon), Theresa Adams(Tsi Snaihne)

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Quebec Liason

My name is Victoria Irving. I have been working for the MCA since 2006 and have held the position of Akwesasne/Québec Liaison since March 2008.

One of the jobs that I do within the MCA is to facilitate communication between the people of Akwesasne and the province of Québec. If you need translation or help in understanding a document, you received, or if you need help with communicating with someone inside or outside of Québec, call me.

I can assist with:

- Revenue Quebec issues
- TPS/TVQ (GST/QST) forms
- Assistance to find forms from Québec and Ontario
- Assistance in filling out forms, and if needed be the Guarantor
- la Régie des rentes, Québec Pension issues
- RAMQ card forms, Québec medicare card forms
- Social Insurance card forms
- Birth or Death Certificates for Québec/Ontario
- Québec Drivers licences, mechanical inspection, transfer of licence or plates
- Passports for Canada for people from Canada and the US
- Read Court documents and help to ensure understanding

- Justice Québec, help read and understand fines and sentences
- Find Lawyers and/or legal aid
- Insurance for your home and vehicle, and place to pay premiums
- Act as interpreter, in person, on phone and by email
- Commission of Oaths, witness legal documents or Certify True Copies
- Any other assistance needed like directions, maps, and more...

For More Information Please Contact Victoria Irving at (613)575-2348 x 2232 or email victoria.irving@akwesasne.ca please call before stopping by to ensure she is available



Victoria Irving

Kanien'kéha Awenhnísera Mohawk Language Day

Chief Rachel Roundpoint



- 2010 and 2011 -Mohawk Council contracted with AEDA to provide Mohawk Language Program to MCA employees via Mohawk language instructor and access to the CAN * program
- March 2011 -Mohawk Council added the next level of programming through AEDA for those that completed level one
- 2011 -weekly Mohawk phrases are emailed to all MCA employees (credit goes to Margaret Peters and Paula Jacobs)
- 2011 -Mohawk Council sponsors the First Nations Sweet grass Language Conference that was held in Akwesasne
- March 2011-Mohawk Council declared March 31st the inaugural celebration of Kanien'keha Awenhnisera (Mohawk Language Day)

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) has completed a number of initiatives to revitalize and restore Kanien'kéha (the Mohawk language). MCA has contracted with the Akwesasne Economic Development Agency (AEDA) to teach Kanien'kéha to our employees. This allows employees to participate in the program free of charge.

Currently, there are five levels of instruction through AEDA. Level one starts off the program with the basics of the language, including the Mohawk alphabet. As each level increases, so does the difficulty. Every class begins with the Ohen:ton Karihwatehkwen (opening address) with each student taking a turn to recite. All participants also give a very detailed introduction of themselves. Finally, it is time to learn the nouns and how the noun changes once an adjective is applied. Once again, each student must participate. Every session has a graduation; family and friends are invited to listen to their introduction and story in Kanien'keha. It is very inspiring to see every student stand and speak with such pride.

Other Initiatives include:

- 2009 -Mohawk Council changed our stop signs from English to the Mohawk word "Testa'n"

Niawenko:wa to the Kanien'kéha Awenhnísera Working Group-Brendan White, Tobi Mitchell and Margaret Peters for all their hard work and dedication over and above their other job duties. Also to CKON for assisting and promoting our activities on air.

Mark your Calendars!!

This year Kanien'kéha Awenhnísera will be observed on **Friday March 30, 2012**. Throughout the month of March, we have worked with CKON to assist us on promoting the Mohawk language by airing stories, songs, children skits, work done by Council and labeling office furniture in MCA buildings.

There will be a night of entertainment at the Tsi Snaihne School on March 30th starting at 6:00 p.m. Other activities include a Scavenger Hunt (March 26 to March 30) and a Radio contest (March 30) with many prizes to be won!

For more information contact Tobi Mitchell at (613) 575-2348.

Substance Abuse Strategy Con't

con't from page 11

What's New

The reformulated tablets contain polyethylene oxide. Polyethylene oxide is a non-ionic hydrophilic polymer that is insoluble in alcohols. Upon contact with water it forms a viscous gel. Attempts to dissolve the tablets in liquid result in a gummy substance that cannot be injected or snorted. OxyNeo is harder to cut, chew, break or crush. The tablets either do not break, or break into pieces that retain some controlled release functionality. However, crushing followed by dissolution can release over 75% of the dose, depending on the solvent.

