

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Hosts Meeting with Honorable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs

On Wednesday, November 25, 2015, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne welcomed the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, to the community of Akwesasne. Grand Chief Abram Benedict invited Minister Bennett to visit Akwesasne so that she could learn more about the community's advancements since her last visit in 2006. In addition, this visit provided Minister Bennett the opportunity to tour the "Walking with our Sisters" commemorative art installation on Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island) that honors missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people.

Grand Chief Benedict hopes that from this meeting, Mohawk Council illustrated how Akwesasne "is a model First Nation community and a center of excellence in numerous areas."

During the meeting, Council Chiefs, Directors and Program Managers provided a brief breakdown of services provided to the community and projects that have occurred which highlighted the growth and progression of the organization, challenges in the areas and also how the Mohawk Council plans to address the issues. Additional areas discussed include the Political Protocol with Canada and Quebec and the multi-jurisdictional challenges that the community faces. Grand Chief Benedict noted that he hopes this meeting will "assist in building a close working relationship between MCA and Minister Bennett."

The event included an opportunity for elders and community members to have discussions with Minister Bennett at the Tri District Elders Lodge, and concluded with the Minister visiting the Kawehno:ke Recreation to view the "Walking with our Sisters" art installation, with assistance from Native North American Traveling College (NNATC) Director, Konwahahawi, her staff and volunteers from "Walking With Our Sisters".

While at the Art Installation, Minister Bennett expressed how she was "humbled to be here to honour the lives of....women and girls taken from us much too soon."

Grand Chief Benedict also added that "having Minister Bennett visit Akwesasne to view the Art Installation expresses how she is putting this rising concern as a priority. Far too many Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit people have gone missing and been lost in First Nations communities across Canada."



Kawehno:ke District Chief Louise Thompson, Tsi Snaihne District Chief Connie Lazore, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Carolyn Bennett, and Grand Chief Abram Benedict.

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MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

Grand Chief

Abram Benedict

Kana:takon District

Chief Ryan Jacobs

Chief Darryl Lazore

Chief Steve Thomas

Chief Tim Thompson

Kawehno:ke District

Chief Dennis Chaussi

Chief Louise Thompson

Chief Troy Thompson

Chief Vince Thompson

Tsi Snaihne District

Chief April Adams-Phillips

Chief Connie Lazore

Chief Joe Lazore

Chief Karen Loran

Administration

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Jay Benedict

Director,

Technical Services

Joyce King

Director,

Justice Department

Heather Phillips

Director,

Housing Department

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Director,

Community & Social Services

April White

Director,

Department of Health

Donna Lahache

Director,

Akwesasne Mohawk Board
of Education

Jerry Swamp

Chief of Police,

Akwesasne Mohawk Police
Service

James Ransom

Director,

Tehotienawakon

Onkwe'ta:ke (For the People) – Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's monthly community newsletter is published by the Communications Unit. For more information or to provide feedback, email staff at: communications@akwesasne.ca, call (613) 575-2348 Ext. 2210, or visit our Facebook page.

Wat'kwanonweraton/Greetings

It is my pleasure to introduce this month's issue of Onkwe'ta:ke—The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne community newsletter. It is my hope that Akwesasronon and our surrounding communities are in good health and spirits I wish everyone a joyous holiday season!

The MCA Buy Local Campaign's main mission is to support local businesses and Akwesasne had several grand openings of new businesses! New businesses include The Dreamcatcher Studio, Akwesasne TV and our new Experience Akwesasne Tourism Center. Please support our local businesses with us, and check these out. We applaud these new initiatives and wish them success!

I'd like to mention the Canadian Federal elections and the result of Canada's new Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, and the new majority Liberal Government. MCA Departments/Programs and Council are continuously reviewing the

liberal party plans and directives to lobby the needs of Akwesasne. It is time First Nations concerns are heard and we will endeavour to ensure that the federal government follows through on campaign promises.

Council Portfolio meetings are fully underway. For the 2015-2018 Council Term, I will be attending the regularly monthly scheduled meetings for Justice, Housing and Executive Services, along with the committees—including OVS, Finance and the new Youth, Elders, Culture and Language Chiefs Committee.

In addition to my portfolio activity, Council participated in the Governance training with Carol Hopkins (M.S.W.), Mohawk Government and Executive Services. In the future, Council will strive to implement some of the valuable models that were presented by Ms. Hopkins, in order to be a more effective government and organization.

Following our Governance training, Council participated in Strategic Planning with MCA Departments and Programs. Council will be reviewing the report and will share with community in the near future.

As the co-major of the Education Portfolio, I would like to inform the community that our portfolio meetings are held twice on a monthly basis, where we meet with Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education to provide updates and discuss issues that affect Akwesasne and its members. In attendance is the Director of Education, Donna Lahache, AMBE staff, Chief April Adams-Phillips (co-major), Chief Connie Lazore, Chief Troy Thompson and myself.

I enjoyed a meet and greet with the Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education Committee and administrators, there was open dialogue on AMBE school updates. I look forward to working with our newly appointed Director of Education Donna Lahache. AMBE holds their regularly scheduled Public In-Camera Sessions, and are helping find the best direction we need to go forth in to best serve our students.

I've recently attended the 2015 Education Symposium: Charting Our Own Path Forward in Thunder Bay, Ontario where we worked on establishing a support framework for First Nations education. I had



the chance to meet with other First Nations leaders and educators to discuss plans for advancing services in Akwesasne for our students, Ontario-wide, plus concerns for our students in our communities. I participated in interactive activities, such as discussing and receiving input on funding options for First Nations. I plan to attend the follow-up meeting scheduled for next summer. I recently traveled to Carleton University with Peter Garrow to discuss our initiative for a university in Cornwall, in the future. One of the goals is to create more internships and opportunities for our students locally.

Finally, I encourage you to continue reading the fall issue of Onkwe'tá:ke, as it provides essential information for awareness on MCA and Council activities, issues and initiatives.

Niawenkó:wa / Thank you very much,

Ryan Jacobs
District Chief of Kaná:takon



Kana:takon District Chief Ryan Jacobs, Assembly of First Nations Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day, and Tsi Snaihne District Chief April Adams-Phillips.

...Continued from Page 1.



Minister Bennett toured CIA#3 and was introduced to MCA Directors. Minister Bennett met with MCA Director of Health, April White.



The Akwesasne Women's Singers sang at the Walking With Our Sisters Art Installation in order to pay respect to the missing and murdered Aboriginal Women. Here the group is pictured with Minister Bennett.



Sarah Rourke and students from the Akwesasne Freedom School provided the Ohen:ton Karihwaterhkwen or "words before all else." Sarah was also instrumental in the organization of Minister Bennett's visit.



Grand Chief and Council met with Minister Bennett in order to address concerns and solutions of the organization.'



Minister Bennett, Grand Chief Abram Benedict and Director of the Department of Technical Services Jay Benedict.



Mohawk Council Resolutions (MCRs)

Kanenna'ke:ne / Fall 2015

2015/2016 Fiscal Year

Council Meeting, Tuesday September 8, 2015

2015/2016 - #122 - Tsikaristisere Dundee Claim Negotiation, Ratification and Implementation Budget

Moved by: Chief K. Loran
Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore
**Voting: For - 12, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #123 - P&ID FY 2015/2016 Accepting Funding \$35,000.00

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore
**Voting: For - 12, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #124 - Ministry of Community and Social Services 2015/2016 Service Contract Amendment - C12532-1-A4

Moved by: Chief T. D. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
**Voting: For - 12, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #125 - Accept & Approve the ARFA Agreement 1516-000028 Amendment No.0004

Moved by: Chief C. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
**Voting: For - 12, Against - 0
CARRIED**

Council Meeting, Tuesday September 16, 2015

2015/2016 - #126 - Extension of Lease - Lot 19 B Hamilton Island

Moved by: Chief T. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi
**Voting: For - 0, Against - 6
DENIED**

2015/2016 - #127 - Allotment - Lot 5-18 Bittern Range

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi
**Voting: For - 6, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #128 - Allotment - Lot 22 - 28 Cornwall Island

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi
**Voting: For - 6, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #129 - Assignment of Lease - Lot 2G4 Pilon Island

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
**Voting: For - 6, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #130 - Triwin Holding Ltd.

Moved by: Chief T. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
**Voting: For - 6, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #131 - 2015-2018 Portfolio Holding List

Moved by: Chief T. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
**Voting: For - 6, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #132 - Approval of the March 31, 2015 Draft Audited CMHC, Section 95 Financial Statements

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief J. Lazore
**Voting: For - 6, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #133 - To Accept and Approve the ARFA Agreement 1516 On 000028 Amendment No. #0005

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips

Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
**Voting: For - 6, Against - 0
CARRIED**

Council Meeting, Tuesday September 21, 2015

2015/2016 - #134 - Ministry of Community 7 Social Services - Aboriginal Health & Wellness Strategy 15/16 Service Contract - IFN

Moved by: Chief T.D. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi
**Voting: For - 10, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #135 - Assignment of Lease - Lot 15 Renshaw Island

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
**Voting: For - 10, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #136 - Assignment of Lease - Lease - Lot 10 Block C Hamilton Island

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore
**Voting: For - 10, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #137 - 2015-2016 Heating Assistance Program

Moved by: Chief C. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief V. Thompson
**Voting: For - 10, Against - 0
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #138 - Contribution Agreement for "Minnows and Shorelines in Akwesasne: Mohawk Traditional Knowledge and Community Involvement to Enhance Minnow Habitat"

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
**Voting: For - 10, Against - 0
CARRIED**

General Meeting, Tuesday September 24, 2015

2015/2016 - #139 - General Meeting Minutes Dated August 13, 2015

Moved by: Chief J. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson

**Voting: For - 12, Against - 0
CARRIED**

Council Meeting, Tuesday September 29, 2015

2015/2016 - #140 - To Approve the Schedule for the 7 MCSS- AHWS Program for 2014-2015

Moved by: Chief T.D. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi
**Voting: For - 10, Against - 2
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #141 - To Approve the TPAR Report for the ACFS Child Welfare program for 2014- 2015

Moved by: Chief T. D. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
**Voting: For - 8, Against - 4
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #142 - Approval of March 31, 2015 Draft Review Engagement Report on the Schedule of Salaries, Honoraria, Travel Expenses and Other Remuneration Paid to Directors and Chiefs

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
**Voting: For - 9, Against - 3
CARRIED**

2015/2016 - #143 - To Approve the Schedule for the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care- Community Support Servicers Program for 2014-2015

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi
Voting: For - 9, Against - 3

CARRIED			
2015/2016 - #144 - To Approve the Schedule for the Ministry of Health & Promotion-Smoke Free Ontario and Healthy Eating/Living & Diabetes Prevention Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi Voting: For - 9, Against - 3 CARRIED	2015/2016- #150 - CGOV Asset Management Agreement-Investment Manager for the Trust Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief T. D. Thompson Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED	Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	Voting: For - 10, Against - 1 CARRIED
2015/2016 - #145 - To Approve Schedule for the Ministry of Education Children's Services for 2014/2015 Moved by: Chief D. Lazore Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore Voting: For -11, Against - 1 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #151 - Jazz Solar Solutions Inc. Agreement Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Seconded by: Chief V. Thompson Voting: For - 9, Against - 3 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #158 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief V. Thompson Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #165 - To Approve TPAR Report for the MCTS Generic Child Welfare Program Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 10, Against - 1 CARRIED
2015/2016 - #146 - Approval of March 31, 2015 Draft Audit for the Tsikaristesere (Dundee) Land Claim Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Seconded by: Chief S. Thomas Voting: For -11, Against - 1 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #152 - Motor Grader Purchase Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #159 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief K. Loran Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	<u>Emergency Council Meeting, Thursday, October 1, 2015</u>
2015/2016 - #147 - To Change Signing Officers for Council's Current Account at the Bank of Montreal Moved by: Chief T.D. Thompson Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi Voting: For -11, Against - 1 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #153 - Assignment of Lease - Lot 28 Colquhoun Island West Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #160 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief T. Thompson Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	<u>Council Meeting, Tuesday, October 6, 2015</u>
2015/2016 - #148 - To Transfer the 2015/2016 Settlement Payment of \$2,560,000.00 to the Mohawks of Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #154 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief J. Lazore Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #161 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated April 28, 2015 Moved by: Chief K. Loran Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #166 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore Voting: For - 5, Against - 0 CARRIED
2015/2016 - #149 - CI Investment Inc. Agreement - Investment Manager for the Trust Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #155 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief C. Lazore Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #162 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 5, 2015 Moved by: Chief K. Loran Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #167 - Good Standing Policy - September 2015 Moved by: Chief C. Lazore Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson Voting: For - 3, Against - 7 DENIED
	2015/2016 - #156 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #163 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 12, 2015 Moved by: Chief C. Lazore Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED	2015/2016 - #168 - Audited Financial Statements for F/Y 2014-15 - AANDC Schedules of Revenues and Expenses Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED
	2015/2016 - #157 - Housing Application - Upgrade Program Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore	2015/2016 - #164 - To Approve Revenue & Expenses for the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care-Health Access Program Moved by: Chief D. Chaussi Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson	2015/2016-#169-MCYS Transfer Payment Annual Reconciliation Report for F/Y 2014 - 2015 Moved by: Chief Thomas Seconded by: Chief T.D. Thompson Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED
			2015/2016 - #170 - Audit of MHLTC Diabetes Program F/Y 2014/15 Moved by: Chief T. D. Thompson Seconded by: Chief Thomas Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #171 - Approval of DTS Recommendation to Relocate Existing Stop Sign at First Street and Park Street Intersection

