

Akwesasne-Quebec Renew Political Protocol

The Minister responsible for Native Affairs, Geoffrey Kelley, and the Government Whip and Member of the National Assembly for Huntingdon, Stéphane Billette, visited the Mohawk community of Akwesasne today to sign, along with the Grand Chief of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Michael Mitchell, a political memorandum of understanding between the Government and the Council. The minister also announced financial assistance of \$723 522 to assist the community in diversifying its economy.

“I am particularly pleased to officialise this agreement today. The discussions that led to the establishment of the protocol were conducted in the most respectful manner and with the objective of achieving pleasant and effective collaborations for the next ten years. In addition, I am convinced that new and innovative projects will be developed as a result of this diversification funding and help Akwesasne’s economy,” said the Minister.

The memorandum of understanding will serve as a framework for discussions between Québec and Akwesasne over the next ten years. The purpose of this protocol is to ensure constructive and harmonious exchanges between both parties, while considering issues such as justice, health, education, and public safety.

The purpose of the financial assistance, allocated under the Aboriginal Initiatives Fund II from the Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones, is to support native communities in their economic, social, and community development. Projects with strong economic potential will see the light of day thanks to the additional revenues now available to the Council.



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Quebec officials formally signed a political memorandum of understanding today, December 15, 2014. Left to right: MCA District Chief Larry King (Kana:taken District), District Chief Karen Loran (Tsi Snaihne District), Grand Chief Mike Kanentakeron Mitchell, Quebec Minister responsible for Native Affairs Geoffrey Kelley, Member of the National Assembly for Huntingdon Stéphane Billette, District Chief April Adams-Phillips (Tsi Snaihne District) and District Chief Joe Lazore (Tsi Snaihne District).

“The signing of a memorandum of understanding and the substantial grant awarded to Council to diversify its economy are welcomed news for the community and the region. Not only will the Akwesasne community and the Government of Québec benefit from constructive exchanges for the improvement of the quality of life of the people of Akwesasne, but new projects will also be developed and

stimulate the economy. The creation of businesses, consolidation and creation of jobs,

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MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

Grand Chief

Michael Kanentakeron Mitchell

Kana:takon District

Chief Larry King
Chief Florence Phillips
Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs
Chief Steve Thomas

Kawehno:ke District

Chief Abram Benedict
Chief Brian David
Chief JoAnne Jocko
Chief Louise Thompson

Tsi Snaihne District

Chief April Adams-Phillips
Chief Joe Lazore
Chief Karen Loran
Chief William Sunday

Administration

Sheree Bonaparte
Executive Director

Jay Benedict
Director,
Technical Services

Joyce King
Director,
Justice Department

Heather Phillips
Director,
Housing Department

Robyn Mitchell
Director,
Community & Social Services

April White
Director,
Department of Health

Dr. Barry Montour
Director,
Akwesasne Mohawk Board
of Education

Jerry Swamp
Chief of Police,
Akwesasne Mohawk Police
Service

James Ransom
Director,
Tehotiiennawakon

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 Onkweta:ke—Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's community newsletter. We hope you like its new format with wider pages that read more like a newspaper. This will be the final issue for 2014.

You'll notice that we're unfortunately a bit off schedule in reporting, seeing how the October issue is only now being released. The lateness could not be avoided and is due in large part to the closure of MCA's Administration #2 Building; which used to house Mohawk Government, the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office, and our Communications Unit. With the building closure, there was no access to the computer equipment required to produce our monthly newsletter.

The closure of Administration #2 Building began on October 15, 2014 and the temporary relocation of the personnel for these three programs—mostly to the Kanonhkwashteri:io Health Facility—became effective on October 22, 2014. The building closure was due to air quality concerns and Council has since decided that the facility will be permanently closed. Personnel will soon be relocated to another interim site for an undetermined amount of time until a new permanent facility is built.

During our relocation to Kanonhkwashteri:io Health Facility, Mohawk Council and Government Support staff are still available to assist community members with any issues. You may stop by our temporary location or call 613-575-2250 (Admin #1) or 613-575-2341 (Kanonhkwashteri:io) to speak with individual council members or staff. In regards to the relocation, any further updates will continue to be announced through our Communications Unit.

With that being stated, it is my pleasure to inform you that a lot has been happening at the MCA. Contained within this issue you will find information on some recent developments and updates on the following initiatives:

- a profile on our Economic Development project;
- information on the Aboriginal Leadership Initiative;
- explanation of services from our Housing Department;
- a spotlight on one of our community businesses—Lazare's Tree Removal;
- answers on how to import a vehicle into Canada;
- words of appreciation for DCSS's successful snowsuit drive;
- a history piece from our Aboriginal Rights & Research Office; and
- coverage on the renewal of the Political Protocol Agreement with Quebec.

In addition, we have a new Environmental Health Officer, Mr. Naeem Irshad, whose expertise continues to help us in dealing with the closure of the Administration #2 Building. There is further information on Mr. Irshad and his job responsibilities contained in this issue.

In closing, I wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season filled with time spent with family and friends. Look forward to more information in the coming months...and happy reading!

Skennen,

Julie Phillips-Jacobs
Dirtict of Kana:takon



...Continued from Page 1.

and training of the local workforce will all lead to tangible results that I look forward to observing,” added Mr. Billette.

Grand Chief Michael Mitchell said he was satisfied with the meeting today. The financial assistance will enable members of his community to develop stimulating projects, thus creating optimal economic conditions. The memorandum of understanding guarantees harmonious and effective exchanges with the Government of Québec and will contribute positively to the development of the Akwesasne community.

“The Akwesasne Economic Development Fund has had a positive effect on Akwesasne by diversifying and strengthening our community’s economy and, most importantly, by serving as a catalyst for local entrepreneurs seeking financial assistance to initiate or expand their business ventures. Many new businesses and new partnerships with funding agencies have developed that would not have otherwise had the opportunity to begin or expand without AEDF match funding. It has provided over two hundred job opportunities within Akwesasne since 2007 as a direct result of our local businesses utilizing AEDF funding,” said Grand Chief Mitchell.



Top Right: Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Economic Development Staf (from left) Business Services Officer William Papineau, A/Economic Development Officer Kylee Tarbell and Special Projects Officer Troy Thompson pose with Quebec Minister responsible for Native Affairs Geoffrey Kelley, Member of the National Assembly for Huntingdon Stephane Billette, Akwesasne Chamber of Commerce President Casey Swamo and Tsi Snaihne District Chief April Adams-Phillips (Tehotienawakon Portfolio Major Holder).

Bottom Right: Rakwiráhes Pembleton and Teiakohserathe Jock recited the Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen (Thanksgiving Address) at the signing ceremony.



Mohawk Council Resolutions (MCRs)

Seskéhko:wa/September 2014

SESKEHKO:WA/ SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

2014/2015 - #161 Ontario Land Information Program Partnership
Moved by Chief Thomas, Seconded by Chief Adams-Phillips
Voting: For – 8, Against – 1 **CARRIED**

SESKEHKO:WA/ SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

2014/2015 - #162 Tobacco – read by Chief Phillips Jacobs
Moved by Chief Thompson, Seconded by Chief David
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #163 AQPA – Read by Chief Loran
Moved by Chief Lazore, Seconded by Chief Sunday
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #164 BMO Loan – read by Chief Benedict
Moved by Chief Benedict, Seconded by Chief Lazore
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #165 Record Management Procedural Manual –
read by Chief Benedict
Moved by Chief Benedict, Seconded by Chief Phillips Jacobs
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #166 Lease Lot 2C-2 – read by Chief Benedict
Moved by Chief Jocko, Seconded by Chief Benedict
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #167 Lease Lot 2C-8 – read by Chief Benedict
Moved by Chief Benedict, Seconded by Chief Sunday
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #168 Lease Lot 3-1 – read by Chief Benedict
Moved by Chief Benedict, Seconded by Chief Jocko
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #169 Council Meeting Minutes Dated Feb 18
Moved by Chief Sunday, Seconded by Chief Lazore
Voting: For – 6, Against – 2 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #170 Council Meeting Minutes Dated Feb. 25
Moved by Chief Loran, Seconded by Chief Thompson
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #171 Council Meeting Minutes Dated Mar.ch 11
Moved by Chief Loran, Seconded by Chief Phillips Jacobs
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #172 Council Meeting Minutes Dated March 18
Moved by Chief Phillips Jacobs, Seconded by Chief Loran
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #173 Council Meeting Minutes Dated March 25
Moved by Chief Lazore, Seconded by Chief Benedict
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #174 Council Meeting Minutes Dated April 1
Moved by Chief Phillips Jacobs, Seconded by Chief Lazore
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #175 Council Meeting Minutes Dated April 8
Moved by Chief Loran, Seconded by Chief Sunday
Voting: For: – 7, Against – 1 **CARRIED**

SESKEHKO:WA/ SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 (Walked Around)

MCR 2014/2015 - #176 Economic Dev. JAZZ Solar Solutions
CARRIED

SESKEHKO:WA/ SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

2014/2015 - #177 Council Meeting Minutes Dated April 15
Moved by Chief Thomas, Seconded by Chief Lazore
Voting: For – 9, Against – 0 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #178 Council Meeting Minutes Dated April 22
Moved by Chief Thomas, Seconded by Chief Lazore;
Voting: For – 7, Against – 2 **CARRIED**