Because OxyNeo forms a gummy gel when wet,

patients with narrowing of the esophagus or trouble swallowing should not take OxyNeo. To reduce choking risk, patients should take only one OxyNeo tablet at a time. They should also avoid wetting or licking the tablet before putting it in their mouth.

Source: Pharmacists Letter/Prescribers Letter

As part of MCA's Substance Abuse Strategy, the Drug Initiative Working Group developed the Substance Abuse Emergency Numbers ad banner (as featured on page 11) to provide readily available telephone numbers of several agencies that will assist with questions on substance abuse. This banner will be advertised weekly in the Indian Times and monthly in Onkwe'ta:ke. If you or someone you know may have a Substance Abuse problem, do not hesitate to contact one of the numbers provided.

Mohawk Conversation & Mohawk Song

-Submitted by Kaweienonni Peters

Conversation

Kwe kwe. Tsi wenhniserí:io òn:wa, wáhe?
gway gway. Gee wun nee say lee yo, wa hay?
Greetings. Boy, it's a nice day huh?

Hen. Kwah í:ken tsi wenhniserí:io.
Hun. gwa eegun gee wun nee say lee yo.
Yes, it's a very nice day.

Nahò:ten'k kenh enhsnekì:ra ?
Tim Horthenhne wà:ke.
na ho dun k gun un snay kee la?
Tim Hor ton nay wa gay.
Do you want something to drink?
I'm going to Tim Horten's.

Hen. Í:kere double, double aknekì:ra.
Hun. ee gay lay double, double ak nay kee la
Yes. I want to drink a double, double.

Song

Io ho ha we ia he
ha we ia he
ha we ia he
io ho ha ni io ho
we ia he ia
ha na io ho
ha na io ho
we ia he ia
ha wi ha wi ne
kai na wi ia he ia

Tim Horthenhne wà:ke
~ wà:ke
double, double í:kere
io ho ha na io
we ia he ia
double, double
double, double í:kere
ha wi ha wi ne
kai na wi ia he ia
Io ho

"Everyday Mohawk" brochures and CD's are available at the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education office for \$20. These were created through collaboration between Taiaiake Alfred of the University of Victoria and Kaweienon:ni Peters, AMBE Kaniénkeha Specialist.

Canadian Aboriginal Writing & Arts Challenge

Showcase your talent and creativity; have your work reviewed by the foremost Aboriginal storytellers! You could win cash prizes and even have your work published in a national magazine! Youth between the ages of 14-29 and are of Canadian Aboriginal ancestry are eligible to submit an entry. The deadline is set for March 31, 2012

Create a short story, poem, or play that explores a moment or theme in aboriginal history. Youth 14-18 are to submit an entry that is no longer than 1,400 words. Youth 18-29 are to submit an entry that is no longer than 2,000 words. There should not be any inappropriate or profane language or content.

Along with your short story you must include a 200-400-word author's statement. In the author's statement you are to introduce yourself and explain why you chose the subject matter that you chose. You must also submit a participant's submission form. You must submit a letter of reference. The letter of reference could come from a teacher, elder, or community leader.

Prizes are as follows:

1st place- \$2,000 and an all expense paid trip to a major city to receive your award and attend a special reception. You also get an excerpt published in Canada's History magazine.

2nd place-\$1,000

3rd place-\$500

4th-10th place- \$100

All Top Ten Finalists in each age category will have their story published on the contest website, and receive a copy of Our Story: Aboriginal Voices on Canada's Past

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation acknowledging their hard work and participation in the program.

Group entries are eligible for a special classroom prize

How do I submit? You may submit your entry in one of the following ways:

Online: at www.our-story.ca

By email: challenge@historica-dominion.ca

Fax: (416) 506-0300

Mail: 43 Front Street E, suite 301

Toronto, ON M5E 1B3

Akwesasne Highlighted on APTN Series

The APTN network (ch. 269 Bell Express Vu) is pleased to announce Season 3 of Closer to Home has begun airing. Episode 4 features Akwesasne. Taking back the environment - Akwesasne's mission to reverse 50 years of damage to their water and territory.

A documentary series about Aboriginal housing, identity and recognition because sometimes you have to go far to get closer to home. This television series takes us onto reserves across Canada to experience housing from a First Nations point of view. Hosted by acclaimed First Nations actor and home builder, Wayne Baker, six new half-hour episodes deliver relevant how-to" advice on a range of housing issues catered to Aboriginal people living on-reserve."