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #172 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated April 21, 2015

Moved by: Chief Thomas
Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson

Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED

Council Meeting, Tuesday, October 13, 2015

2015/2016 - #173 - Assignment of Lease - Lot 32 Renshaw Island

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief J. Lazore
Voting: For - 6, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #174 - Allotment - Lot 78-2 St. Regis Village

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson

Voting: For - 6, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #175 - Band Transfer

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief C. Thompson

Voting: For - 6, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #176 - Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement for Tourism Welcome Centre

Moved by: Chief T. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips

Voting: For - 6, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #177 - Cultural Properties Protocol

Moved by: Chief C. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips

Voting: For - 6, Against - 0

CARRIED

Council Meeting, Tuesday, October 20, 2015

2015/2016 - #178 - Assignment of Lease - Lot 9 Thompson Island

Moved by: Chief L. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore
Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #179 - Hamilton Island North Side Usage Disallowed

Moved by: Chief V. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore
Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #180 - Akwesasne Economic Development Fund (AEDF) Fund 2012-2013 Part 1 Final Report

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief S. Thomas
Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #181 - Akwesasne Economic Development Fund (AEDF) Fund 2012-2013 Part 2 Final Report

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #182 - AEDF Administration Fees

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #183 - Audit of the Schedule of Revenues & Expenditures for the Literacy and Basic Skills Program under the Ministry of Training Colleges & Universities

Moved by: Chief T. D. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief L. Thompson

Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #184 - Audit of the Akwesasne Police Services 2014/2015

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore
Voting: For - 12, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #185 - To Accept and Approve the ARFA Agreement 1516-ON-000028 Amendment NO. 0006

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Voting: For - 10, Against - 1 CARRIED

2015/2015 - #186 - General Personnel Policy (GPP)

Moved by: Chief T. D. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore
Voting: For - 6, Against - 4 CARRIED

Council Meeting, Tuesday, October 27, 2015

2015/2016 - #187 - First Nations Regional Health Survey (RHS) Phase III

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief K. Loran
Voting: For - 8, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #188 - Audit for the Community Justice Program

Moved by: Chief C. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Voting: For - 8, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #189 - AEDF - Admin Fees From 2009 - 2011 Final Report

Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson

Voting: For - 8, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #190 - Parks Canada Deer Herd Reduction Program Agreement 2015

Moved by: Chief J. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief V. Thompson

Voting: For - 8, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015-2016 - #191 - To Accept & Approve the ARFA Agreement - 1516-ON-000028 Amendment No. 0007

Moved by: Chief C. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips
Voting: For - 8, Against - 0 CARRIED

Council Meeting, Tuesday, November 3, 2015

2015/2016 - #192 - Approval of March 31, 2015 Draft Audited Reports on Receipts & Disbursement for OFNLP & OFNLP (2008)

Moved by: Chief S. Thomas
Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi
Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED

General Meeting, Thursday, November 5, 2015

2015/2016 - #193 - General Meeting Minutes Dated September 24, 2015

Moved by: Chief L. Thompson
Seconded by: Chief C. Lazore
Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED

Council Meeting, Tuesday, November 10, 2015

2015/2016 - #194 - Amendment 1516 - ON-000010-A0002 One Time Funding for 2015/2016 under National Anti - Drug Strategy for NNADAP Recruitment and Retention

Moved By: Chief K. Loran
Seconded By: Chief C. Lazore
Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #195 - Allotment - Lot 135-6 St. Regis Village

Moved by: Chief C. Lazore
Seconded by: Chief V. Lazore
Voting: For - 7, Against - 0 CARRIED

2015/2016 - #196 - Allotment -

<p>Lot 147 C-5 Cornwall Island Moved by: Chief D. Chaussi Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson Voting: For - 8, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>CARRIED</p>	<p>Moved By: Chief V. Thompson Seconded By: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 8, Against - 1 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #217 - To Approve 2014 Statement of Trust Account For Ministry of Health and Long Term Tsiionkwanonhso:te Program Moved by: Chief K. Loran Seconded by: Chief S. Thomas Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>
<p>2015/2016 - #197 - Permit - Department of Fisheries and Oceans Two 10' x 10' Sites on Thompson Island Moved by: Chief C. Lazore Seconded by: Chief S. Thomas Voting: For - 8, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #204 - G & L Building 1 and 2 Renovation Moved By: Chief S. Thomas Seconded By: Chief K. Loran Voting: For - 7, Against - 2 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #211 - Ratathrona Raotiiientahtsere Couples Property Law Regulations Moved By: Chief C. Lazore Seconded By: Chief L. Thompson Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #218 - Approval for Draft Audit for Akwesasne Community Justice and Court Worker Program Moved by: Chief C. Lazore Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>
<p>2015/2016 - #198 - Housing Application-Upgrade Program Moved By: Chief D. Lazore Seconded By: Chief D. Chaussi Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #205 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 19, 2015 Moved By: Chief S. Thomas Seconded By: Chief T.D. Thompson Voting: For - 7, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #212 - Subcontractor Agreement and Information Sharing Agreement with Stantec Consulting Ltd. Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief T. Thompson Voting: For - 7, Against - 2 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #219 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated June 9, 2015 Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief D. Chaussi Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>
<p>2015/2016 - #199 - Housing Application-Upgrade Program Moved By: Chief K. Loran Seconded By: Chief A. Adams Phillips Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #206 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 20, 2015 Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief T.D. Thompson Voting: For - 7, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #213 - Quebec Supplementary Contribution Agreement for Policing Services Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #220 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated June 16, 2015 Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief K. Loran Voting: For - 6, Against - 3 CARRIED</p>
<p>2015/2016 - #200 - Housing Application-Upgrade Program Moved By: Chief K. Loran Seconded By: Chief C. Lazore Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #207 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 26, 2015 Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief C. Thompson Voting: For - 7, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #214 - To Approve TPAR Report for ACFS Welfare Program Moved by: Chief V. Thompson Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #221 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated June 23, 2015 Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Voting: For - 7, Against - 2 CARRIED</p>
<p>2015/2016 - #201 - Housing Application-Upgrade Program Moved By: Chief S. Thomas Seconded By: Chief A. Adams Phillips Voting: For - 10, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #208 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated June 2, 2015 Moved By: Chief T.D. Thompson Seconded By: Chief J. Lazore Voting: For - 6, Against - 1 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #215 - To Approve TPAR Report for MCYS Generic Child Welfare Program Moved by: Chief C. Lazore Seconded by: Chief S. Thomas Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #222 - Council Meeting Minutes Dated June 30, 2015 Moved by: Chief S. Thomas Seconded by: Chief K. Loran Voting: For - 8, Against - 1 CARRIED</p>
<p>2015/2016 - #202 - Akwesasne Economic Development Fund (AEDF) - Administration Fees for 2013-2017 Moved By: Chief S. Thomas Seconded By: Chief C. Lazore Voting: For - 11, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #209 - Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission Seat for Tsi Snaihne Moved By: Chief C. Lazore Seconded By: Chief J. Lazore Voting: For - 8, Against - 1 CARRIED</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #216 - To Approve 2014 Schedule Annual Reconciliation Report For Ministry of Health and Long Term Tsiionkwanonhso:te Program Moved by: Chief A. Adams-Phillips Seconded by: Chief D. Lazore Voting: For - 9, Against - 0 CARRIED</p>	
<p>2015/2016 - #203 - Akwesasne Economic Development Fund (AEDF) Anowarako:wa Arena Final Report Moved By: Chief A. Adams Phillips Seconded By: Chief S. Thomas Voting: For - 11, Against - 0</p>	<p>2015/2016 - #210 - Portion of Lame Squaw Island Ontario Power Generation Inc. - Ice Boom Anchor & Cable</p>		

Grand Chief Abram Benedict September 2015 Report

September 1, 2015 Tuesday Council meeting update

- Council requested to have DTS provide a presentation on the proposed Snye Administration Building, a date will be scheduled for this presentation.
- Council reviewed a request for a Right of Way over band land and referred the request to Administration for research.
- A request to meet from the SDSG NDP candidate was discussed, meeting will be set up.
- MCR's passed: Acceptance of contribution agreement with National Energy Board (NEB) for participation in the hearings for the TransCanada Energy East pipeline project; Approval of new permit for a navigation light on Lame Squaw Island; Approval of transfer of land to community member (loan paid off); Approval of expansion permit for Bell Canada equipment; Approval of Access to Territory for the purpose of private business financing; Acceptance and approval of AMBE board report and recommendation to offer position of Interim Director of Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education to successful candidate; Approval of a ten year Health Canada Transfer Agreement amendment to include Non Insured Health Benefits within agreement; Appointment of a community member to the Akwesasne Review Commission to represent Kana:takon for 3 year term.

September 3, 2015 Continued Orientation with the Office of Vital Statistics (OVS)

On August 5, 2015 staff from the Office of Vital Statistics (OVS) provided Council with an orientation session of the program. OVS encompasses Lands & Estates, Leasing and Membership. On September 3, 2015 the staff provided a continuation of the orientation from August 5 which mainly covered the Akwesasne Membership Code aspect of OVS.

September 3, 2015 Meeting with Bank of Montreal – Lunch meeting

The Bank of Montreal (BMO) Senior Commercial Account Manager Frances Mannarino asked to meet with me over lunch in order to introduce me to the MCA's new Account Manager Kelly Evans for the Bank of Montreal. Our Senior Account Manager Frances Mannarino is in the transition phase of retirement and wanted her replacement to meet me prior to her departure. Although the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne banking needs is generally met by the Bank of Montreal I raised concerns with some ongoing challenges for our businesses in Akwesasne. Many banking regulations have changed over the years making it increasingly difficult for a business to deposit and withdrawal cash. This poses a problem for some Akwesasne businesses since a large bulk of Akwesasne deals in cash. I explained these challenges to the BMO representatives and asked that considerations be made for Akwesasne. I also expressed the need for BMO to continue to recruit and hire Akwesasne.

September 4, 2015 Meeting with Patrick Burger NDP Candidate

With the Federal Election in Canada set for October 19, 2015 the local New Democratic Party (NDP) candidate for the South Dundas South Glengarry (SDSG) Patrick Burger asked for an opportunity to meet with myself and members of Council. We met at the Cornwall Island Administration Building (CIA) to discuss Akwesasne community priorities; I took the opportunity to press upon Mr. Burger the need for any SDSG Members of Parliament (MP) to have a working relationship with Akwesasne. I explained to Mr. Burger that although Akwesasne has a working relationship with the government as a whole that we currently don't have much of a relationship with the current SDSG MP Guy Lauzon. Mr. Burger explained that the NDP viewed relations with Aboriginal communities as a government to government relationship and that is how the NDP if elected would conduct business

with Canada's Aboriginal Communities. Subsequent to our meeting NDP Patrick Burger was unsuccessful in the October 19, 2015 election.

September 8, 2015 Tuesday Council meeting update

- A representative from Information Services provided Council with a demonstration on the use of iPads and how to navigate through an electronic agenda.
- The Akwesasne Tobacco Manufacturing and Products Law Working Task Group update Council on the progress of the law and outlined next steps as part of the Law Enactment Process; Council will review recommendations from a community feedback session at a later date. District Meeting dates set for September 2015 and will be released shortly.
- A draft General Meeting agenda was discussed and will be finalized next week.
- The 2015-2018 draft portfolio selection was reviewed and will be finalized and accepted next week.
- Council reviewed recommendations from administration and the Staff Relations Committee on proposed amendments to the General Personal Policy of the MCA, policy will be accepted by an MCR in the coming weeks.
- MCR's passed: Acceptance of proposed budget to conduct community education and consultation process and referendum to consider the final settlement of Tsikaristisere Dundee Claim; Acceptance of a funding proposal to AANDC for enhancement to law making processes in Akwesasne; Acceptance of a funding agreement with the Ministry of Community and Social Services for various programs; Acceptance of an amendment to Akwesasne / Canada Financial Agreement.