2014/2015 - #179 Council Meeting Minutes Dated April 29
Moved by Chief Thompson, Seconded by Chief Thomas
Voting: For – 7, Against – 2 **CARRIED**

2015/2015 - #180 Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 6
Moved by Chief Thompson, Seconded by Chief Sunday
Voting: For – 8, Against – 1 **CARRIED**

2015/2015 - #181 Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 13
Moved by Chief Thomas, Seconded by Chief Phillip-Jacobs
Voting: For – 8, Against – 1 **CARRIED**

- 2015/2015 - #182 Council Meeting Minutes Dated Sept. 16
Moved by Chief Thomas, Seconded by Chief Jocko
Voting: For – 9, Against – 0 CARRIED

2015/2015 - #183 Change Signing Authority for the
Tsiionkwanonhso:te Resident Trust Account
Moved by Chief Jocko, Seconded by Chief Phillips
Voting: For – 8, Against – 1 CARRIED

2015/2015 - #184 2014/2015 Child Welfare Approved Budget
Allocation
Moved by Chief Phillips-Jacobs, Seconded by Chief Jocko
Voting: For – 9, Against – 0 CARRIED

2015/2015 - #185 Housing Application – Upgrade Program
Moved by Chief Jocko, Seconded by Chief Phillips-Jacobs
Voting: For – 8, Against – 1 CARRIED

2015/2015 - #186 Housing Application – Upgrade Program
Moved by Chief Jocko, Seconded by Chief Thompson
Voting: For – 9, Against – 0 CARRIED
- 2015/2015 - #187 Housing Application – Upgrade Program
Moved by Chief Jocko, Seconded by Chief Phillips-Jacobs
Voting: For – 9, Against – 0 CARRIED

2014/2015 - #188 Heating Assistance Program
Moved by Chief Phillips, Seconded by Chief Jocko
Voting: For – 9, Against – 0 CARRIED


2014/2015 - #189 Land Transfer Agreemen for Portions of Lot A
103-9 Chenail Range
Moved by Chief Thomas, Seconded by Chief Adams-Phillips
Voting: For – 6, Against – 2 CARRIED

2014/2015 - #190 Lease lot 2 Stanley Island
Moved by Chief Adams-Phillips, Seconded by Chief Lazore
Voting: For - 7, Against – 0 CARRIED

2014/2015 - #191 CBSA Seizure payments Limited to One
Penalty Per Person
Moved by Chief Thomas, Seconded by Chief Adams-Phillips
Voting: For – 8, Against – 0 CARRIED

Akwesasne Medical Clinic (613) 575-2341 ext. 3215

December 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Dr. Forson Walk-in 8:30-11:30	2 Dr. Forson By Appt. 8:30-11:30	3 Dr. Forson Walk-in 2:00-3:30 By Appt. 5:00-6:30	4 NO DOCTOR	5 Dr. Forson's Men's Clinic By Appt. 8:30-11:30
8 Dr. Forson Walk-in 8:30-11:30	9 Dr. Forson By Appt. 8:30-11:30	10 Dr. Forson Walk-in 2:00-3:30 By Appt. 5:00-6:30	11 NO DOCTOR	12 Dr. Saylor Walk-in 9:00-11:00 By Appt. 2:00-3:30
15 Dr. Forson Walk-in 8:30-11:30	16 Dr. Forson By Appt. 8:30-11:30 Dr. Saylor By appt. 9:00-11:00 By appt. 2:00-3:30	17 Dr. Forson Walk-in 2:00-3:30 By Appt. 5:00-6:30	18 NO DOCTOR	19 Dr. Forson's Women's Clinic By appt 8:30-11:30 Dr. Saylor Walk-in 9:00-11:00 By Appt. 2:00-3:30
22 Dr. Forson Walk-in 8:30-11:30	23 NO DOCTOR	24 NO DOCTOR	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS  CLINIC CLOSED	26 BOXING DAY CLINIC CLOSED
29 NO DOCTOR	30 Dr. Saylor By appt. 9:00-11:00 By appt. 2:00-3:30	31 NO DOCTOR	Dr. Forson's pt. limit is 15 Dr. Saylor's pt. limit is 12 During their walk-in clinic	WEDNESDAY'S LIFE LABS @ Akwesasne Medical Clinic 8:30-10:00 20 Pt. Limit

Council Meeting Roundtable Reports

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is committed to ensuring accountability, transparency and community engagement. This ongoing effort includes sharing a summary of the Mohawk Council's weekly Roundtable Reports for the purpose of informing and promoting dialogue on portfolio topics and other important community issues. The information provided within the individual reports are for educational purposes and are without prejudice to any and all past, current and future claims of the Mohawks of Akwesasne or official positions taken by the MCA. Chiefs not in attendance for a Council Meeting may be on travel or on sick leave, which is announced at the start of the meeting. Individual chief's can also choose to submit a more detailed update for the newsletter.

SESKEHKO:WA/ SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

Kana:takon Chief Steve Thomas

- Met with Human Resources concerning a grievance against the Executive Director, and called a meeting of portfolio for Friday morning to discuss the next steps of the MEA Grievance procedure
- Attended the Ormstown fundraiser and spoke with MNA for Huntingdon at length and members of the area during the day.
- The APA negotiations will begin and the bargaining unit held a prep-meeting at CIA on Thursday, September 18th to discuss strategy.
- The portfolio for Tehotiiennawakon met to strategize on the next steps to resolve the ongoing grievance between the director and the executive director.
- Attended the Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) training at Mohegan Sun and requested a presentation to be sent by email. In lieu of the event being held at the arena in April 2015, an email was sent to the commission members urging them to meet and familiarize themselves with the regulations and share the presentations.
- Attended the Cornwall POE Grand Opening event on behalf of the Grand Chief. Lisa Janes is the new CBSA RDG, replacing Arianne Reza, and she would like to visit Akwesasne in the very near future. She will be contacting me directly with several dates for our consideration, including a river tour if possible.
- Participated in a conference call with Public Works and Service Canada reps on behalf of the GC and Public Safety portfolio, to go over the site visit today and on September 15th. MCA Environment and the AMPS have been notified to quell any concerns from the community.
- Upcoming meetings: The Beyond the Borders conference is on September 15th – 17th in Detroit, I will be attending this event.

Kawehno:ke Chief Brian David

- Attended all Portfolio meetings that required his attendance.
- Attended the Border Summit and it was very excellent. Disappointed in the lack of representation from Canada.
- Had a meeting with CBSA regarding the transportation of wood. The Canadian food

agency has placed a ban on wood from the US. Akwesasne residents will not be able to purchase wood from the US.

Tsi Snaihne Chief Joe Lazore

- Attended the Border Summit and took the Chief of Alberta for a tour of Akwesasne.
- There is garbage being burned on Stanley Island and talked with Environment to put a report together about garbage being burned, and who from AMPS is going to police the area.

Kana:takon Chief Larry King

- Attended the Border Summit, divestiture meeting and the OPG joint implementation meeting. Shared that the security position that OPG was offering turned into a part-time weekend position. Need someone certified that can take over the security contract. Eight applicants have passed the security guard certification.
- Attended the Pow Wow and it was very successful. There was a great turn out, especially on the second day.
- Had a meeting with a community member regarding Hamilton Island and the old AFN building. The building maybe coming down.
- Today is the last day of work before surgery on his knee and will be recuperating for a month.
- Left the meeting early to get fitted for a knee brace. The MCR regarding the Pre-Contribution Agreement can be passed before he leaves the meeting.

Kana:takon Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

- On bereavement from September 1-5, 2014
- Attended AMBE opening and tobacco burning at Tsi Snaihne School
- Attended the swearing-in of the new AMBE board members at Kana:takon School.

Kawehno:ke Chief JoAnne Jocko

- Attended the Annual Educators Institute on Demystifying Learning Disabilities in the Classroom in Mississauga.
- Attended the Kawehno:ke Waterline Phase 2 meeting.
- Attended the OPSEU meeting, Health Board meeting, swearing-in event of the AMBE Board members, and the OFNTCL bursary presentation.

Kawehno:ke Chief Abram Benedict

- Attended the Technical Table meeting in Toronto in preparation for leadership meeting in October; going to work with IFN on presentation.
- Took some time off for bereavement and flextime.
- Attended the DCSS meeting
- Iohahiio is experiencing an ongoing issue with funding. Iohahiio applies annually to AANDC for funding. AANDC will only fund institutions that are independent and not under a Band Council. Wrote Peter Jones Ontario Education and Social Director and have asked for an exemption. The issue can be raised by the Grand Chief when meeting with RDG.
- Off on bereavement from September 1st – 5th.
- Attended the opening and the tobacco burning for the Tsi Snaihne School.
- Attended the swearing in of the AMBE Board members.

Tsi Snaihne Chief April Adams-Phillips

- First day back to work following bereavement.
- Attended the trails meeting and got an update on the proposals. There were three proposals and one will be brought forward.
- Shared that a mediator from CBSA will be giving some training. The training will benefit MCA in regards to land disputes.
- Economic Development received a call from an individual interested in setting up a pharmacy on Cornwall Island.
- There is a membership issue with a community member. The community member had children with someone from the US, who had status, before the 1970's. The children are considered half, when they should be considered full.
- The GPP and the MEA need to be updated and streamlined.
- Traditional Medicine has lost some workers and the program is getting smaller.