Chief Brian David with Host Wayne Baker On the St. Lawrence River

Dates and Times for Episode 4 (Akwesasne):

Tuesday, March 27, 2012 @ 6:00PM

Friday, March 30, 2012 @ 10:00AM

Sunday, April 1, 2012 @ 5:30PM

Neh-Kanikonri:io Council Seeks New Members

The Akwesasne Community Justice Program is seeking new members to be part of the Community Neh-Kanikonri:io Council. The Community Neh-Kanikonri:io Council are called upon to hear out community members and to address justice related issues and provide appropriate outcomes for Akwesasronon.

Community members are referred to Akwesasne Community Justice Program either by Akwesasne Mohawk Police or other Police Agencies or by Crown Attorney. Community Member will work with Akwesasne Community Justice staff and a file will be opened. Community Member must accept responsibility for their actions prior to formal meeting with Community Neh-Kanikonri:io Council.

We ask for 3 Community Neh-Kanikonri:io Council members sit and ask the Accused, Victim, families, and others involved in the matter questions related to reason of referral to Police or Court. Everyone in-

involved in the circle agrees on consequences for the Accused. Consequences are culturally appropriate, fair, realistic and appropriate for the type of crime committed.

Some of Principles of the Community Neh-Kanikonri:io Council is that we all share responsibility for members of our community. Offenders should be responsible to their victim and the community for their actions. We recognize that our actions, thoughts and attitudes affect others and that we are responsible to act for the greater good.

If you are interested in being part of the Community Neh-Kanikonri:io Council please fill out an application and contact Rena Smoke, Program Manager for the Akwesasne Community Justice Program. 613-575-2250, ext. 2409 or rena.smoke@akwesasne.ca Applications are available at the Akwesasne Justice Department located in Kanatakon.

Upcoming Earth Day Events

The Annual Earth Day Celebration Seed and Tree Give Away for Akwesasne will be at Akwesasne Senior's building, behind to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal police station in Akwesasne/Hogansburg. Those interested may reserve a table free of charge. Please contact Julie Jacobs at the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe 518-358-5937.

As care takers of Mother Earth it is our responsibility to keep her clean. The Annual Roadside Cleanup is on Saturday, April 28, 2012 start time 8:30 am at the CIA #3 Cornwall Island Administration and Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center.

Prizes will be given out to the group that collects the most bags of roadside garbage. We are asking everyone to pick up trash in the ditches in front of their homes or businesses. No household trash. You may register your team and pick up garbage bags and gloves at the CIA #3 Cornwall Island Administration and at the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center. Lunch will be provided for partici-

pants at noon behind the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center. There will be lots of door prizes as well given away at the lunch.

We are looking for volunteers to help register teams, handout bags and gloves, help organize the prizes and lunch.

For more information contact Margaret George at 613-936-1548 ext. 1043 or Craig Arquette at 518-358-5937



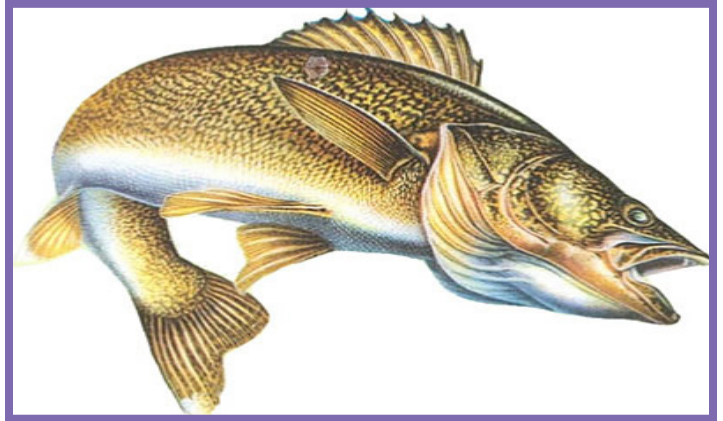
Showing Respect for Walleye Spawning Beds

Once a year in the springtime, after the fish mature, the walleye will go on a journey back to where they were spawned. This action completes their cycle of life, so that their species may live another generation. This seems simple; however, this doesn't take into consideration the human influence on this cycle. There is an ongoing interruption of the life cycle of the walleye due to over fishing and/or over netting on the spawning beds.

This interruption ultimately decreases the future harvest of the next 7 generations. This has also caused a decrease in the amount of walleye eggs that the Pyke Phish Farms have been able to restock back into the rivers. Restocking the rivers with fertilized eggs has helped, but a significant decrease in the amount of mature adults has also hindered our efforts. We have found that it has become increasingly more difficult find mature fish without holes or that haven't been stressed out. When we have tried to seed the spawning beds, they are disrupted by people stepping on them.