September 9, 2015 Multi-Jurisdictional Table: Sub Table on Justice

Akwesasne meets regularly with Canada, Ontario and Quebec at a table which is known at the Multi-Jurisdictional Table. This Table was established several years ago in order for Akwesasne to discuss issues with the Provinces and Canada that arise from our unique geographical location on the international and provincial borders. Akwesasne also has a Sub-Table with the Provinces and Canada on Justice. This Table was established to examine specific issues in the justice sector. In this specific meeting we focused on:

- Funding for Legal Aid: Resources to host Legal Aid clinics in Akwesasne to better help and prepare members who have to access Provincial Court services. Ex: Family Law, Civil Matters, Legal Aid etc.
- Training for Akwesasne Conservation Officers: Access to Provincial Training Programs for the Akwesasne Conservation Officers this would better equip the Officers in the awareness, preservation and enforcement within the Community.
- Recognition of Birth and Marriage Certificates: Recognition of an Akwesasne Birth or Marriage System, be it existing or new would expand jurisdiction and alleviate future problems.
- Ontario Jury Duty: Proposition of a viable solution to Ontario's requirement to Jury Duty. An Akwesasne based system would be voluntary.

After the federal election we will schedule future meetings to continue the ongoing discussion on the Sub-Justice Table.

September 10, 2015 Tobacco Technical Table

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Province of Ontario established a working relationship to examine the expansion of the regulations and control of the distribution and manufacturing of tobacco products, this committee is known as the Tobacco Technical Table. The Province of Ontario and Akwesasne met on September 10, 2015 to further and update on the ongoing work.

The updates included the current status of the Draft Akwesasne Tobacco Products Law and the current status of the agreed upon work plan. Akwesasne presented a proposal on a Marine Unit for the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service to Ontario, this unit would have a multi prong benefit to the community and Akwesasne would like Ontario to contribute to the cost. Akwesasne provided Ontario with current concerns regarding the Ontario quota wholesale distributor for Ontario to follow up on. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the middle of November early December.

September 10, 2015 Call from Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services

On the afternoon of September 10, 2015 the Minister of Children and Youth Services Tracy MacCharles phoned me to let me know that the Ontario Cabinet had accepted the Ontario Aboriginal Children and Youth Strategy for implementation. I had been involved over the last several years on the committee working on developing this strategy. I extended my appreciation to the Minister for supporting the strategy and also reminded her of my invitation for her to visit and tour our community.

September 10, 2015 Internal meeting on Tsikaristisere / Dundee land claim

In the late afternoon of September 10, 2015 the Tsikaristisere negotiations team met with legal counsel to discuss strategy and next steps in the final settlement agreement negotiation. All negotiations with Canada were on hold until after the federal election.

September 10 & 11, 2015 – Nation Building Entewatatha:wi

On September 11 & 12, 2015 the Canada, Akwesasne self-government negotiations teams met over a two day period to continue the negotiations on the Akwesasne Governance Code and the Akwesasne Land Code. On the second day I was able to participate in the ongoing negotiations. Canada presented on the fiscal policy for self-government agreements, Akwesasne provided feedback and concerns on the

policy to Canada. This policy framework will form future negotiations when Akwesasne and Canada get to the fiscal negotiations stage.

September 14 - 15, 2015 Governance Training The Mohawk Council Chiefs engaged the Consultant Services of Carol Hopkins to orientate Council around Board Governance. The two day training provided Council with an overview of what the function of a Governance Board is and how it should operate. Carol outlined what the Board should expect of Senior Management and how they should be accountable to the Board. The accountability measures surround around performance measurement and how the collection of data should support the measurement and effectiveness of the organization the Board represents. Although Board Governance is a bit different when it comes to Chief and Council there are governance principals that are in common. Council engaged with Carol on how the Council can make changes to the current Governance System for the Mohawk Council. Carol also spent a lot of time explaining how important the Council Strategy Plan is and how this Plan should be realistic and should be used as a tool to move the Organization forward.

September 15, 2015 Tuesday Council meeting update

- Representative from the Entewatatha:wi Program updated Council on the upcoming callout for community members to sit on various Entewatatha:wi working groups and committees, callout will occur in the coming weeks.
- Council reviewed recommendations for the upcoming Iroquois Caucus meeting.
- Council discussed the 2015 Heating Assistance Program and will make a decision next week.
- Council reviewed and discussed a proposed conceptual design for the old north channel high level bridge abutment on Kawehno:ke received from the Federal Bridge and will arrange to meet with FCBL to discuss.
- Administration was tasked to follow-up on a request for MCA Commission to have

ID badges and for community members to have access to MCA Mohawk Language class materials; both requests will be examined and reported back on.

- MCR's passed: ; Approval of allotment of land to community member for mortgage being paid off; ; Approval of allotment of land to community member for declined mortgage; Approval of an Assignment of Lease on Pilon Island; Approval for Grand Chief to inform Triwin Holdings that their proposed projects do not fall within current Council priorities and the MCA will not proceed with any projects with Triwin; Approval of 2015-2016 Council portfolio listings; Approval 2014/2015 audit for CMHC Section 95; Acceptance of amendment to Akwesasne / Canada Financial Agreement.

September 15, 2015 Leadership Meeting

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA), the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chief (MNCC) generally try to meet monthly to discuss various issues. At this September 2015 meeting we used the opportunity to update each party on the New York State Land Claim. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe is the lead on the ongoing negotiations with the State and provides progress reports back to the MCA and the MNCC.

September 17, 2015 Monthly Ontario Association of Children's Aid Society (OACAS) Board Meeting – Toronto

The monthly meeting of the OACAS was held on September 17, 2015 at the office of OACAS in Toronto. Consultants provided the board with an update on the Decision-making project, which is an extensive review of how the OACAS board makes decision and how they consult and receive direction from its membership prior to a decision being made. The consultants will make recommendations for improvement at the end of the review. This is part of the governance reform to ensure all members of the OACAS are being heard and considered. Updates/ discussion from the follow areas/committees:

- New board member orientation
- Governance Advisory Committee:

Overview of activities, planning for governance form in November, Evaluation of Strengthening Child Welfare Governance Initiative.

- Appointment of new OACAS member – Kunuwanimano Child & Family
- Appointment of member to OMERS Sponsors Corporation

Other regular board business was conducted which includes Treasurers' report, Chief Executive Officers' report and Local Directors' report. The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2015.

September 21, 2015 Monday Council meeting update

- Alain Boisvert presented a video documentary of "Sharing through the Generations" a documentary which showcased the cultural project between the government of Quebec and Akwesasne.
- Council reviewed a request to sponsor the Christmas Tree Enchantment, a few chiefs will meet to determine the theme.
- Council reviewed the General Meeting follow up items and approved the agenda for Thursday September 24, 2015.
- Council was briefed on an issue regarding construction on Hamilton Island and deferred the issue back the OVS Committee to review and make recommendations to Council.
- Council briefly discussed upcoming Strategic Planning as it relates to recent Governance Training and tasked staff to follow up with planning options.
- MCR's passed: Approval of Contribution Agreement with the Ministry of Community & Social Services; Approval of Assignment of Lease on Renshaw Island; Approval of Assignment of Lease on Hamilton Island; Approval of the 2015/2016 Heating Assistance Program to eligible Head of Household; Approval of Contribution Agreement with Department of Fisheries and Ocean for "Minnows and Shorelines in Akwesasne" Project.

September 24, 2015 Meeting with Representative from the Bank of Montreal (BMO)

I met with Steve Fay National Director Aboriginal Banking and other member of the BMO team. I explained again to the Representative of the bank the concerns and challenges as already expressed in our meeting of September 3, 2015. Although the Bank may meet the needs of MCA, there is real concern how difficult it is for Businesses to deal with the Bank and in some cases the Bank will not deal with some Akwesasne Businesses. I reiterated how important our Akwesasne Businesses are and how certain actions of the Bank make it difficult to believe the Bank wants to work with us. The BMO Representative committed to examining the Bank Policy Regulations in order to better meet our Community needs.

September 24, 2015 Interview with CBC on Missing Murdered Indigenous Woman

On Thursday September 24, 2015 I met with Nichole Ireland from the CBC to discuss Missing Murdered Indigenous Woman and how it relates to the upcoming Federal Election. Nichole is a Reporter from the CBC and wanted our perspective on whether or not the Federal Government's campaigning were paying enough attention to the Missing Murdered Indigenous Woman issue. I relayed to Nichole that this should be important to everyone and that whichever Party is elected they can say anything but it's the action once the new Government is elected. I explained that Akwesasne doesn't have many if any documented Missing Woman, but we have had Murdered Woman. I also spoke about Akwesasne having Missing Men which is equally important to us.

September 25, 2015 Meeting with Anne Min Thu Quach – NDP Candidate

New Democratic Party (NDP) Member of Parliament for Salaberry De Valleyfield Anne Min Thu Quach came by the Mohawk Government office to talk about her platform and the NDP platform leading up to the election. I took the opportunity to refresh Anne on our Community's priorities, our

challenges and reiterated that relationship building is important to me and that we wish to continue to strengthen our working relationship. Anne was an existing Member of Parliament prior to the October 19, 2015 election and we re-elected to represent the Salaberry De Valleyfield riding which technically includes Kana:takon and Tsi Snaihne.

September 25, 2015 Opening Dream Catchers Studio

Shelby Mitchell and Family held their Grand Opening of "Dream Catchers Studio". Chief Loan and I were able to stop by the opening to see the newly constructed studio and hear about the services Dream Catchers Studio has to offer to the community of Akwesasne. Congratulations and Best Wishes to the Mitchell family!

September 28, 2015 Meeting with Bernadette Clement – Liberal Candidate for South Dundas South Glengarry (SDSG)

Bernadette Clement and her Campaign Manager were invited to meet with myself and Members of Council to hear about the Liberal Platform and Ms. Clement's ideas around working with Akwesasne if elected as the Member of Parliament for South Dundas South Glengarry (SDSG). Ms. Clement is familiar with Akwesasne through her work as a Cornwall City Councilor, a Lawyer and as the 2011 Liberal Candidate for the SDSG riding. We spoke about our current relationship with the existing Member of Parliament and how there is a need to have better engagement from the MP representing riding Akwesasne (technically) included in. Unfortunately Ms. Clement was not successful on her run for MP for SDSG.

September 29, 2015 Tuesday Council meeting update

- Council reviewed recommendations and action items from the last Iroquois Caucus meeting of September 22-23, 2015;
- Council passed a motion authorizing the annual contribution to the Iroquois Caucus be paid.
- An update was provided on recent issue regarding construction on Hamilton Island.
- Council discussed a recent MCA Administration Directive and will further clarify with Administration and report back on clarification.
- Council discussed a recent incident at CBSA and next step and also agreed to provide an update to the Community via Community Notice.
- MCR's passed: Approval of 2014/15 Audit for MCSS- AHWS; Approval of 2014/15 ACRS Child Welfare TPAR Report; Approval of 2014/15 Schedule of Salaries, Honoraria, Travel paid to Directors and Chiefs; Approval of 2014/15 Audit for the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Community Support Service Program; Approve 2014/15 Audit for Ministry of Health & Promotions -Smoke Free Ontario, Healthy Eating/Living Diabetes Prevention; Approval of 2014/15 Audit for Ministry of Education Children's Services; Approval of 2014/15 Audit for Tsikaristisere (Dundee) Land Claim; Approval of Signing Authority Officers for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne; Approval of Transfer of Settlement payment of 2.5 million to the Mohawks of

Akwesasne Settlement Trust; Approval of Agreement with CI Investment Inc. for Investment Manager Services for the Akwesasne Settlement Trust; Approval of Agreement with CGOV Asset Management for Investment Manager Services for the Akwesasne Settlement Trust; Acceptance of Agreement with Jazz Solar to assist in the development of a community energy plan; Approval to proceed with issuing a purchase order for a Motor Grader for the Department of Technical Services; Approval of Assignment of Lease on Calguhoun Island; Approval of (7) Renovation Loan (s) to a Community Member (s); Approval of (4) Council meeting minutes.

September 30, 2015 Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL) Federal Election Strategy meeting Kahnawake Quebec

The Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador held a meeting in Kahnawake on September 30, 2015 to discuss an election strategy to bring attention to First Nation Issues prior to the Federal Election of October 19, 2015. The Chiefs in Assembly agreed that we needed to make Canadians aware of First Nation issues and for them to consider what each political party is promising to do to address the issues. This meeting stirred a considerable amount of discussion on whether or not our people should even vote in the election and do we call for a support of a specific party. The Chiefs agreed that because of each Communities' perspective on participation the AFNQL would not weigh into that part. The Chiefs held a march in downtown Montreal on October 9, 2015.