Tsi Snaihne Chief William Sunday

- Attended the Border Summit and the Nation Building prep-meeting.
- Was approached by a community member regarding the bereavement process. The community member is a former chief, who may be coming to the General Meeting to bring

up the topic.

- Attended the Tehotiennawa:kon meeting.

Kawehno:ke Chief Louise Thompson

- Attended the Nation Building Meeting. The meeting was very frustrating. The Canadian government is pushing Federal and Provincial laws. Akwesasne has their own laws and they are not Federal or Provincial.
- Attended the Border Summit and a meeting regarding an issue with membership. Was asked by the Executive Director to address the complaint with Membership.
- Attended the Justice Portfolio Meeting.
- Will be attending the Iroquois Caucus with Chief Sunday and the IGL.
- Being summoned to court in Valleyfield for individual charged with discharging a gun. Individual wants to be charged under Akwesasne laws because the incident happened in Akwesasne. Does not want to be charged under the Criminal Code.
- Attended the Pow Wow.
- Chief King asked if there is anything to address the safety and noise of fireworks. Shared that there is a noise bylaw and nuisance bylaw. The only law pertaining to fireworks is in regards to the selling of fireworks.

Grand Chief Mike Kanentakeron Mitchell

- Shared with council that for the next two weeks he will getting treatment done. He will not be able to drive. He has a balance problem that needs to be identified and treated. He will report to work but will have to be driven in.
- The General Meeting needs to be better organized and is pleased that the date of the General Meeting has been postponed to another month. This will allow individual portfolio chiefs to prepare their reports to be handed out.
- A report is being compiled from the Border Summit. Homeland Security has committed to meet in Ottawa with First Nation leadership by the end of November. We will make an effort to have border crossing for Indigenous people to be taken more seriously by CBSA.
- The month of December is devoted to court sessions for border case involving Shenandoah and Thompson. Will have some meetings about the court testimonies in the upcoming weeks. Some good witnesses will be needed and we have a list of community witnesses to testify.

SESKEHKO:WA/ SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

Kawehno:ke Chief Abram Benedict

- Had a meeting with the Acting Director of Education and shared concerns regarding

Post Secondary changes. There will be focus meetings setup to share the information on the changes.

- There was a CBSA seizure as a result of a miscommunication between community member and the CBSA officer leading to the charge of running the port. It was discovered that the Community Advocate on CBSA Complaints was on travel and not available. Requested Council to assist with the seizure. Person has one car and two small children. Due to the miscommunication the individual was charged with running the port leading to the seizure. Individual thought they were allowed to leave and then was charged later on a secondary trip through customs, CBSA reviewed the file and withdrew the charges and fine.

Tsi Sniahne Chief Joe Lazore

- Went to CIA 3 to review Conservation Law. Another meeting with the Environmental Health Officer on the September 25th. There may be a MCR ready by the second week of October.
- Visited Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario in Morrisburg, Ontario. They have connections with other unions that they can access.
- No one showed up at the District Meeting in Snye and there is another meeting scheduled for Wednesday evening.

Tsi Sniahne Chief Karen Loran

- Since our Tuesday meetings have not been happening, the update will be from last meeting.
- Expressed her respects to Chief Phillips for her loss.
- Attended a 3-day gathering at Kanonhkwashteri:io being hosted by Akwesasne to welcome IFN Health Directors that included a tour of the facility and community. Provided a presentation of the Akwesasne non-Insured Program.
- Attended the Border Summit two days. Met with some of the delegates for the development of secure ID cards. Hopefully host it in Canada next time.
- Wants the Executive Director to look at the issue of finding signatures for checks. It has been a mess this last week and we need a strategy.
- From September 8-12 there is a tri-lateral meeting with Health – Ontario Trilateral First Nations Senior Officials Committee (TFNHSOC). Met with the Assistant Deputy Minister regarding four major points in the trilateral agreement regarding the issue of

NHIB. Chief Loran had follow up email with him. There may be another meeting on that will include the Executive Director, Comptroller and Finance Officers. He wants to see what we have planned.

- Travelled to Quebec for two days to attend the AFNQL. There was a huge table with a meet-and-greet with Minister Couillard. One area of concern is taxation in Quebec. There was a discussion on an issue with Child and Family Services, MRP for First Nation that don't have anything in place and discussions on a First Nations hotel in Montreal.
- Met with the Quebec Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs Liaison on the last phase of the Cultural Agreement. Both sides have selected their artists. At the end we will have an artist event to show case their work.
- With regard to the multijurisdictional table, a comment by the Quebec Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs Liaison suggested forwarding him the agenda ahead of time to bring the appropriate people to the meeting.
- AQPA, there should be a signing soon.
- Attended a meeting with Assistant Director for Health and Dr. Paul Roumeliotis on the EOHU flow of funding and possibly amending the funding agreement.
- Attended a meeting in Oka. The Native Women's Association. There is an Annual Meeting in November where a resolution will be put forward for our youth to promote our young women as leaders.
- Attended the Boston Bruins Alumni Hockey Game planning meeting.
- Received an update from MCA lawyers on the Thompson/Shenandoah court case.
- Attended the Akwesasne Court Law Focus Meeting. There were 7 to 10 community members in attendance the provided feedback to the panel.
- Attended the Health Portfolio Meeting.
- Had meeting with Dr. Saila and McGill on health professionals.
- Attended pre-meeting to discuss non-insured coverage.
- Attended meeting with new-RCMP Superintendent.
- Participated in conference call with HSIF Steering Committee Coalition Project to discuss access to English-speaking First Nations. Will attend meeting with network staff in Kahnawake on October 22-23.
- Will attend the FNWC meeting in Toronto from September 29th-October 2nd.

Tsi Sniahne Chief William Sunday

- Attended Nation Building Negotiations, PAT Meeting, Tehotiennawakon update and the

Court Law meeting at Tri District Elder's Center.

- Visited the Morrisburg training center for cranes, heavy equip, dozers—it was very interesting. There will be a need for many engineers. The Morrisburg Training Center Administrators are very interested in teaming up with the Akwesasne Economic Development Program and the Area Management representatives and staff.

Kawehno:ke Chief Brian David

- Chaired the Nation Building negotiations last week.
- Traveled to Morrisburg, Ontario and met with the Executive Director of the Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario. We had good discussions on how the educational attainment has risen in Akwesasne. Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario is seeing a greater stream of Akwesasro:non attending the training and the Employment Officer at the Akwesasne Area Management Board is instrumental in that. OETIO representative mentioned that many members will be retiring and will create a huge need due to a new construction boom in Canada. OETIO is looking for increased Aboriginal participation. In the strategic plan they encourage Aboriginal people, as opposed to immigrants. They would rather train Natives than to hire and train immigrants. The President of the union also represents the trades in general and would like to visit Akwesasne. So we extended an invitation to him. He also represents the union in Canada and on the international board in Washington, DC. There is a significant development occurring that is a consolidation of some of the trades. Ironwork with pipefitting with welding. Increase employability. We left the door open for further discussion.

Kawehno:ke Louise Thompson

- Late this morning meeting at home with community member discussing issues.
- Attended the Court Law consultation with Chief Sunday and Chief Lazore. It was a good session, many questions and recommendations. We didn't finish by noon. Chief Thompson had to leave by then.
- Will be traveling to London, Ontario to attend the Iroquois Caucus.
- People involved with Jury Duty are going to meet with Community members on September 25th and then meet with council on September 26th to discuss requirement to be on jury duty list. Who is making the arrangements for the meeting? Grand Chief Mitchell mentioned that the representatives coming to meet are

Aboriginal and they need to know why we are upset. They are sending letters to our members telling them that they have to participate in jury duty and threatening them if they don't comply. Chief Loran asked what does the Tribe do. Government Support Manager stated that the Tribal Clerk drafts a letter sending it to the court stating the individual will not participate and they accept it. Grand Chief Mitchell stated that in Canadian justice it is stated somewhere about your own peers, the person can be set free due to lack of representation. There are members in the community interested in volunteering for jury duty, but others should not be forced. Government Support Manager said there should be a reciprocal agreement in place.

- Attended the Legislative Commission Charter review and the Mohawk Lacrosse event sponsored by MCA all day Saturday.
- Kahnawa:ke is having issues with non-Natives living on reserve. It would be interesting to do a follow up on the situation. Chief Loran stated that they have residency laws. I think the situation is blown out of proportion. Someone took a picture and posted the list of names on Facebook.

Kana:takon Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

- Went to a meeting with the Acting Director of Education to show support and to receive an update. There is a waiting list for K4-K5 at Kanata:kon school. AMBE would like to do exit interviews with students who leave the AMBE system. The After School is running at each school with about 30 children in each. There are funds available to hire one more After School position. A shotgun was found by childcare at Kanata:kon School it was unloaded. The situation was taken care of. The Post Secondary program is looking at the number of students. Kanata:kon School needs to keep on top of preschool room this year if AMBE need to use the space next year they need to let daycare know so they can make other arrangements. The AMBE Transportation Supervisor is having bus safety this week with the students. AMBE is gearing up for nominal roll.
- Chief King sent Chief Phillips Jacobs a message concerning a community member issue with a fence. According to GIS the fence is on the property line. The GIS image is off a bit, but the pins are in correct area on the ground. The shed is not across the line.