Our only solution is to remind others to return to our traditional teachings and culture:

- Offer tobacco towards water, plants, animals, fish



Walleye

- Take only what you need
- Use everything that you take
- Make sure your grandchildren and next 7 generations will be able to enjoy the same harvest that we enjoy today of fish, game, birds, and medicines
- Follow the ways of the creator and offer part of your harvest.

These simple teachings have enabled us to enjoy the animals, birds and fish the way our ancestors enjoyed and left for us so long ago. Let us do the same for the next 7 generations.

Walleye Facts:

- Walleye is a freshwater fish from the perch family, Native to Canada and the Northern U.S
- Females are larger than males.
- There up to 30,000 eggs per pound of female weight.
- Females mature in 3 to 6 years with a length of greater than 14 inches.
- Males mature in 2 to 4 years with a length of 11 inches.
- Spawn peaks at 42 degrees to 50 degrees Fahrenheit or 5 to 10 degrees Celsius.
- Later in the spawn cycle it is harder to get males and also get a decrease of milt.
- Incubation is temperature dependent but usually lasts between 12-30 days.

Please Respect Walleye Spawning Beds

Watkwanonhwera:ton Akwesasronon,

It is getting close to that time of the year again when walleye go up into the tributaries of the larger rivers in order to spawn so that they complete the next cycle of their life. Without the spawning, we would not be able to enjoy the fishing and eating of this type of fish. I am a diehard walleye lover. I love catching them, and even better, I love to eat walleye (as long as someone else cleans them...).

For as long as I can remember (probably even earlier) my family and I have fished for and eaten walleye. Even with the recommendations that the fish not be eaten, we still ate the fish although not in such large quantities as before all of the fish advisories. (Please note that the fish advisories recommend: Women of child bearing years and children under 16 years should not consume walleye. It is also important for people to know that they should not eat the larger walleye since the mercury levels in the bigger fish is high compared to the levels in the smaller fish. Also, do not consume female walleye since they carry the eggs for spawning.)

For at least 20 years, my siblings, nieces, nephews and family friends have worked hard collecting eggs



www.leahdorian.com/sevengenerations.html



Peggy Pyke Thompson of MCA's Environment division

and milt from the walleye, and putting fertilized eggs or hatched out eggs back into the tributaries to help ensure the survival of the walleye. For a while, it seemed as though efforts to increase the walleye population were successful. Ice fishers and other fishers were reporting that they were catching more walleye than before.

To our dismay, we keep hearing stories of people going into the spawning beds and walking all over them instead of spearing fish from the bank like they used to. What this does is squash all the eggs and destroys them, not only the ones that were laid naturally by the fish, but also the ones that were placed there by the Pyke Phish Farm. We also hear of the spearing of other fish at the same time that are just tossed upon the bank side when it is discovered that the fish caught is not a walleye, but a sucker. This is wasteful and destructive. As children, we were taught that you eat what you catch and you only take what you need to feed your family.

Please remember that spawning season for walleye will be upon us soon and we need to start taking better care of the spawning beds if we want the walleye to continue to be there for our children and grandchildren and their children and grandchildren to enjoy.

Sken:nen,

Peggy Pyke Thompson

Thompsons Island an Eco-Friendly Tourism Site



Bob Stevenson leading a medicine walk

Transition Cornwall+ and Bob Stevenson of Thompson Island Cultural Camp teamed up at the Cornwall Public Library to talk about the camp.

It's just one leg of an award-winning, cross-cultural eco-tourism program that just might show you a thing or two about the importance of traditional teachings, delicious First Nation cuisine and birch bark fashion.

"What do you think this is for?" Stevenson asked as he held a strip of birch to his face.

"Sunglasses," one of the 25 Transition Cornwall+ members said

"That's right, pretty cool eh?"

Stevenson certainly made the trip to Thompson Island sound like a must-have adventure for today's eco-tourist. "We go on two hour medicine walks and we identify medicinal herbs and examine lifeskills on the land," he said

"We also have acting classes, we examine land teachings and we have classroom workshops like basket-making — a \$3-million annual industry in Akwesasne."

Stevenson said there is a particular emphasis on thankfulness and respect at the camp, a place where the learning never stops for guests. In an effort to blend traditional knowledge with environmental science, Stevenson said guests will pick up tidbits on wilderness survival, healthy food preparation and traditional agricultural practices while enjoying the exercise and game fields, traditional songs and dance and hanging out in tipis (teepees) and shelters.