Grand Chief Abram Benedict October 2015 Report

October 1, 2015 Meeting with Health Department

Over the last several months Akwesasne Midwives have approached various members of Council requesting support and guidance in the development of an Akwesasne Midwives service. On October 1st a few members of Council and I met with representatives of the

Department of Health to better understand the where the MCA health department could potentially assist with the development of a midwife service in Akwesasne. This work is ongoing.

October 1, 2015 Meeting with Akwesasne Business Chamber

The Akwesasne Business Chamber asked to meet with Council to do an overview what the Business Chamber is all about. The Council and Chamber representatives discussed how the MCA and the Chamber can work together to promote local business.

October 2, 2015 Meeting MCA Management Employment Agreement (MEA)

For over well over a year the MCA has been working on amending its General Personnel Policy (GPP). This policy covers most employees of the MCA. There is also an agreement with Managers and Supervisors of the MCA known as the 'Management Employment Agreement' (MEA). A meeting was held to communicate to the MEA representative(s) that the MCA is committed to working with the representatives of the MEA to amend and modernize the agreement, and that we are committed to this work being completed in the near future.

October 6, 2015 Council Meeting

Tuesday Council meeting update:

- Council reviewed a request to meet from a group of residents from The Nation Municipality (Ontario) to discuss a wind turbine project; the request was referred to Tehotiiennawakon Portfolio for follow up.
- Council was briefed on the recent Health Board meeting.
- Council discussed a request to consider expanding the 2015 Heating & Elders Assistance Program to off reserve members; Council determined that it will not be feasible this year but will research the option for next year.
- An update was provided on Hamilton Island and an issue with north side parking; an MCR will come forward in the coming weeks.
- A brief was provided on the upcoming Rally in Montreal being organized by the AFNQL. The purpose of the rally is to bring attention to the need for support of Native issues in light of the Canada Federal Election.
- MCR's passed: Approval to relocate 'Stop' sign at the intersection of First Street and Park Street Kana:takon; Approval of March 31/15 Consolidated Audit for the MCA; Approval of 2014/15 audit and reconciliation report for MCYS Justice Program; Approval of 2014/15 audit Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Diabetes Program; Approval of Council meeting minutes. MCR denied; Approval

of amendments to the MCA Good Standing Policy. October 6, 2015.

October 8, 2015 Saunders Generating Station & OPG

I toured the Saunders Generating Station to see first-hand how the station operates. Following the tour, members of Council and I met with the Ontario Power Generation (OPG) Joint Implementation Team. The MCA OPG Liaison presented the 2014-2015 report to the members of the MCA and OPG. The committee had a lengthy discussion around the return of the Islands (Adams, Sheek, Toussaint, and Presqu'le) which were part of the settlement; the delays in the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) Addition to Reserve (ATR) process has become problematic. OPG desires to return the Islands as quickly as possible but the ATR process is a hindrance. The committee and Council are going to examine other options and strategies.

October 7, 2015 Candidates Debate

On October 7, 2015 I attended the Federal Candidates Debate hosted by the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce held at the Cornwall Civic Complex. Patrick Burger NDP Candidate was the only candidate to mention that an SDSG Member of Parliament should have an ongoing working relationship with Akwesasne. Subsequent to the debate the Conservative Member of Parliament was re-elected.

October 13, 2015 Council Meeting

- On travel to Independent First Nations (IFN) quarterly meeting in Toronto.

October 13, 2015 Independent First Nations Quarterly – Toronto

This half day Independent First Nation (IFN) quarterly meeting began with the communities creating an inventory of the IFN as it has evolved over the last thirty-two years since its creation in 1983. The purpose of the exercise was for new Chiefs and Council members to better understand why each community joined the IFN and what the founding principals were. Akwesasne joined the IFN around 1998, prior to that Akwesasne was affiliated with the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI). Ak-

wesasne felt that the UOI wasn't representing Akwesasne issues as related to our unique geographical location and decided to join the IFN. The first day of the meeting gave each community leadership an opportunity to dialogue amongst themselves on issues happening in each community in order to better understand each community's unique challenges.

October 14, 2015 Independent First Nations Quarterly – Toronto

The second day of the IFN quarterly meeting, the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) from the Ministry of Children and Youth provided an update on the Aboriginal Children and Youth Strategy. This Strategy had been in the development for over two years. The Strategy was approved in March 2015 by the Ontario Cabinet. Ontario has committed, as a whole of Government approach, to the Aboriginal Children and Youth Strategy implementation. The key objective of the strategy is to enhance services the Aboriginal children and youth and also increase jurisdiction over child welfare for First Nation communities. The ADM spoke about the upcoming review of the Child and Family Service Act (CFSA) and how the government will focus on Section 10 (s.10) of the Act to build into the legislation the ability for child welfare protection authority to be devolved to First Nation communities, or to allow for recognition of First Nations Laws around child welfare. The ADM also announced that the Ontario Youth Action Plan has been expanded into the Ontario Trillium Fund to support First Nation Community projects.

Following the presentation by the ADM a senior staff member the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (Canada) provided the IFN leadership with an overview of some potential funding for the IFN to support the ongoing operations of the IFN and its staff. Bill Montour, Grand Chief of Six Nations of the Grand River, presented on the Aboriginal Insurance Association which is company who partners with Aboriginal orientated insurance brokers and underwriters to provide a customized insurance product to Aboriginal Communities.

October 15, 2015 Monthly Ontario Association Children's Aid Society (OACAS) Board

Meeting – Toronto

Over the last year the OACAS has been working with consultants on a business proposal known as “Shared Services”. This is the creation of a corporation that would be the purchase agent for voluntary CAS’s, with the overall objective to become the central purchasing agent for goods and services for participating CAS’s. This is being proposed in order to reduce costs, create equal service levels, and ensure CAS’s are maximizing collective purchase power within the province. The consultants provided an update on the business proposal; it is expected the final proposal will be approved for implementation by year’s end. An update was provided on the current lobby efforts under various headings which included:

- Aboriginal Children, Families and Communities devolution
- Youth protection up to 18 year of age (all areas)
- Permanency and Adoption
- Subsidies for adoption of older children
- Subsidies for those with exceptional needs
- Removing disincentives to adoption
- Funding
- Real cost model
- Transition to new model
- Bridge funds for devolution
- Create contingency
- Fund for critical community services to support families in high risk situations
- Support real CPIN costs, implementation and sustainment
- Address board liability

Other regular board business was conducted which includes Treasurers’ report, Chief Executive Officers’ report and Local Directors’ report. The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2015.

October 16, 2015 Federal Court hearing in Ottawa

The case management hearing was scheduled for the new Judge assigned to the Seaway Case to receive status updates from Canada and Akwesasne. Justice Richard Bell is the new Case Management Judge replacing Justice Daniele Tremblay-Lamer. As a result of the hearing, the judge ordered a number of requirements to be met by each party in order to prepare for the upcoming trial for the forty year-old law suit against Canada. It is expected the trial will begin within the next two years and would take several weeks to complete.

October 17, 2015 Strategic Planning – Day 1 – OPG Visiting Center

Council and senior management spend two days at the OPG visiting center to begin the process of developing the 2015-2018 Mohawk Council of Akwesasne strategic plan. The plan is being facilitated by local consultant Dr. Rose Alma “Dolly” McDonald. The planning began on a Saturday October 17, 2015, and continued on Monday October 19, 2015. It is expected another day, and possibly two days, will be needed to complete the strategic planning exercise.

October 19, 2015 Strategic Planning – Day 2 – OPG Visiting Center

October 20, 2015 Council Meeting

Tuesday Council meeting update:

- Representative from TransCanada Energy East pipeline project provided Council with an overview of the project and its current status.
- Council reviewed and approved the agenda for the upcoming General Meeting and also discussed the need to ensure follow up is reported.
- A report from the District Meetings was also provided in preparation for the General Meeting.
- A brief was provided on recent discussions around filling in shorelines and enforcement issues.

- MCR’s passed: Approval of assignment of lease Thompson Island; Direction for lessees on Hamilton Island to cease using the north side of the Island; Approval of 12/13 Akwesasne Economic Development Fund (AEDF) part 1 Final Report; Approval of 12/13 (AEDF) part 2 Final Report; Approval of application to AEDF for administration fees; Approval of 2014/15 audit for the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities; Approval of 2014/15 audit for the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Services; Acceptance of amendment to Akwesasne / Canada financial agreement; Acceptance to the amendments to the MCA General Personal Policy.

October 22, 2015 All day Retreat on Entewatatha:we – 2015 Retreat

The purpose of this one day retreat was for the Entewatatha:we staff and legal counsel Micha Menczer to provide Council with an historical overview and current status of the self-government negotiations that are on-going with Canada under the Entewatatha:we program. The morning session began with a presentation on what is Entewatatha:wi, and what are goals for this program and initiatives as it relates to our community. A member of the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office team provided a brief overview of Akwesasne History. This very informative presentation will be made available to the community in the coming months. Over the two days Entewatatha:wi Coordinators explained Canada’s Inherent Right policy, Akwesasne’s ‘Political Protocol’ with Canada, Akwesasne ‘Process and Schedule Agreement’ with Canada, and explained how these documents are related to the Entewatatha:wi program and process. Staff provided an update on how the program has been educating the community. The afternoon was wrapped up by a review of the rolling drafts of the Final Agreements (Governance and Relationship and Sectoral Agreements) that the negotiations team is working on.

October 23, 2015 attendance at the Grand Opening

“Experience Akwesasne” Welcome Centre at the Peace Tree Trade Centre.

Chief Connie Lazore Quarterly Report

First I would like to say “Niawenko:wa” to the Community Members of Tsi Snaihne for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as your District Chief for the next three years. I look forward to this opportunity with an open mind.

The following is my report of the activities that I have participated in over the past few months since July 15, 2015. There is a great deal of responsibility in serving as a political leader; most of the first few months of my term have been spent with orientation of department and programs. These orientation sessions provided me with additional knowledge and information to assist with my selection of portfolios.

Portfolio Selection:

Major:

Department of Justice - I will work with Chief Louise Thompson and share the responsibility of Major Co-Chairs and we will meet every second Thursday of the month.

Entewatatha:wi (Nation Building) – Again, I will work with Chief Louise Thompson and share the responsibility of Major Co-Chairs and we will meet every Wednesday Afternoon.

Minor:

Department of Health - I have selected this department as a minor and we will meet every third Friday of the month.

Board of Education - I have selected this department as a minor and we will meet twice per month every other Monday.

Department of Executive Services - I have selected this department as a minor and meeting dates are to be determined.

Committees: Office of Vital Statistics – Meeting Every Fourth Friday of the month.
Executive Services – Meeting Every Fourth Thursday of the month.

Special Needs: TBD

Iroquois Caucus: Meeting Every Two Months.

July 15th to September 2015: Orientation was held with all MCA Departments, this was quite helpful and informative for assisting Council with selection of portfolios. All departments provided information on services and funding. All departments and programs have existing policies and procedures developed and in place to better serve the community needs.

The Council meets every Tuesday in a “Special Meeting”. We have activity updates from all Council Members and the Executive Director of MCA, presentations to Council may be made during this time and Mohawk Council Resolutions will be presented for approval during this meeting as well.

Iroquois Caucus Meeting: I attended two sessions, July 29/30th here in Akwesasne and September 22/23rd at Wahta First Nation. The First Nations included in this caucus: Akwesasne, Kahnawake, Kanesatake, Six Nations, Wahta, Tyendinaga and Oneida. These sessions include discussions on Tobacco, Education, Language, Economic Development, Taxation, Land Rights & Claims and the Truth & Reconciliation Commission. Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust Fund, I attended the information sessions held by this group, it provided me with an understanding of how the group was selected and the process being established to access the fund. The work is on-going and the group has provided information Sessions to all three districts in late October/early November.

Governance and Lobbying Training was offered to the Council on September 14 & 15th, this training was quite informative and gave me some perspective on the lobbying tools required when lobbying. This was good information since it's all new to me. The Governance was also well received it was really good information that could be incorporated into my daily work.

Iohahi:io Advisory Committee Meeting. I attended this meeting with other agencies to discuss education and employment needs within Akwesasne.

Entewatatha:wi (Nation Building) Meetings with regards to self-government. I have been actively attending these meetings since August. I'm encouraged by the work and have selected it as one of my major portfolios. I also attended a full day session wherein information was provided on the history of Akwesasne, very interesting information. This day was also for full Council to be orientated to the Nation Building Process for Self-Governance.

Strategic Planning was held for three days with Council and included the directors and managers. I found this session to be quite productive, great discussion, team building, sharing of ideas and concepts. I look forward to working with a strategic plan that has attainable goals for this Council and its department/programs.