Grand Chief Mike Kanentakeron Mitchell

- Went to Iakhihsohtha for their 25th Anniversary. Had breakfast at 8am with the

residences of the facility. Many of the residence wanted to sit and talk with the Grand Chief.... Joyous occasion for everyone, very pleased to participate.

- Went to Morrisburg and met with the head guy of the training centre. OETIO representatives would like to visit Akwesasne. Grand Chief Mitchell will take them to look at some of the buildings on the island to see if it has practical for use as a training centre. The building on the island could be used as an Akwesasne branch. Action will need to occur quickly and create a partnership with OETIO. It's a good idea for them to work with us. The OETIO representative is an Ojibwa, who will be taking the lead on assisting with training, jobs, etc.
- There is drilling at the POE to test the soil, environmental scanning, looking for contaminants. They will let us know of any environmental issues that we need to know.
- I will be meeting with new RDG of CBSA. We are hoping this person may understand our border issues better, as she is coming from Washington DC and not your typical government person.

SESKEHKO:WA/ SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

Kawehno:ke JoAnne Jocko

- Attended the OPSEU negotiations meeting on Tuesday, September 23 and Wednesday, September 24, 2014.
- Attended the funeral on Thursday, September 25 and the DTS Portfolio Meeting and Special Needs meeting on Monday, September 29, 2014.

Tsi Snaihne Chief Joe Lazore

- Attended a community meeting for Tsi Snaihne. The next community event is the Halloween party. The Christmas Tree Enchantment planning has begun. The event will be 4 days this year, from November 13 - 16, 2014.
- Traveled to Morrisburg, Ontario to investigate the courses offered there and if a welding course could be offered there.

Tsi Snaihne Chief William Sunday

- Attended the Iroquois Caucus (IC) in Oneida, Ontario, with Chief Thompson, and Chief David. There was a lot of discussion on the topic of Bill C-10. A presentation was planned (may have already happened) to the Senate Standing Committee.
- Attended a meeting with the RCMP Representatives from Quebec and Ontario. Plans for the future and help in patrolling the waters in the Akwesasne Territory were discussed.
- Could not attend the DTS Portfolio Meeting.

Kawehno:ke Chief Brian David

- Roundtable report is for the last 2 weeks.
- Tuesday, September 16, 2014 met with CBSA, community members and with Triwin
- Thursday, September 18 and Friday, September 19, 2014 attended the Iroquois Caucus in Oneida, NY, with Chief Thompson and Chief Sunday. The position on the pipeline and position in AFN restructuring were discussed. There was a discussion on the larger security area to include the traditional territories of Kanesatake, Kahnawake, and Akwesasne. Want to have future meeting of the three territories to discuss putting together a proposal for Washington, DC.
- Monday, September 22, 2014 met with the new RCMP Superintendent of the North East District for an orientation to Akwesasne issues.
- Tuesday, September 23, 2014 delivered a presentation on "Native Leadership" to about 20 Federal public servants who are on a leadership training program.
- Wednesday, September 24 met with some young parents to discuss some of their concerns. They are looking to have MCA move in more of the direction of "community self-sustainability" particularly in the area of food-security, community gardening, alternative energy development, developing our own electrical grid, and small business development and job creation.
- Thursday, September 25, and Friday, September 26, 2014 spent the whole day with the 'Debwewin Jury Review' and delivered welcoming remarks on behalf of the Grand Chief and Council. The panel requested that he be present to assist them through their proceedings. Had the opportunity to present the history of our political positions related to the topics that were discussed. The Justice Department presented a paper to the panel and a number of community members presented their views on the topic during the evening session.
- Saturday, September 27, 2014 delivered a presentation on border and globalization to about 40 international conference members from Carleton University. Most of the participants were University professors from around the world, who have taken a keen interest in how we are approaching the Nation States encroachment on our territories. The presentation included a history of the boundary lines, the impact of 9/11 on our lifestyles and the future direction the community will likely take. From the individual discussions there is much support from the group.

Kana:takon Chief Steve Thomas

- Attended the Public Safety Portfolio and discussed: the Ambulance progress through POE, Emergency Measures will be setting up the Emergency Operations Center at major events, Tribal warehouse for ambulance, vehicle seizures, language barrier at major events, and to invite Cornwall's EMS unit as a courtesy.
- Attended the RCMP meeting for the Regional Inspector and Quebec RCMP were present, and discussed border crime/security, economic impact on Akwesasne, FINTRAC issues with banking, economic leakage, community partnership, participation, and stakeholders meeting
- Attended the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission monthly meeting and discussed the AMPS annual report. Crime stats are down from 2013.
- Attended the TCPP meeting at Kingston, Ontario, and discussed emergency measures for breach, line 9 emergency responses, archaeology protocol, water crossing environmental management, and line 9 integrity update.
- Attended the DTS Portfolio Meeting.
- Meetings this week include: a conference call for corporate entity, Alumni Game planning session meeting at the arena, Finance, and Leadership meeting.

Kawehno:ke Chief Louise Thompson

- Was off last week on bereavement.
- Attended the Iroquois Caucus in Oneida, NY with Chief David and Chief Sunday. Acknowledged Chief David for his good guidance and words spoken at the IC.
- Attended the Nation Cup lacrosse tournament.

Kana:takon Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs

- The AMBE open house was last week and it was well attended.
- Attended the Benefits Committee meeting. A summary of services the community uses and short-term disability was discussed at the meeting.
- Received a call from community member regarding signups for the dance club at the Kana:takon Recreation Centre. The Dance Club is open to all community members and not only members from Kana:takon. 120 children have signed up to be part of the dance club. The children practice on Monday nights and the Communications Department has been asked to take pictures of the dance practices. The club is operating on a volunteer basis.

Kana:takon Chief Florence Phillips

- Returned to work last Monday, September 22,

2014 and was on travel to Thunder Bay, Ontario for an IFN meeting. Shared that it is very hard for the IFN reps to meet. IFN Coordinator host community is going to be letting her go. There was talk of her being hosted by the Traveling College. MCA lawyer did not think that would be a good idea. Grand Chief suggested she be hosted by AAMB. She is in a difficult position, and IFN Health Analyst is being let go today (Tuesday, September 30, 2014). Both of them are now in limbo and are in need of a host community.

- Attended the DTS Portfolio Meeting and the Leadership meeting.

Tsi Snaihne Chief April Adams-Phillips

- Attended the Beyond the Borders Conference, and provided a presentation to Federal employees.
- Assisted in some minor administrative issues.
- Received a complaint on the GPP.

Kawehno:ke Chief Abram Benedict

- Attended the Housing Portfolio Meeting – reviewing disputed and make recommendation to Council. Letter received from community member, difficulty not in good standing, will respond in writing.
- There was a community member who did not report right away and later went to self-declare to CBSA. The driver did not get their car seized and just received a warning.
- Attended the OACAS meeting in Toronto, presentation on decision making project, update on shared services, and update on Jeffery Baldwin Inquest and recommendations.
- The District Meeting was cancelled.
- Shared that a family of four lost their house in a fire last week and the Council Chiefs present at last week's Tuesday meeting agreed to a group donation to the family.
- Community members can expect delays when getting BMO loan to buy house if CP is in MCA name, CP must go back to seller then to buyer then back to MCA.
- The BMO branch on Cornwall Island has a low number of employees from Akwesasne. The BMO branch is nothing special and is more like any other BMO branch. Would like to see the Grand Chief draft a letter to BMO stating our grievance with the lack of Akwesasne employees at the BMO branch located at the Peace Tree Mall.

Grand Chief's General Meeting Report: October 2014

SECOND INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS BORDER SECURITY SUMMIT

The Assembly of First Nations, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe co-hosted the Second International Indigenous Border Security Summit on September 3–5, 2014 at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino Resort in Akwesasne, New York. This partnership resulted from requests received from other First Nations and the Assembly of First Nations wanting to develop a summit with the purpose of examining the border related issues of First Nations on both sides of the international border.

The border conference followed the first convening held in 2006 and once again discussed topics relevant to Indigenous First Nations on both sides of the borders between Canada, United States and Mexico. Some of the topics covered through panel discussions and presentations included: Development of an Enhanced Border Security ID Card; Combating Cross-Border Crime; Transporting Cultural and Spiritual Properties Across the Border; Adoptions, Foster Placement and Inter-Tribal Marriages; Cross Border Trade and First Nations Economies; and Haudenosaunee and Akwesasne Youth Perspectives on the Border.

Presenters included border security and law enforcement personnel from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol; Grand River Enterprises; the Assembly of First Nations National Chief and several Regional Chiefs; as well as Indigenous leaders and representatives from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in Arizona; the Okanagan First Nation in British Columbia; the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs.

Background:

The border crossing rights of First Nations and the Indigenous people of North America has been a point of contention for many First

Nations and Tribes on both sides of the border. The imposition of the international border in the early part of the 1800's separated Indigenous peoples that were affiliated to each other through kinship, language, family and political alliances. The Indigenous people have always viewed the border as an artificial barrier that was aimed at other people and imposed on them without their consent. Today, Indigenous people cross the border for many reasons and in many cases on a daily basis.

For the Mohawks of Akwesasne, we are a unique indigenous border community. Half of the community resides in Canada, in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario and half of the community resides in the United States, in the State of New York. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has a First Nation membership of 12,000. The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe has a tribal membership of 13,000. The Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs has a membership in the thousands as well. While there is overlap between memberships, it can be said that approximately 18,000 live in the Akwesasne community.