Stevenson said he sets up the tipi and said that kids — who visit the camp 25 at a time — are sometimes afraid of going in because they've never seen one before "That's when I bring out Wolfie, he helps smooth things over with the little ones," Stevenson laughed, holding a wolf hand-puppet.

"One thing we teach our visitors about is the importance of animals and what they can teach us." The wolf, the bear and moose to name a few — all offer different lessons for people, according to Stevenson

Eco-tourists interested in attending the camp can do so as individuals or in groups of up to 20 people, he added. "We have plans to build a bunkhouse for even more people and plan to finish that by next season," Stevenson said, adding the season typically begins "as soon as the snow is gone" but will likely start sooner due to this year's mild weather.



Cabin on Thompsons Island



Swamp walk Thompsons Island

The camp's fees depend on who is brought in to entertain the guests and how big their group is. "It depends who we hire and how many cooks we need to pay," he added. "There are base rates for the lodging, medicine walk, the boat ride to the island, but if people choose to pay more than the base rates then we put that toward improving the camp itself, like the bunkhouse.

Bill Carriere, who invited Stevenson to speak to Transition Cornwall+ members, said it was a good opportunity for members to see an eco-friendly tourism initiative in action. "We see Thompson Island as being an exciting opportunity for people to visit and discover aboriginal life locally," he said.

"It has everything Upper Canada Village has and one thing Transition Cornwall+ strives to promote is local activities. Akwesasne is as local as it gets. "The idea of Thompson Island camp hits close to home for Transition Cornwall+, according to Carriere.

Source: The Cornwall Standard Freeholder



Come and enjoy the view at Thompsons Island



Stevenson teaching guests how to find medicine

Photos Courtesy of MCA Communication Unit

For more information on booking your stay at Thompson Island Cultural Camp, call Bob Stevenson at 613-936-1548 ext. 1042; or e-mail bob.stevenson@akwesasne.ca.

Visitor Reviews

"Though I may live hundreds of miles away, you will forever remain close to my heart. Please use this letter to show others the difference the camp can make. Perhaps those who oppose your vision need only to be educated out of their ignorance, as you have educated me out of my complacency. Always keep your humor and never lose sight of your vision. Peace and love, from the sunny beaches of Florida." -Derek Shaw (student)

"There is something fundamental and captivating about the skills required by those who live close to the land. They have an appeal for people of all ages, races and nationalities. We also learned a great deal in our conversations with Henry Lickers and the chiefs who so generously shared their time with us. Their lucid explanations of the many issues facing the residents of Akwesasne, from water pollution to the proposed passport rule, made a deep and lasting impression on us all. Our visit left us with the very clear impression that your endeavor there is just what the youth of all cultures need as we move together into the twenty-first century. It is our hope that our first visit will be just the beginning of much fruitful collaboration." -Karin Wittman PHD. Assistant Professor.

"We want to sincerely thank you, Elizabeth, Marie, Henry, Elder Jake, Medicine Woman Cecila, the students from the Freedom School, the singers and all the others who made us feel so welcome and who so generously allowed us to share in the traditions, knowledge and food of your people. On such a beautiful day, it was a real pleasure to see the Island, the set-up of your educational centre and to walk along the nature trail finding plants that Cece had described to us. You have created something truly remarkable at your centre and we feel privileged to have been able to be there." -Hanne and Bruce Lawrence (Ottawa Couple)

DEPARTMENT OF TEHOTIENNAWA:KON

Emergency Measures Office – Territory of Akwesasne



Table Top Exercise "Paper Clip" Friday, 17th, Enniska / February 2012 Kanatakon Recreation

The Akwesasne Table Top Exercise "Paper Clip" was conducted by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's (MCA) Department of Tehotienawa:kon's Emergency Measures Program in cooperation with MCA's Department of Health on 17th, Enniska/ February 2012. This exercise was hosted at the Kanatakon (St. Regis) Recreation Facility with a total of forty-five (45) participants on hand. Additionally, MCA's resources were also on hand to take part in the exercise including the U.S. Coast Guard, N.Y.S. Troopers, and the American Red Cross.

Exercise "Paper Clip" was designed to allow the various departments within MCA an opportunity to understand the different functions (roles) of the Incident Management System (IMS). Each participant took on a specific function under IMS (i.e. Command, Operations, Logistics, etc.) and responded to the incident in that capacity.