We have had three District and General Meetings since August, these meetings have been yet another learning experience for me. The community has provided good information and have asked good questions which takes me into learning more about community issues and concerns.

Portfolio Meetings have begun with Justice, Health and AMBE. These meetings have been quite informative and we have only just begun to touch base with the issues. I'm currently learning each department's operations, concerns and personnel. I look forward to working with all.

Chief Steve Thomas: Public Safety Portfolio Quarterly Report

September 22

- Hazardous material on border lot reported to the Tribe and their Environment Department
- Joint Response Team consisting of SRMT/MCA meeting to discuss site visit/remediation/mitigation of hazardous site.
- Incident involving an elder from the Island at the Cornwall Port is being investigated.

September 23

- Information gathered by Kawehno:ke District Chief has been received, I informed the respondent, that the background information of the incident will be given to Ms. Kathy Thompson, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada. She will investigate the incident and report back to Council.
- Wade Dorland called to inform me of the relocation of the toll booth to the east of the present site to accommodate the demolition of the old Three Nations Crossing Bridge.

September 29

- SIBC, toll booth relocation notice to the community – bridge demolition

October 1

- Consulted on the public safety plan for the Walking With Our Sisters boot drive
- Meeting with Wade Dorland, cross roads improvements
- Meeting with American Bridge on a request to build an earthen barrier at site of pier

October 2

- Attended the Thompson Shenandoah court judgement

October 7

- Internal meeting on filling in of the shorelines by community members. Concern that the activities are violating the Fisheries Act and Fisheries and Oceans is aware of the last two and are waiting for MCA to take action to address them.

October 12

- Reported to the AMPS Chief of Police on the finding of hypodermic needles in parking lot of St. Regis Church, Johnson Lane and under the Three Nations Crossing on Kawehno:ke.

October 15

- Meeting with Steven Haayen, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries regarding the filling in of shorelines by community members.

October 20

- Meeting with Sal Pasini, SLSDC for update on the River Shoal danger which was referred to the US Coast Guard, Lieutenant Commander Carl Peppers.

October 21

- Meeting with New York Power Authority and OPG regarding Emergency Preparedness at Hawkins Point and an Emergency Response Plan.

October 28

- Meeting with AMPS Chief of Police on Marine Unit funding status.

October 29

- Follow up with US Coast Guard and SRMT Environment Division on the River Shoal, which was referred to the Buffalo Waterways Office.

October 30

- Meeting with the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce regarding acceptance of AANDC Status Cards, service deliveries to Akwesasne, non-deliveries of essential services. I was collected complaints on these items, via Facebook.
- Meeting with SIBC regarding LED sign for corridor, project update, corridor improvements. Items will be forwarded to Glenn Hewus.

November 7

- CBSA demonstration at the Peoples Fire Buildings on Kawehno:ke, where six people participated.

November 10

- Raymond Purser, Aboriginal Liaison Officer for US Customs and Border Protection, requested a meet and greet with tour for Ms. Rose Hilmey, Director of Field Operations, Buffalo. It was scheduled for the afternoon of November 18.

November 13

- Following up on a CBSA complaint from a community member. Contacted Steve McNaughton, Ottawa District Director, CBSA, regarding traffic flow at the port and requested more lanes be opened to alleviate the congestion.

November 17-19

- Attended Haudenosaunee Awareness Training for CBSA, RCMP, OPP, SQ, US Customs and Border Protection, US Coast Guard at Kana:takon Recreation Center.
- Attended Cultural Awareness Training for new CBSA officers at the OPG Visitor's Center in Cornwall.

November 18

- Contacted with Wade Dorland on LED sign for crossroads

November 19

- Meet and Greet for new Council with CBSA personnel Julie Sommerville, Port Director, and Steve McNaughton, at MCA Admin I Building. Meeting included current CBSA issues and follow-up on the Cultural Awareness Training for new border security officers.
- Public Safety Portfolio meeting at Kanonkwatsheri:io Turtle Room.

November 20

- Recorded a conference call on a Chiefs of Ontario/Chiefs Committee on Environment for information on the Climate Change/Cap and Trade with Minister Glen Murray, from Ontario Ministry of Environment & Climate Change. Awaiting summary of call from COO and the MEOCC.

Chief Troy Thompson Quarterly Report

- Attended orientation with all MCA departments.
- Attended Tehotiiennawakon, Education, Housing, Executive Services portfolio meetings and Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club board and Youth and Elders – Culture/Language meetings.
- Assisted in organizing Akwesasne’s involvement at the International Plowing Match 2015 (IPM) that took place in Finch, ON from September 22-26. Attended a luncheon with Grand Chief Abram Benedict and presented awards (made by Natasha Smoke-Santiago) to IPM staff.
- Attended monthly General and District Meetings.
- Organized meetings with AMBE and Recreation Center Committees to discuss new and improved playgrounds, multi-sport playing areas and new outdoor classrooms for each district.
- Attended tours at the three schools.
- Organized a meeting with AMS Chef Darius White and other Chiefs and 2445 Organics in Massena. AMBE purchased one “Super Grow System” for each of the 3 schools so children can help grow their own food and feed themselves more healthy all year around.
- Attended the grand opening of the Experience Akwesasne Welcome Center.
- Attended discussion about the City of Montreal’s plan to dump 8Billion liters of raw sewage into the St. Lawrence River.
- Attended Akwesasne Business Excellence Awards (ABEA) at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino.
- Attended a rally in Montreal to support First Nation’s importance in the Election.
- Attended Kanatakon School’s program “Walking to Hawaii” which promotes daily walking for children in all grades.
- Helped prepare and serve breakfast for students at Akwesasne Mohawk School.
- Attended skateboard and bike park development meetings with the City of Cornwall Recreation Committee.
- Attended meetings with Mohawk Networks to discuss bringing broadband services to the Northern portions of Akwesasne.
- Attended monthly meetings with the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club and attended their Halloween party.
- Attended the Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) meeting at the Kawehnoke Rec Center.
- Attended the Thompson / Shenandoah court case in Cornwall.
- Attended meetings with community members regarding Midwifery.
- Attended Carleton University’s collaboration announcement with Navcan in Cornwall.
- Attended Divestiture meeting with the City of Cornwall in Cornwall.
- Attended Trust meetings.
- Attended Youth and Elders meetings.
- Attended Housing and Energy meeting in Cornwall to discuss new and improved housing building materials and energy technologies.
- Attended AFNQL meeting in Odanak to discuss housing, education and justice issues.
- Attended Design Session in Ottawa.



Chief Troy Thompson prepped and served breakfast to hungry AMS students.

Chief Louise Thompson Quarterly Report

- Portfolio Co-Majors:** Department of Justice, Entewatatha:wi (Nation Building)
- Portfolio Minor(s):** Department of Health
- Chief Committee(s):** Youth, Elders, Culture and Language
- UPDATE**
- Justice**
- Attended portfolio meeting on October 8, 2015.
 - Traveled to Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice 2015 Annual Conference on Aboriginal Peoples and Law October 13-17, 2015 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
 - Justice held their portfolio on November 12, 2015; I was unavailable to attend as I was away on travel, details below.
 - Akwesasne Court Law and Akwesasne Tobacco Law review meetings are ongoing to finalize drafts for Council review. Both laws will abide by the Law Enactment Procedure.
 - The Iatathróna Raotientáhtsera Couples’ Property Law was implemented on November 26, 2015. The Department of Justice distributed a press

release to the Community via MCA Communications Program on November 23rd.

Entewatatha:wi (Nation Building)

- Our portfolio meetings have been set for the 2015-2018 Council Term, on a monthly basis. In addition, I attend meetings once a week for the Akwesasne Governance Coode and Land Code Committees, as well as evening meetings for the Entewatatha:wi Advisory Committee. Agreements were previously accepted in-principle and negotiations with the federal government are on-going.

Other Activities

- I attended Iroquois Caucus (IC) September 21-23rd in Wahta. Meetings are being scheduled quarterly. IC is looking to hold symposiums on areas of education, economic development and culture and language. IC is reviewing a nation to nation trade protocol agreement for Akwesasne, Kahnawake, Kanesatake, Wahta, Oneida, Six Nations and Tyendehna:ke.
- Attending meeting in Kahnawake on September 28th for the AFNQL Federal Election Strategy.
- October 9th, marched in Montreal for the AFNQL Political Rally calling attention to First Nations issues being addressed by the government, before

the Federal elections commenced.

- I participated in Council Orientation in September as well as Governance Training, followed by Strategic Planning sessions in October and November.
- I attended the District Meetings and General Meetings for September, October and November.
- I supported community members at court for the Thompson/Shenandoah case in October. Council is following-up with the decision that was handed down.
- I helped fundraise and assisted with the Walking With Our Sisters (WWOS) Installation on Kawehno:ke at the Tsi District Elders Lodge from November 6-27th. We welcomed Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Canada, Dr. Carolyn Bennett on November 25 for a traditional meal and viewing of the WWOS lodge. MCA Council Chiefs and Directors/Program Managers were present to brief the Minister on the issues/concerns facing Akwesasne.
- Traveled to Ottawa on November 4th for Culture Talks, Ontario's Culture Strategy and followed-up with attending the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport 2015 Engagement with First Nations to develop a culture strategy for Ontario in Toronto from

November 12-13th with Grand Chief, ARRO Program Manager and Director of Tehotiiennawakon.

- Attended a meeting with Algonquin First Nation in Pembroke, ON November 19th for information on their land claim, as Algonquin in the consultation stage of the process. Akwesasne is a stakeholder in the claim. As information becomes available, the community will be updated.
- Assisting community members with Old Age Security files.
- Will be assisting community members with the Ontario Electricity Support Program applications starting in December. Kawehno:ke residents are encouraged to apply. You will need a copy of your current electricity bill, SINs for household members, proof of income and completed application form and signed consent form for household members. Mailed in applications will take 4-6 weeks to process. You can also apply online at www.ontarioelectricitysupport.ca.
- Starting November 6th, Kawehno:ke Chiefs decided one of the District Chiefs will be holding office hours in the district at CIA Building III on Friday afternoons from 2:00pm-4:00pm, except on holidays.



Chief Louise Thompson attended the First Nations Count AFNQL Political Rally with two of her granddaughters.



Chief Louise Thompson collected funds during the WWOS Mukluk Drive.



Chief Louise Thompson gifted the Minister a hand beaded poppy (made by Ashley Thompson) in remembrance of Canada's Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women.

Chief Darryl Lazore Quarterly Report

PORTFOLIO SELECTIONS

Council was provided with various orientation sessions by the MCA organization as a way to share information that would allow us to make more informed choices when selecting which portfolios we would serve. I participated in the orientation session and was impressed with the amount of information shared. We were informed that portfolio selections were to be made based on our interest, preferences, past experience, and knowledge of the portfolio areas. I've chosen the following portfolios for the 2015-18 Council term:

- **Major**—Housing
- **Minors** —Department of Technical Services, Public Safety, Tehotienawakon
- **Committees** — Office of Vital Statistics

GOVERNANCE TRAINING/STRATEGIC PLANNING

Governance training sessions were held with and Council was provided with information on the different systems of governance that can be used. Governance itself is the process that is used to make decisions, determine who is involved in making those decisions, and determine what type of reporting is required. The vision, mission, strategic plan, and goals of an organization/government are all part of its governance system. Council is currently considering the various governance models.

Council took part in a number of strategic planning and governance training sessions. The overall goal of the planning sessions is determine where MCA is headed over the next three years. For the current term, Council has decided to minimize the number of strategic goals; this way, more significant progress can be made in reaching those goals. The departments, programs, and services will each be able to make measurable progress toward meeting the goals of the organization and the community. The strategic plan is currently being drafted and will be shared with the community once the draft is

completed. Implementation is set to take place beginning January 2016.

PORTFOLIO UPDATES

Housing

One of the challenges identified is the need for social housing for low income families, Elders, and those with special needs. Social housing may be the priority at this point but there is also a need for housing for the general population. The need to update housing policies has been identified and this is a priority for the Housing Department. This work is currently being undertaken and the anticipated completion date is March 2016. The intent is that updated policies and procedures will allow the department to more easily meet their goals.

Portfolio related events attended:

- Ontario First Nation Steering Committee on Housing & Regional Housing Liaison Committee meetings were attended by Chief Vince Thompson and I. These meetings took place at the Garden River First Nation near Sault Ste. Marie on November 3-4, 2015. Updates were received from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), and Health Canada and all information shared with the attendees was shared with Council and the Housing Department when we returned. These meetings occur quarterly throughout the year and are attended by Chiefs from First Nations throughout Ontario. The next set of meetings will be taking place in February 2016 at Akwesasne.