Akwesasne is geographically landlocked by the St. Lawrence River. The only way to get from either of its two Quebec Districts is by travel through the United States portion of the community and travel back into Canada to reach the Ontario District. This travel is necessary to just go about our daily lives, for going to school, work, shopping, recreation, and entertainment purposes. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has been proactive in ensuring that the border has a minimal effect on its membership and has developed a positive relationship with the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP). It has been trying to do the same with the Canadian Government and the Canada Border Services Agency.

Outcome

One main outcome of the border conference was a shared desire amongst First Na-



tions to develop their own Enhanced Tribal Identification Card using modern technology to facilitate Indigenous peoples travel across the border. There are existing examples of enhanced identification cards that have been developed and are accepted at the U.S. Border Ports. The Government of the United States provides a grant for Tribes interested in developing an enhanced ID card and several tribes have begun using the card when returning to the United States from other countries.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe in Arizona is among the first to develop an enhanced identification card and provided a presentation. They noted that there are Yaqui people on both sides of the international border between the United States and Mexico. Their card is now in use at the U.S./Mexico border. Their presentation was followed by the Department of Homeland Security who explained the requirements and procedures for developing an enhanced tribal identification card and for accessing the grant for the card's development. They mentioned that a Memorandum of Agreement is developed first that

indicates the required security features and chip technology currently accepted at U.S. Ports of Entry.

A sidebar meeting was convened during the event between the MCA, the AFN Regional Chief for Alberta and representatives from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Ports of Entry at Massena and Alexandria Bay, as well as Six Nations Chief Ava Hill and Grand Chief for the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians Gordon Peters to discuss previous efforts and future steps to develop a pilot project for a secure First Nations Border Identification Card. Akwesasne has already convened two meetings with Washington to discuss a secure identification card for First Nations border communities. The United States has been supportive and willing to discuss further; however, there is still a lack of support from Canada and agreement to meet and discuss a Native formula.

Another outcome of the border conference was the call from First Nations that attended to create a new relationship with the Governments of Canada and the United States with the purpose of recognizing the border crossing rights of Indigenous peoples. In doing so, conference participants noted that the following objectives be identified in a Declaration of Border Crossing Rights for First Nations:

- The reaffirmation that Indigenous peoples, in the exercise of their rights, should be free from discrimination of any kind,
- The concern that Indigenous people have suffered from historic injustices as a result of their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular their right to develop in accordance with their own needs
- Recognizing the urgent need to respect and promote inherent rights of Indigenous peoples which derive from their political, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, espe-

cially their rights to their lands, territories and resources.

- Recognizing also the urgent need to respect and promote the rights of Indigenous peoples affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements with States
- Recognizing that respect for Indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contribute to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment
- Welcoming the fact that Indigenous peoples are organizing themselves for political, economic, social and cultural enhancement and in order to bring to an end all forms of discrimination and oppression wherever they occur.

Action

- A larger convening was requested in the near future to be located in the middle of the continent--perhaps in Minnesota, Winnipeg, or Manitoba. This future conference could be co-hosted by the Assembly of First Nations, the National Congress of American Indians and a host First Nation that resides on or near the international border.
- Draft and sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that outlines the business roles and responsibilities; as well as the facilitative technologies, data share, and the final product and terms of acceptance. The agreement establishes border ID card as a means to document an individual's identity, membership and security measures that need to be satisfied before cards can be issued. The Pascua Yaqui shared the MOA with the Department of Homeland Security that can be used as a template.
- The biggest challenge is to get the Government of Canada to formally recognize treaty and border crossing rights and accept an enhanced First Nation ID border security cards. Canada has fallen behind in that regard as far as use of technology for an enhanced border ID card for First

Nations and recognition of border crossing rights in comparison to the United States. It is hoped that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will assist in securing meetings and participating in discussions with Canada to recognize the border crossing needs of First Nations.

- It was determined that meeting(s) should occur no later than the end of November/ early December 2014 with Canadian and U.S. officials. We will be seeking assistance from the Assembly of First Nations to establish a meeting in Ottawa so that a report can be shared at the December 17th AFN meeting.

Conclusion

The information provided has been tailored for a presentation to the membership at the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's General Meeting. It provides a general overview of topics discussed and presentations that were made at Second International Indigenous Border Security Summit, with an update on the current initiative to develop a secure border identification card for the Mohawks of Akwesasne. A more detailed and comprehensive reporting is being prepared will be shared in the coming months.

UPDATE ON IRPA CASE AGAINST A. SHENANDOAH & E. THOMPSON

This case is a matter of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) challenging the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) with regard to mobility rights of the Akwesasne community. By forcing our people to report to Cornwall before going about with our business in the community, CBSA violates these mobility rights.

MCA is defending two Akwesasne residents who have been charged for not directly reporting to the Cornwall CBSA port when travelling from the southern districts of Akwesasne to the northern districts of Akwesasne. Phase 1 of the case was completed in 2013, and Phase 2 continued this December 2014.

Background

On August 30, 2011 Alicia Shenandoah was charged under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act with aiding and abetting aliens to enter Canada without appearing for examination by a border service officer. The “aliens” MS. Shenandoah was actually transporting were her six-year-old daughter and young cousin to Kawehno:ke before presenting herself at the customs in Cornwall.

On January 8, 2013 April Elaine Thompson was also charged under the Immigra-

tion and Refugee protection Act with aiding and abetting an alien to enter Canada without appearing for examination by a border service officer. The “alien” in this charge was Mrs. Thompson’s daughter, who she dropped off on Kawehno:ke before reporting to customs.

Phase 1

Phase 1 of the criminal test case involving Alicia Shenandoah and April Elaine Thompson was completed from Monday, December 9, 2013 to Wednesday, December 11, 2013.

The judge acquitted Alicia Shenandoah of the two charges under the Customs Act. Now Alicia Shenandoah and April Elaine Thompson face the same charge under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for aiding and abetting people to enter Canada without appearing for an examination by a border service officer.

Phase 2

This is the phase where our Aboriginal Rights, Treaty Rights, and Mobility Rights will be argued. Phase 2 began in June 2014, but was delayed until December 2014 because the Crown was not prepared. The trial was held in Cornwall. Morrisburg and Alexandria and lasted three weeks.

The Grand Chief testified, along with our expert witnesses Dr. Jon Parmenter, an historian and professor at Cornell University who is familiar with Akwesasne and Haudenosaunee history, and Dr. Francis Scardera, an archaeologist familiar with Akwesasne. Our expert witnesses have met with Gordon Scott Campbell to prep for the trial.

Our other potential community witnesses have been meeting with the lawyer to prepare for testifying. The Aboriginal Rights and Research Office has also been gathering sources for Dr. Jon Parmenter for his expert report.

Akwesasne resident who are interested in attending the trial were asked to notify the MCA’s Aboriginal Rights and Research Office for information on court dates and locations.



HUTCHINS LEGAL INC.
Barristers & Solicitors

Update on the Vehicle Seizures File in Federal Court Community General Meeting Akwesasne, Sept. 18, 2014

- With respect to the border crossing port being moved off of Cornwall Island to the city of Cornwall, Hutchins Legal Inc. is acting as legal counsel for the MCA before the Federal Court in an Action and a Judicial Review contesting the validity of the vehicle seizures and the fines that were imposed beginning in 2009.
- If the MCA paid the fine for you (usually \$1000), you are represented in this court file.
- The Judicial Review has been suspended for now and we are proceeding with the Action. Both proceedings deal with the same subject matter and are virtually identical. The Action contests the validity of the CBSA’s decisions to uphold the seizures of the vehicles and the Judicial Review contests the validity of the CBSA’s decisions to uphold the fines.
- Within the Action, the MCA amended their Statement of Claim after losing a Motion on three specific and technical legal arguments.
- Canada brought a Motion to Strike these amendments and a hearing was held in Montreal on July 30th, 2014.
- The hearing was well attended and the general feeling on the Court’s reaction was positive, however the decision has not been released yet.
- Depending on the outcome of the decision, the file should proceed to trial, at which witnesses will testify about the vehicle seizures and their personal experiences in relation to the seizure events.
- We would also work with experts to testify on the Mohawk Aboriginal Right to Mobility.

Department of Community & Social Services Extends Appreciation for Successful Snow Suit Drive

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Community and Social Services is notifying the Akwesasne community that it has completed another successful snowsuit drive. This year's campaign was the most successful one to date, which is due in large part to staff that volunteered their time and to community residents that generously donated items.

On November 22, 2014, Akwesasne parents,

grandparents or guardians picked up 459 new or gently used snowsuits at the St. Regis Recreation Center in the village of Kana:takon. This year's success nearly doubled last year's figure and more than tripled the results of the first drive that was held in December 2012 when 125 snowsuits were distributed.

Now in its third year, the Snow Suit Drive was envisioned during a strategic planning session that included all the Department of Commu-

nity and Social Service's Program Managers and Director. It has gone from being an idea to reality and is now a joint initiative of all five DCSS Programs. They are Akwesasne Child Care, Akwesasne Child and Family Services, Community Support, Iethinisten:ha Family Wellness, and the Ionkwanonhsassetsi Adolescent Treatment Center.