Dennis Chaussi, Debra Locey,



Allison Lamesse & Ben Benedict



Dave Oakes, Hilda King, April White,
and Florence Phillips



Cindy Francis-Mitchell, Allison Lamesse,
Misty Lazore, Joyce Leaf, & Ben
Benedict



Megan Fulton, Marlene Bero, Annalisa
Johnson, Sonja Sylvester



Kenny Mitchell, Kennedy Garrow

Niawenko:wa / Thank you to all of our participants!



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Circle

At our self-help groups, grandparents can talk about the issues they are facing in parenting their grandchildren, including:

- Issues they or their grandchildren may have with the grandchild(ren)'s parents
- Financial concerns
- Health issues of grandchild(ren) and or grandparents(s)
- Retirement plans
- Changes in social life
- Mental issues with grandchild(ern)

Upcoming meetings: April 19th, May 10th and June 14th

Location: Senior Center in Hogansburg 5:00 -7:00pm

Babysitting available plus refreshment and light snacks

For more information call Kanietahawi or Leona at 613-575-2341 ex.3100

**TOGETHER IN OUR COMMUNITY WE ARE
COMMITTED AS A TEAM TO BE SUPPORTIVE
AND HELP MAKE ALL FAMILIES SUCCESSFUL!**

FREE! E-Business Workshop!

In Partnership with Cornwall Business Enterprise Centre

Monday, March 26, 2012

SRMT Senior's Center, Sunroom.

29 Business Park Rd., Hogansburg, N.Y.

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

E-Business Intro

What is E-Business and is it right for your business? What are the advantages and costs? Learn how to establish your own website. Learn how to establish online ordering. How to minimize risks. Much more...

Establishing an online presence

Learn techniques to promote your business online. Learn about Social Media marketing.

On-Line Display Advertising & Increasing Website Traffic

Learn techniques to advertise your business over the Internet. Examine techniques to increase the volume of traffic to your website. Search Engine Optimization.

Materials/Publications and Lunch provided. **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER TO ATTEND.**

To Register call MCA Economic Development, (613) 575-2250, ext. # 1052.



Recent MCA Job Postings

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne posted and/or filled the following positions recently.

Research Technician/Admin. Assistant- Aboriginal Rights
and Research Office

Estates Facilitator-Office of Vital Statistics

Software Developer- Computer Services

Case Manager- Community Support

Certified Lead Carpenter- Healthy Homes Initiative

Arena Maintenance Caretaker-Dept of Tech Services

For current and active job postings, visit www.akwesasne.ca/jobpostings.html or
contact the Human Resources Department at (613) 575-2250 Ext. 2146

Welcome to MCA!

Recently filled Mohawk Council of Akwesasne positions

Name	Program Name	Position Title
Arbour, Dawn C.	AMBE - SNEY SCHOOL	Supply Teacher & Aide
Benedict, Dorion P.	JUSTICE	Clerk/Receptionist
Bero, Dwight Jr.	ARRO	Researcher
Cook, Rayna M.	DOH-TSIIONKWANONHSO:TE	Personal Support Worker
Delormier, Krysten	DCSS - ACFS	Case Aide
Deppe, Kelsye A.	AMBE - AMS	Supply Teacher
Jackson, Jolene	DCSS-GROUP HOME	Cook/Housekeeper
Jacobs, Bianca J.	AMBE - KANATAKON SCHOOL	Supply Teacher/Aide/Secretary
Jock, Arlene R.	AMBE - HOT LUNCH PROGRAM	Kitchen Aide
Larocque, Maggie May	DCSS-AFVP	Counselor
Miller, Dylan J.	DTS-ADMIN 1 MAINTENANCE	Caretaker
Oakes, Shirley A.	DOH-TSIIONKWANONHSO:TE	Personal Support Worker
Oka, Cindy	DCSS-WHW	Case Manager
Terrance, Kathleen M.	DCSS-AFWP	Counselor
Thompson, Bridget A.	AMBE - HOT LUNCH PROGRAM	Supply Kitchen
Thurston, Stacey N.	DOH-IAKHIHSOTHA	Licensed Practical Nurse
Toupin, Jody L.	DCSS-AFWP	Counselor
Van Leishout, Krystal A.	AMBE - AMS	Supply Teacher

Akwesasne Medical Clinic

613-575-2341 ext. 3215

*Notice: Life Labs in Cornwall New Hours (Mon-fri 8am-4pm)