Public Safety

I've attended the monthly Public Safety Portfolio Meetings and have participated at the following portfolio related events:

- On October 26-28, 2015 I attended the Beyond the Border Conference which was held in Detroit, Michigan.
- Tour of Northern Portion of Akwesasne

was provided to US Customs officials on November 18, 2015. The intent of the tour was to establish a good working relationship with Rose Himley, who is the new Director of Field Operations stationed in Buffalo, and to maintain our previously established relationship with the other US Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) officials in attendance. One thing we quickly realize is that when we provide a tour and participate in direct discussion with external officials, the impact carries much more weight than anything they could have learned second hand or through the media. The USCBP gained a new perspective on the effect the border has on our daily lives.

- On November 19, 2015 I had the honor of presenting our first responders with plaques to recognize, acknowledge, and thank them for the work they do to protect our community. I want to sincerely thank each and every one of our first responders. Through your dedication to our community, you make Akwesasne a safer place to live. Niawenko:wa!



Chief Darryl Lazore presented a plaque honoring the Akwesasne Mohawk Ambulance.

- On November 27, 2015 I attended a site visit at the Ontario Power Generation's Darlington Nuclear Generating Station, along with Grand Chief Abram Benedict, Chief Tim Thompson, and Ryan King—MCA/OPG Inter-organizational Liaison Officer.

Office of Vital Statistics (OVS)

I’ve attended the monthly meetings for the Office of Vital Statistics Committee. The most recent issues being addressed are leasing issues on Hamilton Island. The issues have been resolved by denying leases to the residents of Hamilton Island to (1) use the North side of the roadway and (2) reside on Hamilton Island year round.

DISTRICT MEETING UPDATES

We hold monthly district meetings in Kanatakon which provide the opportunity for community members from the district to meet with Kanatakon District Chiefs to obtain updates, provide valuable feedback, and give input on any issues they would like to discuss. These topics have been discussed most recently:

- Space Needs for Mohawk Government— There are options currently being considered, such as bringing the leased buildings up to code and a proposal for a new building to house Mohawk Government.
- Dundee Land Claim Settlement Referendum—The referendum is expected to take place in Spring of 2016. The voting requirement is ½ of eligible voters must participate and ½ + 1 must vote in favor of the claim settlement in order for the settlement to be considered accepted. It needs to be understood that the settlement is a monetary settlement only. Any land purchase transaction that follows must have a willing buyer and a willing seller.

HOLIDAYS

There was an unprecedented number of trick or treaters received by residents of Kanatakon and an enormous amount of treats were given out on Halloween. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Kanatakon Recreation Committee and the residents of Kanatakon for ensuring that we had a safe Halloween without incident.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and hope that everyone has a safe holiday!

Thank you for taking the time to keep up to date through MCA’s newsletter. I will be providing another report for the Winter edition.

2015-2018 Portfolio Listings

DISTRICT CHIEF	MAJOR	MINOR	COMMITTEES
April Adams-Phillips–Tsi Snaihne	Department of Technical Services, Education	Government Secretariat, Health, Public Safety, Tehotiiennawakon	Finance, Executive, Youth/Elders/Culture & Language
Dennis Chaussi–Kawehno:ke	Department of Community and Social Services, Health	Department of Technical Services, Housing	
Ryan Jacobs–Kanatakon	Education	Executive Services, Housing, Justice	Office of Vital Statistics, Finance, Executive, Youth/ Elders/Culture & Language
Connie Lazore–Tsi Snaihne	Justice, Entewatatha:wi	Education, Executive Services, Health	Office of Vital Statistics, Executive
Darryl Lazore–Kanatakon	Housing	Department of Technical Services, Public Safety, Tehotiiennawakon	Office of Vital Statistics
Joe Lazore–Tsi Snaihne	Department of Technical Services	Department of Community and Social Services, Justice, Public Safety, Tehotiiennawakon	Youth/Elders/Culture, & Language
Karen Loran–Tsi Snaihne	Government Secretariat	Health, Housing	Youth/Elders/Culture, & Language
Steve Thomas–Kanatakon	Public Safety, Tehotiiennawakon	Department of Technical Services, Government Secretariat, Health	Finance
Louise Thompson–Kawehnoke	Justice, Entewatatha:wi	Health	Youth/Elders/Culture, & Language
Tim Thompson–Kanatakon	Department of Community and Social Services, Executive Services	Government Secretariat	Finance, Executive
Troy Thompson–Kawehno:ke	Tehotiiennawakon	Education, Executive Services, Housing	Youth/Elders/Culture, & Language
Vince Thompson–Kawehno:ke	Housing	Department of Technical Services, Entewatatha:wi, Public Safety, Tehotiiennawakon	Office of Vital Statistics, Youth/Elders/Culture, & Language

Chief Dennis Chaussi Quarterly Report

September 2015 - Orientation for MCA Council from various Departments continues as an introduction to Council Chiefs.

Portfolios Held:

Majors - Department of Social Services (DCSS) & Department of Health (DOH)

Minors: Housing and Department of Technical Services. (DTS)

- Office of Vital Statistics gives their presentation on programs and services available.
- Kawehnoke Recreation Meeting -With Chiefs Troy Thompson & Vince Thompson - to discuss concerns and or issues with regard to recreation building problems and program availability.
- Mid Wifery presentation by community members regarding their proposal to have Mid Wifery services available in Akwesasne.
- Governance & Lobbying Training - all Council Members.
- Ontario Power Generation (OPG) - Boat Tour of Islands that will be turned back to MCA through the OPG Settlement.
- Met with an MacEwen Fuels - Cornwall - to see if they would be able to deliver fuel to Kawehnoke Residents as per Kawehnoke Residents' request.
- Kawehnoke Monthly District Meeting.
- MCA - General Meeting - Snye
- Initial Monthly Meeting with DCSS - Chief Tim Thompson, Director Robyn Mitchell & Rae Cook
- Initial Monthly Meeting with DTS - Director Jay Benedict and staff.
- Attended the CBSA with Chief Vince Thompson regarding an incident with a Kawehnoke Resident.
- Meeting with Ontario Representatives on the issues on one (1) name on identification cars issued by Ontario.

October 2015

- Presentation by Akwesasne Chamber of Commerce
- Discussions with community business regarding BMO banking practices.
- Discussions with fuel supplier(s) regarding delivery and inspection of homes that have outdated tanks and outdated fuel systems.
- Thompson/Shenendoah Border Crossing Rights Court Decision.
- Attended a conference in Toronto on The Ontario Native Welfare Administrators Association with Daniel Bruyere - Program Manager and Program Supervisor - Gary Cole from The Community Support Program.
- Met with Ontario Disability Support Program people to discuss possible ODSP monies coming to Akwesasne for our Disability clients.
- We also met with AANDC - Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada - to review their report on the Income Assistance Program Compliance Review Report of our CSP Program.
- Initial meeting with DOH Director April White and Assistant Director Cindy Francis-Mitchell.
- Ministry of Quebec pre-planning meeting with DTS personnel for possible funding opportunities.
- Strategic Planning with MCA Chiefs and Directors.
- Met with Kawehnoke Resident with housing issues and concerns.
- Monthly Kawehnoke District Meeting.
- Meeting with Quebec Health Representatives regarding issues of health programs that are needed by our Quebec Residents having a RAMQ (QHIP)
- Meeting with Ontario Association

Children's Aid Society (OACAS) on the Accreditation of Akwesasne Child and Family Services (ACFS). This involved ACFS Staff and Director and Program Manager of ACFS.

- Chiefs District Residents Meeting - this a once a week, every Friday from 2-4 pm, meeting with residents that may have concerns for their Kawehnoke District Chiefs. Located at the CIA 3 Building Kawehnoke.

November 2015

- Monthly General Meeting - Kawehnoke
- Monthly District Meeting - Kawehnoke
- Strategic Planning Session - MCA Chiefs and Program Directors.
- Initial Meeting with Health Board at Kanonkwathseri:io
- Meeting with Quebec Health Representatives regarding issues of health programs that are needed by our Quebec Residents having a RAMQ (QHIP)
- MCA Financial Review with MCA finance department and MCA Chiefs. Overview of Financial Programs and disbursements of Finances.
- Akwesasne Tobacco Law Review. Meeting with Technical people regarding the proposed Akwesasne Tobacco Law.
- Akwesasne Conservation Law Review
- Akwesasne Court Law Final Review
- Monthly Meeting of Department of Technical Services. (DTS)
- Monthly Department of Community Social Services.(DCSS)
- Monthly Department of Health Meetings. (DOH)
- Monthly Akwesasne Housing Association Meetings with Housing Staff and MCA Chiefs.
- Meet and Greet with CBSA Officials - Public Safety Committee and MCA Chiefs.

MCA Welcomes New Doctor to Medical Team

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health is proud to announce that Dr. Ojistoh Horn has joined the medical clinic team in Kanatakon. Dr. Horn will also be providing specialty clinics in Tsi-Snaihne held at the Iakhihsohtha Home for the Elderly.

Dr. Horn is a Mohawk, Bear Clan, originally from Kahnawake, Quebec. She comes with experience in Obstetrics, General Family Medicine, Inpatient/ Hospitalization, Long Term Care Geriatric, Walk In Clinics, Teaching, Emergency and Palliative Care.

Dr. Horn is available on a walk in basis from 9 AM to 3 PM on most days and has a (25) patient limit.

To make an appointment please call the Akwesasne Medical Clinic at (613) 575-2341 ext. 3215.

Please bring all of your medications if this is the first appointment with Dr. Horn



Dr. Horn

Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education Welcomes New Director

On September 8, 2015 the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) welcomed Donna Wahienha:wi Lahache as Interim Director of Education. Lahache has over twenty-five (25) years of education experience in teaching, consulting, and leadership. Previously, Lahache had been principal of Tsi Snaihne School for over three (3) years. Her education includes one Bachelor's degree in Education and two Master's Degrees in Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology. She has also obtained her Principals and Directors licensing from Six Nations Polytech.

Montour, as he was my mentor. Although I am happy to be back in Akwesasne, I wish it were under better circumstances. I worked for him in the past and will continue to carry out his vision".

For the last six (6) years Lahache has primarily been focused on creating strong language and cultural programs for community schools. Her priority is to ensure that language and culture has a solid presence within the curriculum. She is hoping for an easy transition and is delighted to be back in Akwesasne.



Donna Wahienha:wi Lahache, AMBE Director

Lahache acknowledged, "I have a lot of respect for previous director, Dr. Barry

Support a Drug Free Community!

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-STE ADDITION SERVICES OF EASTERN ONTARIO (613) 936-9236 (800) 272-1937

Iatathrona Raotientahtsera “Couples Property” Law Receives Federal Approval

Record breaking turnout in ratification

The Iatathrona Raotientahtsera ‘Couples Property’ Law will be effective as of Thursday, November 26, 2015. Persons wishing to file an application under this law may do so at the Akwesasne Mohawk Court.

On September 1, 2015, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne received notification from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) informing the Akwesasne community that the Iatathrona Raotientahtsera ‘Couples Property’ Law was approved in accordance with the Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interest or Rights Act (the “Act”). With 2,008 eligible voters participating in the referendum that was conducted this past spring; Akwesasne is the largest First Nations community in Canada to have reached the required threshold established under the Act. This turnout also sets a record as the highest turnout in the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne’s history.

The Act places a threshold of 25% voter participation on First Nations communities in order to enact their community law. The Mohawks of Akwesasne have a Membership

of 7,526 over 18 years of age, making the required minimum turnout 1,883.

Akwesasne is now the eighth First Nation community in Canada to have enacted a community specific law on matrimonial real property in accordance with the Act. The next largest community recognized as achieving the threshold is the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, who had 1,725 eligible voters at the time of their vote with 475 casting a ballot.

“You can say to your grandchildren that you were part of the solution that allowed Akwesasne the ability to take control of a law that would work out better for our community,” states Akwesasne Justice Department Director Joyce King when addressing the referendum staff who were able to make this historic moment happen.

The Iatathrona Raotientahtsera ‘Couples Property’ Law provides one set of rules for Akwesasne to follow when a relationship breakdown occurs and a determination on division of matrimonial property is needed. Akwesasne’s law includes mediation as the

first step in resolving any disputes. If early resolution options, such as mediation, are unsuccessful then an application to the Akwesasne Mohawk Court will require a hearing.

An outcome of an application filed will never result in Matrimonial Lands being transferred to anyone: the land will always remain with the land owner. However, it may result in temporary possession of the Matrimonial Home being granted to another party, if that is in the best interest of any children of the union.

Application may be filed by any party in a relationship breakdown, or in situations of domestic violence. The Iatathrona Raotientahtsera ‘Couples Property’ Law outlines the specific criteria of what qualifies in either situation.

For more information on filing an application under this law please contact the Akwesasne Mohawk Court at 613-575-2250 ext. 1025 or ext. 1026, or visit the Akwesasne Justice Departments website at akwesasne.ca/Justice.