From November 3rd-14th, drop off bins were placed in seven locations throughout Akwesasne for individuals to donate clean, gently used snow jackets, pants, hats or gloves for children between the ages of 3 months and 18 years-old. The largest donations came from the three childcare centers located in Akwesasne's northern districts of Kana:takon, Kawehno:ke and Tsi Snaihne. Snowsuits were also purchased from Walmart and Giant Tiger in the City of Cornwall.

The Department of Community and Social Services plans to continue hosting the snow-suit drive well into the future. It is however, looking at continuing to build upon the success of this important annual event to better serve the Akwesasne community.

Organizers for the annual event extend their deep appreciation to the numerous staff and community members that participated and made the 2014 Snow Suit Drive a success. A special acknowledge goes out to ACFS Program Manager Rae Cook and her staff for coordinating and helping to make the whole event possible.

For more information, please contact the Department of Community and Social Services at (613) 575-2250 ext. 3305.

Postponement of Two Court Cases Defending Shenandoah and Thompson

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to inform the community that the CBSA Criminal Test Cases defending Alicia Shenandoah and April Elaine Thompson will be postponed until June 1, 2015. The Judge noted that any individuals required to be cross-examined in June will remain under oath and are prohibited to discuss any aspect of the court cases.

The Cornwall courts have been booked for the first two weeks of cross-examination and a third week will be held between the Alexandria and Cornwall courts, as available. The judge ruled that June 30, 2015 will be the final arguments from both sides.

Community members are encouraged to attend the trial in support of Akwesasne's aboriginal and mobility rights, and to provide moral support to the two women who the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is defending in court. The results of this case will impact the Akwesasne community in what we hope will be a positive manner.

Please see the revised schedule below.

Week 1 - June 1st to June 5th In Cornwall Courts

Week 2 - June 8th to June 13th in Cornwall Courts

Week 3 - June 15th to June 19th in Cornwall or Alexandra Courts as available.

Week 4 - Court days pending.

Week 5 - June 30th - Judge will hear final arguments.

Summer Recess

September 11, 2015 - Judge will release his WRITTEN decision.

Update: Kawehno:ke District Chief Abram Benedict

EDUCATION

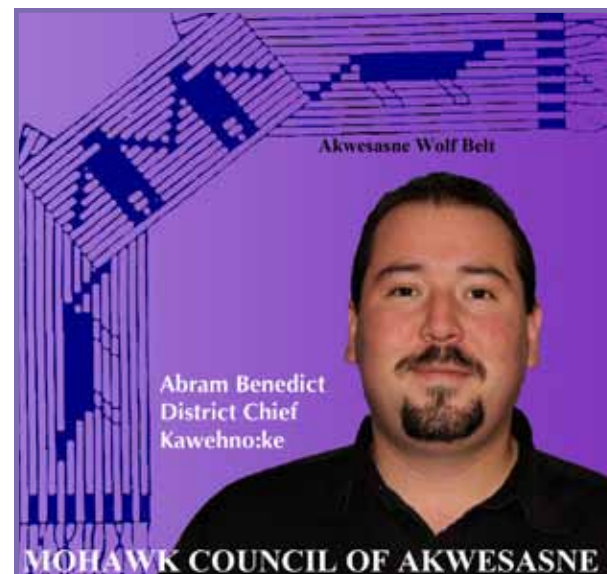
The Education Portfolio Chair recently instituted monthly meetings between the Acting-Director of Education Debbie Terrance and Portfolio Chiefs. On October 6th, Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs and myself met with the Acting-Director. Debbie provided an update from the Chiefs of Ontario's Special Education Working Group on the regional allocation for special education funding in Ontario and explained that recent changes at Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (AANDC) have resulted in many First Nations having surpluses within their special education budgets. This is a concern to the Working Group as a surplus in special education funding may lead the federal government deciding to take the surplus dollars back and cut next year's allocation. Debbie will be participating with the group to come up with a way to resolve the potential problem. Akwesasne currently runs a small deficit under the allocation from AANDC for special education. Debbie also updated us on the AMBE board member orientation and staff changes that are upcoming.

ABORIGINAL CHILDREN AND YOUTH STRATEGY

On October 8th, I traveled to Toronto for the Leadership Roundtable on the Aboriginal Children and Youth Strategy with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs for Ontario. Akwesasne supported and assisted the Independent First Nation's presentation on jurisdiction and control of First Nation child welfare. Each Political Territorial Organization (PTO) made presentations on each PTO's vision for child welfare. The common theme among the four PTOs was jurisdiction and control, yet each had a different delivery model. After the presentations, the Minister of Children and Youth Services Tracy MacCharles asked the technical table to continue their work with the Ministry in development of the strategy.

PROGRAM REVIEW BY AANDC

In September 2014, we were notified by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada that they would be conduct-



ing a review of the Iethinisten:ha Family Wellness Program as part of their routine reviews of shelters funded by the Family Violence Prevention Program. On October 22-23, AANDC's Geraldine Cullingham and Jacob Krolczyk visited the Family Wellness Program to conduct the review. On the morning of October 22nd, Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs and myself attended the meeting to



Kawehno:ke Chief Abram Benedict with members of the Aboriginal Children and Youth Strategy Roundtable.

Akwesasne Hosts Aboriginal Leadership Initiative

The Aboriginal Leadership Development Initiative of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) has been in operation for just three years. The initiative is different from the regular approach to training government employees as it provides participants with a unique opportunity to speak and learn from First Nation leaders and staff about leadership and development. The ALDI group was comprised of Aboriginal employees of AANDC and, for the first time, the Department of Public Security had two participants in the training session.

The AANDC people in charge of the training session worked closely with Akwesasne to develop an agenda for the week in planning meetings with speakers and Chiefs. As a result, this year's ALDI was different from previous years; as it involved an elder, speakers and meetings in Akwesasne, and a cultural night with local traditional food, singers and dancers.

ELDER SERVICES

The elder selected to work with the leadership group was Tom Porter, who currently resides in the Mohawk Valley. Born and raised in Akwesasne, Tom has dedicated his life to Mohawk culture, language and education. He has been a cultural teacher for many groups and has served as an assistant professor at various universities. He has also taught cultural awareness to government groups and other organizations.

Tom was very well received and respected by participants of the ALDI leadership program. They appreciated his guidance and cultural knowledge that he shared with the group, along with his healthy sense of Mohawk humor.

SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS

The speakers from the Akwesasne community included Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Grand Chief Mike Kanentakeron Mitchell, Kawehno:ke Chief Brian David and Tsi Smaihne April Adams-Phillips who



Tom Porter, seated center, was a welcomed Akwesasne elder that attended the Aboriginal Leadership Development Initiative and shared his cultural knowledge and guidance with Aboriginal employees for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

all discussed their experience as an elected leader. Other presenters included senior MCA staff members; such as the Director of Community and Social Services Robyn Mitchell, Assistant Director of Health Cindy Francis-Mitchell, Chief of Police Jerry Swamp, Director of Justice Joyce King, Environmental Science Officer Henry Lickers, Assistant Director of Education Debbie Terrance, and A/Economic Development Officer Kylee Tarbell. All of these speakers discussed their area of expertise, challenges and issues facing their individual departments, programs and services.

The ALDI participants were separated into three separate groups based on their area of employment and matched up with Akwesasne presenters based on their respective fields. The participants were able to interact and ask questions to each of the speakers in preparing their own presentations to the rest of the ALDI group that took place during the evening sessions.

YOUTH PRESENTATION

Two young ladies from Akwesasne were asked to do a "Blanket Exercise" with the group. The young ladies were Wabi Tenasco and Shara Francis-Herne. This exercise was developed by Kairos Canada and it outlined the history of Native people in Canada. During the course of the exercise the blanket gets folded and people are forced to crowd together due to loss of land and smaller populations. The Native population gets reduced through disease, war and disenfranchisement through residential schools and other events. At the same time, First Nations lands were reduced through war, treaty agreements and unscrupulous deals.

The combination of the loss of land and smaller populations remove people from standing on the blankets. By the end of the exercise, the available space of the blankets is very small and the number of people on the blankets has dwindled greatly. The exercise had a big impact on the group, as it

reminded them of their own First Nation community's history.

Akwesasne personalized the exercise with the inclusion of wars where our people fought and died, the introduction of the elected system of governance that was done violently and resulted in the killing of one Akwesasne citizen (Jake Fire) and the imprisonment of our Traditional Chiefs. The exercise got emotional at several points, but the two young ladies did an excellent job and promoted lots of discussions.

COMMUNITY CULTURAL EVENT

The ALDI group requested a cultural night for their final supper before the training ended. It was decided that this would be hosted by the Native North American Traveling College. The NNATC has a museum, offices, an arbor and cultural grounds. The event started with a tour of the museum complete with tour guides. The ALDI visitors were able to look at the Haudenosaunee arts, crafts and historical exhibits located at the museum. The tour was followed by a traditional meal of fish, potatoes, corn soup and fried bread.

The ALDI group put up a tree with branches outlining what they had learned during the week from the training and interaction with the Akwesasne leaders. This was followed by songs and dances from a group of young men from the community. The ALDI group enjoyed learning Haudenosaunee dances and hearing the distinctive songs from the water drums and rattles. The ALDI group got to dance to songs heard often in our longhouse for socials and ceremonies. There were many smiles and lots of expressions of gratitude for this event and a special Thanks to the staff of the Native North American Traveling College.