April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Dr. Forson WALK IN 9-11:30 Dr. Levac BY APPOINTMENT 1-3:45	3 Dr. Forson BY APPOINTMENT 9-11:15	4 <u>No Doctor</u> LABS 8:30-10	5 No Doctor	6 CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY	7 CLOSED
8 CLOSED	9 CLOSED EASTER MONDAY	10 Dr. Forson BY APPOINTMENT 9-11:15	11 <u>No Doctor</u> LABS 8:30-10	12 No Doctor	13 Dr. Forson's Men's Clinic BY APPT 9-11:30	14 Dr. Forson WALK IN 8:30-11:30
15 CLOSED	16 Dr. Forson WALK IN 9-11:30	17 Dr. Forson BY APPOINTMENT 9-11:15	18 <u>No Doctor</u> LABS 8:30-10	19 No Doctor	20 Dr. Forson BY APPOINTMENT 9-11:30	21 Dr. Forson WALK IN 8:30-11:30
22 CLOSED	23 Dr. Forson WALK IN 9-11:30	24 Dr. Forson BY APPOINTMENT 9-11:15	25 <u>No Doctor</u> LABS 8:30-10	26 No Doctor	27 Dr. Forson BY APPOINTMENT 9-11:30	28 Dr. Forson WALK IN 8:30-11:30
29 CLOSED	30 Dr. Forson WALK IN 9-11:30					

Kawehnoke Medical Clinic

613-932-5808

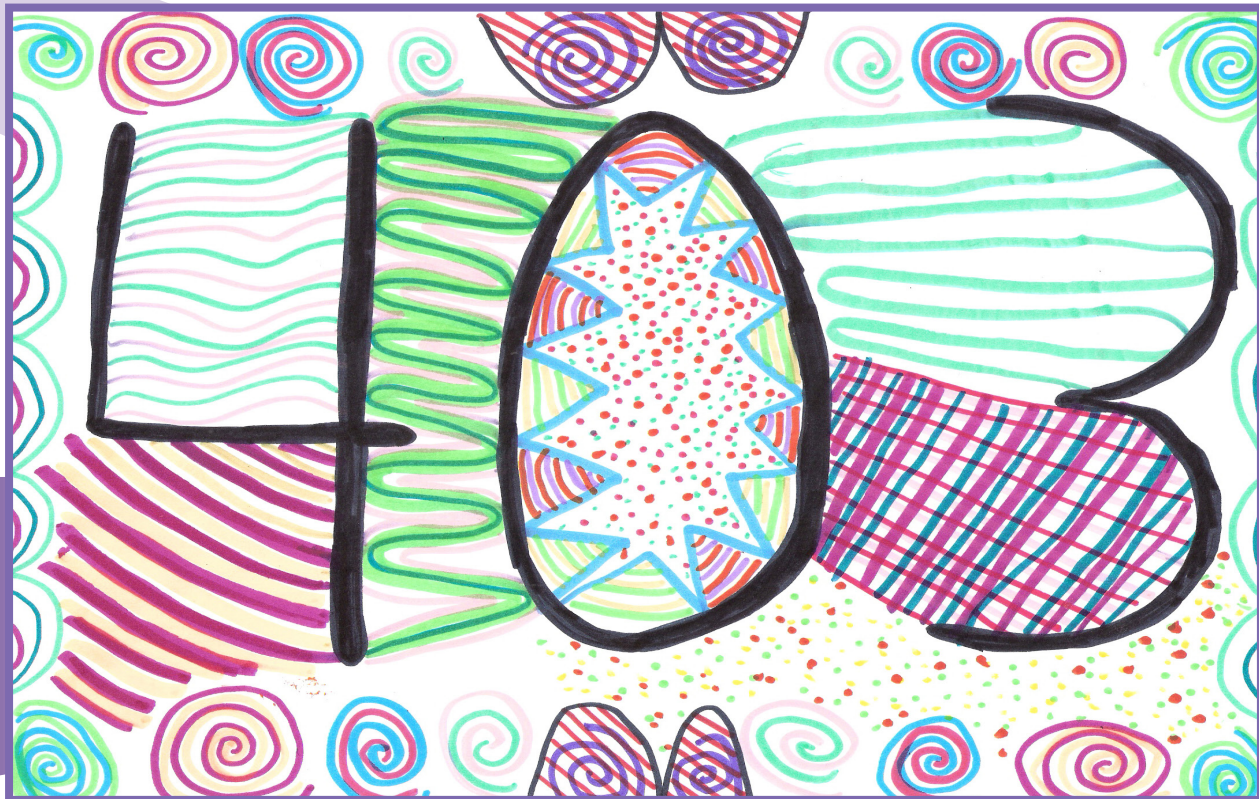
*Notice: Dr. Young's Clinics Have A 40 Patient Limit