Questions?

We have answers.

BREASTFEEDING

SUPPORT

Breastfeeding support and information for pregnant women as well as new parents and experience parents.

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
OCTOBER 7, 2015	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Turtle Room at Kanonhkwashterio
NOVEMBER 4, 2015	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Turtle Room at Kanonhkwashterio
DECEMBER 2, 2015	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Turtle Room at Kanonhkwashterio
JANUARY 6, 2016	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Turtle Room at Kanonhkwashterio
FEBRUARY 3, 2016	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Turtle Room at Kanonhkwashterio
MARCH 2, 2016	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Turtle Room at Kanonhkwashterio

For more information:

MCA Community Health Program

Maternal & Child Health Services

613-575-2341 x 3220



Julie Cooke, IBCLC

Certified Lactation Consultant

Julie is available evening and weekends to help support pregnant women and mom’s with breastfed babies.

Toll-free number: 1-888-874-9614 Evenings (5p.m. to 9 p.m.) Weekends (9a.m. to 9 p.m.) Please leave a message with your name and phone number.

Email: julie.mamama.cooke@gmail.com

Akwesasne's Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) Update

The Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) is a community driven planning process that will help establish a vision and goals for the future of Akwesasne (25 years). It includes all aspects that make up our community such as; culture, social, economy, governance, lands and resources, health, and Infrastructure development. The CCP will be used to lead council, staff and community members in making decisions and seeking funding and support to implement the goals. It is intended to create unity and create a better Akwesasne for us all.

The project began back in June with the collection and analysis of existing MCA documents and plans. Step 2 of the project kicked off on October 19, 2015 with district meetings, held in Snje, Kana:takon and Kawehno:ke consecutively. We had Travis Seymour of MNP LLP and Jessie Hemphill a Community Planning Consultant join us from B.C. The meetings went well and community members shared some great information on their vision, wants and needs for Akwesasne's future. The CCP online survey was also launched that week and was open until November 23, 2015. As Community Planner I have been out attending community meetings, events and

gatherings presenting and asking for input on the project. We have reached out to business owners, students, teachers, elders, youth, families and employees of all areas to get a wide range of ideas. Akwesasne Comprehensive Community Plan Facebook page has also been set up where we have been posting input from the meetings.

Some of the ideas that have come forth are; The need for sustainable energy (solar and wind) and sustainable food sources. Hassle-free travel and easier access to goods and services across the border.

- Special needs services/education/and life skills.
- More recreational programs for all ages, including arts and music.
- Trails/parks and community outdoor spaces.
- A community hospital.

As we approach Step2 a focus meeting has been scheduled for November 30, 2015 in Kawehno:ke and a visioning session on December 2, 2015 in Snje. Following that, we will be heading into composing a draft CCP and verifying that with the community before presenting the final CCP in March. Niawenko:wa to all Akwesasronon who have



participated so far in meetings and online, it's exciting to envision our hopes and dreams for what Akwesasne can be!

Please feel free to contact Penny Peters Community Planner at (613)575-2250 ext.1054 or via email penny.peters@akwesasne.ca for any further information on the project.

This project is an initiative through the department of Tehotienawakon Economic Development Program with the assistance of the advisory firm MNP LLP.

Benefits of having the CCP are:

- Empowerment. It allows the community to shape the future of Akwesasne.
- More informed decision making leading to improved performance for our leaders
- Builds teamwork and expertise in planning
- Coordination of future development. Awareness of our community's priorities.
- Protects our resources; the culture, land and environment
- Creation of sustainable economic opportunities

CCP Process



Experience Akwesasne Welcome Center

The economic Development Program would like to announce to the community that within the upcoming weeks, the "Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre" will be opening at the Peace Tree Trade Centre on Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island).

The Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre will highlight local Artisans with a rotating quarterly spotlight. The Tourism Coordinator will be conducting a call out for artisans from various artistic outlets from the community of Akwesasne to feature their work. This will be free-of-charge to help promote the artists in the community.

The results of the Economic Leakage Study, which was conducted in 2014, identified that Akwesasne in the Northern Portion spend \$140 million per year. Out of that \$140 million, \$107 million or 76% of that is leaked off and spent outside the Territory.

The goal of the Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre is to bring in more revenue from outsiders to increase local economic activity. The Centre will also serve as a hub for the entire community to utilize and promote local businesses, artisans and events.

The Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre project is funded by the Economic Diversification Grant of the Aboriginal Economic Development Fund. An initiative of the government of Ontario, the Aboriginal Economic Development Fund supports promising projects that lead to employment,

training and business opportunities for Aboriginal people. For more information, visit www.ontario.ca/aboriginal-economy.

If anyone in the community is hosting an event feel free to drop off flyer and we will display in the centre as well as promoting on our Facebook page and Experience Akwesasne website. If you would like more information on the Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre, please contact LaToya Rourke at (613) 575-2250 extension #1800 or direct line at (613)-575-5011.



Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre Grand Opening was held on October 23, 2015.



The Purple Ribbon Gift Shop was the Welcome Centre's very first Business Spotlight featured.



Local Artist Victoria Ransom painted the beautiful mural of Skywoman. She was also the Welcome Centre's first Artist Spotlight featured.

Youth Employee Profile: LaToya Rourke

LaToya Rourke was hired as Department of Tehotiiennawakon, Tourism Coordinator, in June 2015. In October, she opened the Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre, Akwesasne's premier Welcome Centre. The Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre is open daily to greet visitors as well as residents. Each month the centre highlights one business and one artist through their business and artists' spotlights.

Latoya is the daughter of Raymond and Susie Rourke. She has three children Rohentio, Tsioshakentio, and Iakonkwetio. She lives with her partner Matthew Thompson. Latoya is also the owner of TLC Catering, you contact her catering company by visiting the Facebook page *TLC Catering Toya Loves Cooking*.

LaToya graduated from Salmon River Central High School in 2004. She was a young mom who had two kids out of high school but she remained determined to make her family proud. She put in the hard work and was able to graduate on time as planned. For the two years following high school, Latoya opened her private home day care and also worked as a supply teacher and teacher's aide for the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education.

A life long interest in Customer Service led Latoya to sign up for Iohahioo-Hospitality and Tourism Management two-year program. Through her education, she was granted an internship at the Mohawk Bingo Palace in the marketing and advertising department. In 2008, Latoya graduated from the Hospitality and Tourism Management program. She was awarded the Elizabeth Mitchell Memorial Award for highest academic achievement and being a positive influence on her peers.

After graduation, LaToya was accepted into the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino Management Trainee Program. She shadowed various departments including legal, compliance,

marketing and advertising, and guest services. After her final placement in guest services it became clear to LaToya that she wanted to be the front of the house, a friendly face to bridge the company and their visitors. Unfortunately, LaToya had become a single mother and came to the realization that shift work wasn't for her as she was raising small children.

LaToya accepted a temporary position at MCA Department of Health Non-Insured Health Benefits program as a Benefit Analyst. In 2013, LaToya accepted the position of Mohawk Government Receptionist and later served a term as Executive Assistant to Grand Chief and Executive Assistant to Council. She saw the posting for Tourism Coordinator and after reviewing the requirements she realized this was the perfect opportunity to put her education and experience to use.

While at Iohahioo LaToya's teacher, Jennifer Debruin, assigned a final project that would include a business proposal targeting the tourism sector. LaToya chose to open a hypothetical welcome centre. She interviewed representatives from the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Akwesasne Museum. Throughout her interviews, LaToya came to the realization that Akwesasne was suffering from a sort of cultural leakage. She had met many people who had much knowledge to share, but had trouble getting visitors through their doors. Stories of tradition and culture weren't being widely shared, as she knew they could be. Through her project she created the theme for her welcome center, identified target audiences, planned marketing and branding strategies, created floor plans, and planned various events and workshops.

Before opening the Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre, LaToya met with many representatives from Akwesasne's existing cultural tourism venues. She visited the



Linda Lalonde, Latoya Rourke, and Jennifer Debruin

Akwesasne Museum and the Native North American Travelling College and toured Thompson Island Youth and Elders Cultural Camp. LaToya learned that financial barriers were making it difficult to reach their targeted audiences because marketing and advertising is costly and they mostly operate under various grants. The Experience Akwesasne Welcome Centre partners with existing cultural tourism destinations to better inform the community and visitors as to what they have to offer. Akwesasne's unique culturally relevant art is also a cornerstone to our culture. Showcasing local artisans is a major priority for LaToya as Tourism Coordinator. She believes that cultural tourism is how culture is kept alive. Through sharing and experiencing what Akwesasne has to offer, our beautiful culture will shine through!

Latoya would like to thank her spouse and family for being her support system especially her children who are so patient and understanding. She would also like to thank the Bob, Marie, and Waylon on Thompson Island; Sue Ellen Herne at the Akwesasne Museum; Darren Bonaparte and Konwahawahi Rourke from the Native North American Travelling College; Linda Lalonde, and Randi Thomas along with her classmates from Akwesasne Area Management Board; Jennifer Debruin, former Iohahioo teacher; Victoria Ransom, talented local artist and summer student who created the mural.

Minnows and Shoreline Project

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Tehotiennawakon's Environment Program has taken on a Minnow Research Project to gain information on the health of the Akwesasne's environment and Minnow populations in response to the perceived declining Minnow populations. Akwesasne contains many diverse ecosystems that promote biodiversity in Akwesasne and is an indicator of our environment's health. Thus, the Minnow Project will provide significant information about the health of the river and minnow populations in Akwesasne. This will be conducted through a variety of research techniques and community engagement.

The MCA-Environment Staff will be on the river collecting data on the Minnow populations during the next few months, so they would like to make the community aware of the research being conducted. Before samples are collected, we will be

contacting the owners of the land and will continue to inform them of the project and our presence. Additionally, we will be reaching out to community elders and fishers to inquire about their concerns and knowledge about our waterways.

Following the completion of the research, remedial activities will be created to educate Akwesasne about how to restore and maintain our diverse ecosystems. These activities will be informed by the research data collected, community input and best-practices supported by research. It is the hope that the community will become educated on the importance of Minnows and move towards increasing our fisheries health.

In accordance with our cultural values as Haudenosaunee, we are cognizant of the significance of all life and our responsibility

for its protection. With a deeper understanding of this relationship through community engagement, cultural knowledge can be used to strengthen and make informed decision about our environment that keeps in mind reciprocity and a good mind.

For more information or to inquire about contributing to the project, please contact:

Abraham Francis
Minnows Project Coordinator
Email: abraham.francis@akwesasne.ca
Phone: (613) 936-1548 Ext. 1039

Roger Thompson
Fish Technician
Email: roger.thompson@akwesasne.ca
Phone: (613) 936-1548 Ext. 1042

This project is funded by the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk – Prevention Stream



St. Lawrence River flows through Akwesasne.



Cut lip Minnow is native to the St. Lawrence River and is threatened.



Pugnose Shiner is native to the St. Lawrence River and is endangered.

Iakhihsohtha Celebrates 25 Years

In accordance with Mohawk customs, culture and beliefs we are proud that we are able to care for our elders in our community. Over the course of 45 years, the community has seen long term care services develop from a group of neighbors caring for one another to two long term care community based homes.

In 1990, the former Akwesasne Home for the Aged closed its doors and all 24 residents were moved into the new home. Iakhihsohtha, located in the Tsi Snaihne district opened with 30 beds. The new home was designed with modern and efficient equipment devoted to meeting the needs of our elderly. Elders who were no longer able to remain in the family home can now access services in a safe and secure 24 hour residential care facility. Iakhihsohtha employs staff to cover all aspect of resident’s care – medical, nutrition, environmental, financial, and recreational and leisure activities.

Iakhihsohtha continues to evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of our elders. Many of our elders wish to remain independent in their family homes for a long as possible. We support their wish to be independent through our community support services that offer leisure and recreational activities as well as services designed to monitor their health conditions and provide for their nutritional needs.

Over the past 25 years Iakhihsohtha has cared for over 200 community elders and employed countless numbers of professional and certified staff to care for our community of elders in a manner consistent with our beliefs, customs, and culture.



A breakfast was held for Akwesasne’s Leadership and Directors to commemorate Iakhihsohtha Lodge 25th Anniversary.



Iakhihsohtha Lodge celebrated their Silver Anniversary on Friday, December 4, 2015.



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Community Health Program



Watch Me Grow

Every 2nd Wednesday of each month from 2-6pm

Informal Drop-In Center for parents and their children ages 0-6 years.

Foster healthy growth and development in your child.

Check out our Monthly Themes

Get answers to your questions about:

- Infant feeding
- Nutrition
- Parenting

- Child development,
- Safety issues,
- and much more.

It's a chance to meet other parents and to receive free information and material that will make being a parent less worrisome.