CONCLUSION

The Aboriginal Leadership Development Initiative of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada is a very innovative and proactive approach for training government employees about First Nation communities. It is good experience for AANDC's Aboriginal employees that work

in an urban setting and seldom have an opportunity to get first hand knowledge from First Nations elders and leaders.

The program will no doubt prove to be an enlightening and educational experience for the participants of the ALDI program. The First Nation that hosts this event will

get to know some of the people at AANDC that may service the community, as well as provide a valuable learning experience to other First Nation and Aboriginal people.



Affaires autochtones et
Développement du Nord Canada

Sous-ministre

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0H4

Aboriginal Affairs and
Northern Development Canada

Deputy Minister

12 NOV. 2014

Grand Chief Mike Kanentakeron Mitchell
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
PO Box 579
CORNWALL ON K6H 5T3

Dear Grand Chief Mitchell:

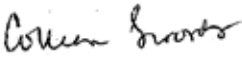
On behalf of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, I would like to thank you for contributing to the success of the Aboriginal Leadership Development Initiative training session held in the Mohawk Community of Akwesasne at the NAV Centre in Cornwall from September 22-26, 2014. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne provided an incredible amount of support in making the training session a meaningful experience for all participants.

Including a First Nation component to the Aboriginal Leadership Development Initiative is essential. As developing pre-eminent leaders, the Initiative's participants were able to broaden their awareness and perspectives of a First Nation's challenges and realities by learning about the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's success stories and best practices. All participants indicated that they learned a great deal from the community leaders and managers. Without the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's support and contribution, this learning event would certainly not have been as effective.


Mr. Tom Porter's participation was also very valuable throughout the training session. The Elder's presence, involvement and insightful knowledge of traditions and teachings were highly regarded by the participants. A special thanks is also extended to Mr. Vaughn Sunday for all of his contributions, especially the co-ordination of activities held throughout the week.

Let us hope that other collaborations such as this one can be established again in the near future. Once again, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude on behalf of the Department and I look forward to working together in the future.

Yours sincerely,



Colleen Swords



Ontario Power Generation Donates Laptops to Iohahi:io

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and the Community of Akwesasne have been strengthening and developing their relationship since the signing of a Final Settlement Agreement (FSA) in 2008. OPG has contributed to many initiatives in the community of Akwesasne, providing funds and knowledge to various programs and projects. OPG's contributions to the Akwesasne community have come from its Capacity Building Initiative, improving upon and building Akwesasne's knowledge and expertise to grow current programs or develop new ones.

Ontario Power Generation was recently

sent a proposal from Margaret Lafrance, on behalf of the Iohahi:io Adult Learning Facility, located in the Akwesasne district of Tsisnaihne. Ms. Lafrance submitted a proposal to OPG for assistance in the purchase of new laptops and a mobile cart, which can build upon current student curriculums in the classroom. The mobile unit would provide teachers with the capacity to teach courses online, and provide students with more resources in the classroom. With many demands on its computer lab, and limited computer access, the purchase of the mobile unit and laptops will provide teachers and students with more resources

to complete assignments, build the necessary skills for students looking to enter the workforce, and keep their skills current with today's demands.

On Thursday, October 30, 2014, OPG and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's (MCA) Joint Implementation Team, a team made up of OPG and MCA representatives, held its monthly team meeting at the Iohahi:io facility, and were able to see the laptops which OPG had funded. The assistance OPG has provided in the past, and its current contribution was greatly appreciated by the Iohahi:io staff, students, and faculty.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE HOUSING DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

"The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Housing Authority is established to develop and implement a fair and equitable housing policy, and to ensure that the members of Akwesasne Community have equal access to affordable and quality housing."

THE FOLLOWING IS AN OUTLINE OF THE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO ARE MAKING AN APPLICATION FOR ANY PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

1. Complete Application in its entirety. Incomplete applications may be refused. It is the responsibility of the applicant (s) to keep their file updated each year, so that it is current.
2. Applicant must be over the age of 18.
3. Membership Requirements: Applicant (s) must be a member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne, in accordance with the Akwesasne Membership Code. Membership verification is to be done through the Office of Vital Statistics. If applicant (s) cannot meet the membership requirements, the application for any loan or rental unit cannot be approved.
4. All applicants must complete the qualifying criteria, and must be in good standing with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, as per the Good Standing Policy.
5. If applying for Upgrade program, you must have a Certificate of Possession (CP) in your name for the property.
6. When applying for Section 95 rentals or Section 95 Home Ownership Program—you must not have land in your name, as you will be disqualified from applying for this program.
7. Applicant must have a good credit rating, and the ability to repay— applicant should be capable of covering the loan repayment with 25% of income.
8. All applicants must own home and the home must be their primary residence. Loans will not be provided to repair rental units for landlords.

FOLLOWING ARE THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING.

Inspection Services:

Home inspection services are available to Akwesasne residents under MCA jurisdiction. Inspections will provide homeowners with knowledge of the repairs needed for their home.

PLEASE NOTE: Having your home inspected does not guarantee that you will receive services through the Housing Department (homeowners must still meet the eligibility criteria to be approved).

New Construction Loans:

The Department of Housing receives an annual allocation from IMAC which is used to finance housing loans for community members.

Approvals for new construction loans will be once each year for the upcoming construction season. Applicants (s) are to ensure their information and criteria are complete before this time, in order to be considered for approval.

The maximum loan available is set at \$ 135,000.00; we do a minimum of 5 approvals per year.

Land Requirements for New Construction Loans:

- Applicant (s) must hold a Certificate of Possession for the land in their name, and provide a sketch of their land. Applicant (s) must ensure that land has been properly surveyed; this will be verified with the Office of Vital Statistics.
- In cases where land is required to be surveyed, the applicant will assume this cost.
- Applicant (s) must be willing to sign land over to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne as security for the loan. The co-applicants name, if he/she is a member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne, must appear on the Certificate of Possession or a letter verifying the co-applicant will be a joint tenant before approval is received.
- The minimum lot size for an unserviced lot shall be one (1) acre.
- The lot must be accessible by road, and hydro must be in place. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne will not pay for the installation of hydro poles.

Upgrade Program:

Program Objective:

The Mohawk Council Housing Authority has developed the Upgrade so that homeowners may gradually maintain, repair, and renovate their homes to the condition they are comfortable with.

The program provides what is necessary to allow safe, healthy and efficient homes. With the utilization of this program, the list for repairs should lower, and the lifetime of the homes should increase.

The Program will provide funding for the following:

- Maintenance ----- Small loans for preventive maintenance or emergency type situations;
 - To provide a small loan of up to \$1,500.00 per year with a minimum payback of at least \$100.00 / per month.
- Repair ----- Provide loans for repairs, no renovations allowed.
 - To provide a repair loan of \$8,000.00; payments are \$229.14 /per month.
- Renovation ----- This program will allow homeowner to upgrade components of their home to make more efficient, thus allowing a more comfortable living environment.
 - To provide a renovation loan of \$12,000.00; payments are \$343.71/ per month.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Bank of Montreal:

In February of 1998, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, the Mohawk Council Housing Authority and the Bank of Montreal entered into an agreement, whereby the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would guarantee mortgages for those who qualify for the construction of new homes, purchase an existing home, and major renovations.

Program Goals:

- To provide community members with an alternative source of funding to achieve their housing goals.
- To provide contractor's with an opportunity to expand their businesses.
- To help alleviate the backlog of housing for those who qualify through the bank.

Program Description:

- Applicant completes Qualifying Criteria forms (i.e. plot plans, membership verification and land ownership).
- Applicant makes application for loan at Bank of Montreal who will notify MCA Housing Department in writing of conditional loan approval.
- Funds borrowed through this program are to be used to construct, complete major renovations (i.e. loan repayment exceeds 5 years) or purchase an owner-occupied, principal residence of the borrower.
- Applicant must obtain and submit to the MCA Housing Department all estimates and/or contract documents which will show the total costs for a completed project. These estimates/quotes will determine the loan amount and the equity of the borrower has to contribute.
- Applicant must submit proof of availability of personal funds which is the minimum 5% down payment or the difference required to complete.
- A Land Transfer must be signed to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne as security for the term of the loan.

The borrower (s) are required to sign an agreement which includes conditions pertaining to the guarantee, such as transferring their right, title and interest to the land to Mohawk Council as security for the loan, a Default Agreement which indicates the consequences of default, and the loan agreement.

The maximum amount allowed to borrow under this program is \$150,000.00.

Emergency Elders Fund:

Currently there are no programs that can address emergency type situations for the elders of the Community. This policy will establish a guideline for elder's to receive assistance for small emergency repairs where if not corrected would impact their health and safety. Emergency assistance would be for items such as: no water, no heat, and minor repairs to address the situation until funding can be determined. The funding for emergency assistance will be limited to reasonable amounts to cover the actual emergency. These funds will be available to those who do not have the financial resources to qualify for any other existing loans or services available through the Mohawk Council Housing Department.

CRITERIA: Applicant must be head of household; Applicants must own home and is their primary residence. Must be residing in MCA jurisdiction, and must be an enrolled member as per the Membership Code and be 65 years of age and over.