April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 No Doctor	6 CLOSED EASTER FRIDAY	7 CLOSED
8 CLOSED	9 CLOSED EASTER MONDAY	10 Dr. Young WALK IN 8:30-11:30	11 Dr. Young WALK IN 8:30-11:30	12 No Doctor	13 Womans Clinic Dr. Udoeyop 10-3	14 CLOSED
15 CLOSED	16 Dr. Tremblay WALK IN 8-11	17 Dr. Young WALK IN 8:30-11:30	18 Dr. Young WALK IN 8:30-11:30	19 No Doctor	20 No Doctor	21 CLOSED
22 CLOSED	23 Dr. Tremblay WALK IN 8-11	24 Dr. Young WALK IN 8:30-11:30	25 Dr. Young WALK IN 8:30-11:30	26 No Doctor	27 Womans Clinic Dr. Udoeyop 10-3	28 CLOSED
29 CLOSED	30 Dr. Tremblay WALK IN 8-11					

Student Artwork

"Line Study" Laney Tahy-Grade 5, AMS



MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS

Administration Building #1

Tel: (613) 575-2250 Fax: 575-2181

Administration Building #2

Tel: (613) 575-2348 Fax: 575-2884

CIA Building #3

Tel: (613) 936-1548 Fax: 938-6760

Adolescent Treatment Center	Ext. 1300	Housing	Ext. 2300	Pharmacy	Ext. 3250
Ambulance Unit	Ext. 3121	Human Resources	Ext. 2146	Records Management	Ext. 1202
Ahkwasasne Mohawk School	Ext. 1700	Hydro Quebec	Ext. 2189	Snye Child Care	Ext. 4300
Animal Control/Compliance	Ext. 2415	Iakhihsotha	Ext. 4201	Technical Services	Ext. 1003
Aboriginal Rights & Research	Ext. 2203	Iethinisten:ha	Ext. 1500	Traditional Medicine	Ext. 3220
Board of Education	Ext. 1400	Iohahi:io Adult Education	Ext. 4100	Tsi Snaihne School	Ext. 4400
Child & Family Services	Ext. 3139	Justice	Ext. 2400	Tsi ionkwanonsote	Ext. 1600
Community Health Nurses	Ext. 3218	Kana:takon Medical Clinic	Ext. 3214	Wholistic Health	Ext. 3100
Computers	Ext. 2323	Kana:takon School	Ext. 2500		
Community Support Program	Ext. 3262	Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic	Ext. 1110		
Community & Social Services	Ext. 3307	Maintenance/Sanitation	Ext. 3400	OUTSIDE FACILITIES	
Dental Clinic	Ext. 3208	Mohawk Court	Ext. 1026	A'nowara'ko:wa Arena	936-1583
Economic Development	Ext. 1053	Mohawk Government	Ext. 2200	Kawehnoke Water Plant	933-1971
Emergency Measures	Ext. 1030	Mohawk Police Reception	Ext. 3502	Child Care Administration	938-5067
Environment	Ext. 1039	Nation Building	Ext. 1055	Mohawk Security Services	932-5183
Executive Services	Ext. 2120	Non-Insured Health Benefits	Ext. 3201	Roads Garage	938-5476
Finance	Ext. 2168	Operational Support	Ext. 2100	St. Regis Child Care	575-1915
Health	Ext. 3300	Optometry	Ext. 3131		
Home Care/Support	Ext. 1069	Office of Vital Statistics	Ext. 1013		

A TRIBUTE TO AKWESASNE

"FROM CENTENNIAL TO MILLENNIAL SPRING"

A JAPANESE CONCERT

PRESENTED BY
THE KITANODAI GAGAKU ENSEMBLE



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
OF THE GIFT OF TREES

TSI SNAIHNE RECREATION HALL

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2012

PERFORMANCES AT 2:00PM & 6:30PM

OPENING BY OUR
MOHAWK SINGERS AND
DANCERS WITH MC
TOM PORTER

CO-HOSTED BY
MOHAWK NATION
COUNCIL OF CHIEFS
AND THE MOHAWK
COUNCIL OF
AKWESASNE

SUPPORTED BY THE
CONSULATE GENERAL
OF JAPAN
IN NEW YORK

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT...EVERYONE WELCOME!