For more information, Contact Amanda Garrow, CHN at the MCA Community Health Program at (613) 575-2341 ext 3222

****To schedule appointment for immunizations, please call one week prior to dates listed below.****

Kawehnoke Rec Center	Snye Rec Center	St. Regis Rec Center
2pm-6pm	2pm-6pm	2pm-6pm
April 8	May 13	June 10
July 8	August 12	September 9
October 14	No clinic in November	December 9
January 13	February 10	March 9

Tahonata'karita'kie Healthy Arrivals

DID YOU KNOW.....

Healthy Arrivals is food voucher service for pregnant First Nations women residing on the Northern portion of Akwesasne (Kanatakon, Kawehnoke, Tsisnaihne), for the duration of the pregnancy.

Healthy Arrivals is free.

Healthy Arrivals supports pregnant women to access healthier food choices.

Healthy Arrivals food vouchers are used to redeem milk, cereal, eggs, yogurt and fresh or frozen fruits and vegetables.

Healthy Arrivals provides women and their support person(s) with information on having a healthier pregnancy.

Healthy Arrivals offers one-to-one visits with a Registered Nurse or Registered Dietitian.



Tsi Snaihne School



On Thursday, November 12, 2015 the Tsi Snaihne School hosted a Veteran's Breakfast. 17 Veterans attended the breakfast along with their family members. Each class shared poems, stories, and artwork with the Veterans. Nia:wen to our cooks Tammy and Marty and organizers Guzzy and Tami and to all our staff and students.
Back Row: Kathy Cook, Art Swamp, Clint Jacobs, Lloyd Pitts, Jerry Lazore, Dennis Phillips, Richard Phillips, Joe Phillips, Jeffrey Johnson, and Mike Cook.
Front Row: Lisa Smoke Ward (Jake Whitecrow), Pernell Peters, Mike Francis, Kenneth Lazore, Carl Cook, Alan White, and Stan Cook.



Nia:wen to Wanda Thompson from Akwesasne Child and Family Services for donating a gift certificate for one free movie rental from D&T Outdoor Cinema to Tsi Snaihne School for National Child Day. Nai:wen to Alex David and Mitchell David for setting up the screen, speakers and projector for the movie in the gym. The students enjoyed watching the movie "Inside Out" for all their hard work to complete their reading for the month of November. 81% of students completed their Read and Responds for the month. A big thank to Valene and Junior Gray from Three Feathers and Rezphones for donating the juice boxes and thank you to Guzzy for making all the popcorn.



Ieniehtanawentha Sharrow, Janet Johnson, Tehawisi-iaks Sharrow

Beginning December 1, 2015, Community Health will be changing the immunization clinic days. The new clinic days are Tuesday's and Friday's from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Ieniehtanawentha Sharrow, Teaghan Lazore, Mylynn and Frankie Jackson-Laughing, Teacher Tami Kroon.



Dayne Thomas, Gavin Thompson, Frankie Jackson-Laughing, Garin Thompson, Kaide Sunday sang with Tehanikonrathe Brant, Satekaronhioten Fox and Karahkwinon.

Akwesasne Youth Meets US President Barack Obama

A young man from Akwesasne was recently granted the opportunity of a lifetime. Brayden 'Sonny' White was invited to attend the White House Tribal Nations Conference, held on November 4th-5th, as a Generation Indigenous Native Youth Ambassador. Much to his surprise, Sonny met with the President of the United States, Barack Obama. Meeting the President afforded him the opportunity to discuss some of the issues plaguing native youth today. MTV also filmed a documentary on the event named "Generation I Soaring" that featured Brayden.

Sonny is 21 years old and is in his freshmen year at Suny Canton where he is studying early childhood education. He was raised by his aunt Desi White. He is Bear Clan and his Kanienkeha name is Ra'ennakehte translates to "he carries a bow and arrow on his back", which is fittingly appropriate considering the fact that he brought his messages all the way to the White House.

Naturally, Sonny was nervous to meet the President who he described as laid back and easy going. He offered a handshake and was greeted with a hug from President Obama. They talked about basketball before discussing the tougher issues that young Native Americans face.

Sonny asked the President what his administration could do to help students from low income families afford college. The President acknowledged that due to cutbacks many schools have lost their guidance counselors and has put the pressure on individual schools to make it their responsibility to get more high school students enrolled in a college.

Suicide was also a topic for the youth panel. According to the CDC, suicide is the second leading cause of death for Native American youth. For Sonny the topic of suicide hits close to home and he recalled a moment



Brayden Sonny White shared the stage with US President Barack Obama at The White House Tribal Nations Conference.

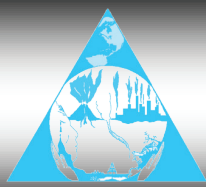
when he was able to recognize a call for help from one his friends. He had to get the friend to understand that although he claimed to be okay, he really wasn't okay. Sonny hopes to see the barrier knocked down that stigmatizes those asking for help as being weak. He personally believes asking for help is a testament of strength. "Every one stumbles and falls down from time to time and what they need is a helping hand to get back up. Every person regardless of age can offer a helping hand and make a difference in someone's life or ultimately save that a person's life."

Sitting on the panel with other Native American youth helped Sonny see how fortunate the youth of Akwesasne really are. "One of the girls was from the Navajo Nation and talked about growing up without electricity and running water. Hearing from her was very eye opening for me. Her story left a mark on me and I was very humbled and very grateful for all that I have. She was happy to have her tobacco pouch and her

language and having material objects did not matter."

Sonny is completing his education and would like to see more male teachers so that young boys would have more male role models. At such a young age, Sonny already has a wealth of experience working with our youth. He has coached both lacrosse and hockey, and worked as a summer counselor for the JOM program as well as the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club. One message he would like to relay to the youth of Akwesasne is to "keep moving forward and to never give up pursuing their personal goals and dreams."

On behalf of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne...Keep up the good work Sonny! Akwesasne is proud of the role model that you continue to be for our youth.



Hazard Help Sheet

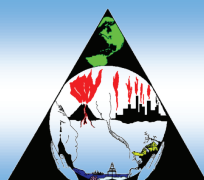
do 1 thing

Do 1 Thing is a web-based twelve month preparedness program that focuses on a different area of emergency preparedness each month, and provides a range of preparedness options for each topic. Every month has a low or no-cost option to become better prepared. You can jump in at anytime, so let's begin!

Small Steps Toward Being Prepared for an Emergency

MONTH	DO 1 THING	WHAT YOU CAN DO
January	Make a Plan	Understand what puts you at risk from disasters and take steps to lower your risk.
February	Water	Have 72 hours (3 days) worth of water stored for your household.
March	Sheltering	Know how to respond safely when instructions are given to evacuate or take shelter.
April	Food	Have an emergency food supply that will meet the needs of your household for three days without outside help.
May	Work, School, Community	Make sure the people who count on you are prepared for a disaster.
June	Unique Family Needs	Be aware of and prepare for your family's unique needs.
July	Family Communication Plan	Have the ability to communicate with family members during a disaster.
August	Get Involved	Make your community stronger by getting trained and getting involved.
September	Be Informed	Make sure everyone in your household can receive, understand, and act on information received in an emergency.
October	Power	Be able to safely meet your basic needs during an electrical outage.
November	Emergency Supplies	Remember important items that may be overlooked when leaving your home in a disaster.
December	First Aid	Be prepared to give first aid while waiting for an ambulance.

For more information go to do1thing.com
Brought to you by MCA's Emergency Measures



Hazard Help Sheet

Ice Storms & Safe Driving

Tis' the season to begin thinking about preparing for the upcoming cold temperatures that Akwesasne experiences yearly! Highway fatalities as a result of ice storms or icy conditions call for safe driving on the roadways. Emergency Measures wishes to highlight the need to beware of dangers including ice, stalled vehicles, debris in the road, and still-closed roads. Akwesasne, please exercise extreme caution when driving in winter or hazardous weather conditions.

DRIVING IN WINTER raises safety concerns. Drivers need to be extra careful in hazardous conditions, not only for your safety, but for the safety of others, including other drivers, highway workers, emergency personnel, and pedestrians. So, please remember the

THREE P's of Safe Winter Driving:

Plan / prepare your route.

Protect yourself & others.

Prevent crashes.

PLAN / PREPARE YOUR ROUTE:

Allow plenty of time (check the weather and leave early if necessary), be familiar with the maps/directions, and let others know your route and arrival time.

PROTECT YOURSELF:

- * Buckle up and use child safety seats properly.
- * Never place a rear-facing infant seat in front seat of a vehicle.
- * Children under 12 are safer in the back seat.
- * Sit back 10 inches from an air bag.

PREVENT CRASHES:

- * Drugs and alcohol never mix with driving.
- * Slow down and increase distances between cars.
- * Keep your eyes open for pedestrians walking in the road.
- * Avoid fatigue - Get plenty of rest before the trip, stop at least every three hours, and rotate drivers if possible.

STOPPED OR STALLED:

Stay with your car, don't over exert, put bright markers on antenna or windows and shine dome light, and, if you run your car, clear exhaust pipe and run it just enough to stay warm.

PRACTICE COLD WEATHER DRIVING:

- * During daylight, rehearse maneuvers slowly on the ice or snow in an empty lot.
- * Steer into a skid.
- * Know what your brakes will do: stomp on antilock brakes, pump non-antilock brakes.
- * Stopping distances are longer on water-covered ice and ice.
- * Don't idle for a long time with the windows up or in an enclosed space.

MAINTAIN YOUR CAR:

Check battery and tire tread, keep your windows clear, put no-freeze fluid in the washer reservoir, check your antifreeze.

72-Hr EMERGENCY KIT EXTRAS:

- * Flashlight,
- * Jumper cables,
- * Abrasive material (sand, kitty litter, even floor mats),
- * Shovel,
- * Snow brush & ice scraper,
- * Warning devices (i.e. flares)
- * Blankets.

For more information please go to:

www.nsta.gov

Brought to you by MCA's Emergency Measures



SATSHENONNIHAK TSI WENT'ANÓ:RON

*Happy Holidays
From the
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne*

10 Tips to Beat the Holiday Blues

We're supposed to look forward to the holidays and hope that they will be a time of happiness, friendliness, fellowship, and harmony. Yet often our anticipation and excitement turns into feelings of depression, commonly called holiday blues. Symptoms can include headaches, insomnia, uneasiness, anxiety, sadness, intestinal problems, and unnecessary conflict with family and friends.

Part of what happens in the holiday season, in terms of mood changes and anxiety, may occur due to the stress of holiday events. Overdrinking, overeating, and fatigue may also cause it. The demands of the season are many: shopping, cooking, travel, houseguests, family reunions, office parties, more shopping and extra financial burden. Our current recessionary economy may exacerbate many of us who are already stressed out or depressed.

Here are some tools to get through the holiday season happily, as well as ways to prevent problems and misery for yourself and your loved ones.

10 Tips to Beat the Holiday Blues

1. Be reasonable with your schedule. Do not overbook yourself into a state of exhaustion--this makes people cranky, irritable, and depressed.

2. Decide upon your priorities and stick to them. Organize your time wisely.

3. Remember, no matter what our plans, the holidays do not automatically take away feelings of aloneness, sadness, frustration, anger, and fear.

4. Be careful about resentments related to holidays past. Declare an amnesty with whichever family member or friend you are feeling past resentments. Do not feel it is helpful or intimate to tell your relative every resentment on your laundry list of grievances. Don't let your relative do that to you, either.

5. Don't expect the holidays to be just as they were when you were a child. They NEVER are. YOU are not the same as when you were a child, and no one else in the family is either.

6. Feeling like you are under scheduled or under planned for the holidays? Volunteer to serve at holiday community events. Work with any number of groups that help underprivileged or hospitalized children at the holidays. There are many, many opportunities for doing community service. No one can be depressed when they helping out their community.

7. Plan unstructured, low-cost fun holiday

activities: free community events, window-shop and look at the holiday decorations. Look at people's Christmas lighting on their homes, take a trip to the countryside, etc.--the opportunities are endless.

8. If you drink, do not let the holidays become a reason for over-indulging and hangovers. This will exacerbate your depression and anxiety. Contrary to popular opinion, alcohol is a depressant.

9. Give yourself a break; create time for yourself to do the things YOU love and need to do for your physical and mental wellness: aerobic exercise, yoga, massage, spiritual practices, taking long fast walks or any activity that calms you down and gives you a better perspective on what is important in your life.

10. Most of all, if you find yourself feeling blue just remember: The choice is always yours: The sky is partly sunny, and the glass is half full and revel in our gratitude for our bounty, health, hope, and our courage to face each day with hope and determination.

**For more information
Please contact the Wholistic Health &
Wellness Program at
(613) 575 -2341 extension 3100**