M.C.A. Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program:

This program financed through CMHC provides forgivable loans to address structural deficiencies. Applicant (s) must meet the income guidelines, own their home, and adhere to the terms and conditions in order for the loan to be forgiven at the end of five years. The maximum amount allowed for this program is \$16,000.00.

Home Adaptations for Senior's Independence (HANSI):

This CMHC-funded program was developed to help elders (65+) stay in their homes by providing ramps, grab bars and small adaptations to the homes. Funding is currently approved at \$3,500.00 per elder/per household. This funding is very limited and we can only assist persons when funding is available. This grant can only be received once per household.

CMHC SECTION 95 – RENTALS

With loans made available from (CMHC) Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is able to build single family dwellings/duplexes/apartments on Council owned land in the three districts of Akwesasne. The objective of this program is to provide homes for those community members who would normally qualify for New Construction loans but do not own land.

Housing units are built on Council land and then offered to Community Members who qualify based on the Selection Criteria established. These units are to be rented for the term of the loan. Rental amounts are based on the loan repayment and subsidies are provided by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation for maintenance and other operating costs.

CMHC SECTION 95 – RENTAL UNITS

The Department of Housing has over 90+ rental units available to community members. These units are a combination of Band built units and units built under CMHC. Rent varies to a minimum of \$442.00 and up to a maximum of \$572.00 per unit.



BAYVIEW APARTMENTS BUILDING

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR ALL CMHC UNITS:

- ✓ Must be a member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne
- ✓ Must not hold a Certificate of Possession of land with the Mohawks of Akwesasne.
- ✓ Must have ability to repay.
- ✓ Must be willing to sign and accept all conditions of the Section 95 Rental Agreement
- ✓ Applications must be completed and updated once a year
- ✓ Must have a good credit rating as confirmed with identified references on application
- ✓ Must be in Good Standing with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne according to the Good Standing Policy.



SECTION 95 SINGLE UNIT HOME



KAWENOKE RIVERVIEW APARTMENTS

SWEETGRASS MANOR ELIGIBILITY:

- ✓ Must be the age of 55 years or older, able to live independently;
- ✓ Must be a member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne
- ✓ Must be in good standing with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne according to the Good Standing Policy.



SWEETGRASS MANOR APARTMENT BUILDING

If you would like more information regarding any of the mentioned programs please phone the Admin. building at: (613) 575-2500 Extension 2900.

Home Furnance Maintenance Schedule

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Housing Department would like to take this time to discuss how to maintain your home's forced air furnace. Maintaining your furnace will improve your indoor air quality, prolong the life of the furnace and save on expensive repair bills.

Safety around the furnace is very important. You must read the manual and articles pertaining to your furnace before attempting any maintenance activities. Always leave adjusting flames and controls to qualified furnace technicians.

ONCE A MONTH

- Change or clean filters during the heat-

ing season. To determine how dirty the filters are, hold them up, if you can easily see light through them, then they're still clean enough to use. If you see black soot or deposits on filter, STOP using furnace and contact furnace technicians immediately, this is a sign of harmful gas getting into the home.

- If you have a two-speed continuous operating fan (air conditioning), you may want to check filters in the summer.
- Inspect the furnace for worn, shiny or sagging belts. They cause undue stress on the fan motor. If belt is worn or loose, have a qualified furnace technician replace belt.

- Look for oil leaks around furnace and tanks. (for oil furnaces only)

ONCE A YEAR

- Get a yearly preventative maintenance check (\$100-\$130) from a service company. At a minimum, the technician should check fan controls, air filters, blower belt, belt alignment and ducts. They should also check and adjust the burner flame and if necessary, lubricate moving parts.
- Make sure your air intake vent outside is clean and not plugged with bugs, dandelion seeds, cottonwood seeds and other debris. Clean with stiff brush, if needed.

- Check to ensure your combustion air supply is not blocked outside or where it enters your furnace room on the floor. *Note: conventional oil furnaces need one cubic foot of combustion air for every one thousand BTUs. Closing or renovating furnace rooms without proper combustion air supply may cause backdrafting into the home creating negative pressure.(this is quite common in Akwesasne)*
- If your chimney is equipped with a clean out, check to see if the cleanout cap is in place. They can fall off from deterioration

or lawn care equipment. Missing caps may cause backdrafting and overheating of vent connectors. *Note: discoloration and black sot deposits on vent connectors are signs of overheating.*

ONCE EVERY TWO TO FIVE YEARS

- Get furnace and ductwork cleaned by a vacuum truck (\$130). This may be needed every two years if you have pets or live near a gravel road. Furnace duct cleaning should also be done after new construction or major renovations.

- Check furnace exhaust vent on the roof for rust, blockage from bird's nests, bee's nests and wind damage.

If you are unable to complete these important inspections and maintenance tasks, or have questions about your heating system, please call the Housing Department. Mohawk Council provides free inspection services to residents that live in the northern portion of Akwesasne and can be scheduled by calling housing inspector Corey Tarbell at (613) 575-2250 extension 2305.

Environmental Health Officer Naeem Irshad

I am a certified Public Health Inspector from the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors.

I have a B.ASc in the Public Health & Safety program from Ryerson University in Toronto. I also have a doctor of veterinary Medicine degree and a master's degree in the Veterinary Parasitology; along with courses and certification as Pest Exterminator, Playground Safety Inspector, Disaster Management, and Onsite Septic Systems.

I have worked in various public health programs in Ontario; such as Communicable Disease and Infection Control, Food Safety, Safe Water, Rabies Prevention and Control, Health Hazard Investigation, Indoor Air Quality, Injury Prevention, Housing, Onsite Septic Treatments and Tobacco Control.

I have provided consultation and education to the general public, government agencies, local and regional officials, and other professionals.

My duties as an Environmental Health Officer include, but are not limited to:

- Inspection of facilities that include health, community care, recreational and general facilities accessible to the public with regard to general sanitation, general structure, safety conditions, food safety practices including food handler certifications, water quality, sewage and solid waste disposal,

pest control, crowding and air quality. Provide public health inspections of on-reserve public/social housing including complaint investigations.



- Review plans for new or renovated facilities from a public health perspective, Provide information on decommission/renovation hazards that could adversely impact the health of community members or workers, Provide the education, advice, guidance and recommendations

to Chiefs, Councils, owners, operators, employees and users of facilities pertaining to public health.

- I am involved in the drinking water monitoring to verify DW quality through SAMPLING and TESTING of water distribution system, and Public-Access wells and review and interpret water quality results and provide advice, guidance and recommendations to community members about drinking water safety issues.

What I hope to accomplish in my position:

- Take new perspectives on environmental health issues and eventually influence others.
- I also hope to accumulate experiences such as learning about the culture of people of Akwesasne, meeting new people and basically becoming familiarized with customs and traditions and communicate with all the community members to develop my network.

The Environmental Health Officer can be reached at (613) 575-2341 ext 3226 or at (613) 551-1153 (Work Cell).

How to Import Vehicles Into Canada

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to inform the community that if an individual intends on importing a vehicle into Canada from the United States, it **MUST** comply with Canadian Import Laws. In addition, the vehicle must meet the requirements set in place by Transport Canada. The following requirements are necessary to begin the process of importing a vehicle from the United States into Canada.

What is considered a vehicle?

Transport Canada defines a vehicle as any means of transportation that is capable of being driven or drawn on roads, by means other than muscular power exclusively, but does not run on rails. Trailers, such as recreational, camping, boat, horse and stock trailers are considered vehicles, as well as wood chippers, generators, or any other equipment mounted on rims and tires.

Can all vehicles manufactured for sale in the United States be imported?

No. As a general rule, if the vehicle is less than fifteen years old, it must be registered

under Transport Canada's Registrar of Imported Vehicles (RIV) program. The RIV program ensures that qualifying vehicles imported are inspected and certified to meet Canadian safety standards. If your vehicle qualifies, you must register it at the CBSA office on arrival. The RIV program registration fee is \$195.00 plus GST, or Quebec sales tax (QST) if entering through a port in Quebec. You then have forty-five (45) days to have necessary changes made to your vehicle and have it inspected. You cannot license your vehicle until it passes the federal inspection from the RIV.

Will I need to pay taxes or duties on my vehicle being imported?


Under the Akwesasne Remission Order (ARO), you will not have to pay taxes or duties on the vehicle being imported as long as it is for your personal or household use. In order for the ARO to apply, you will need to have the vehicle imported at the CBSA Port in Cornwall and Akwesasne residents will still be required to pay the RIV registration fee. Individuals wanting to import their ve-

hicle will also need to fill out a Vehicle Import Form 1, which will be completed by you and CBSA in order to have your vehicle licensed in Canada.

Do I need to contact United States Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) prior to importing my vehicle from the United States into Canada?

It's important to know that the original certificate of title must be given to the US Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) at least 72 hours prior to importing. This is done to ensure there are no liens from a bank or lending agency and that the vehicle is not stolen. The vehicle has to be presented to USCBP office before exporting.

If you have any additional questions regarding importing a vehicle from the United States into Canada, please do not hesitate to contact Wesley Benedict, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Community Advocate on CBSA Complaints at 613-575-2250 ext. 1031.



Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Affaires autochtones et Développement du Nord Canada

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Notice of Issuance of Status Cards

Please Note: Departmental Policy on Certificates of Indian Status (CIS) states that no more than **two (2)** CIS shall be issued to a Registered Indian within any **12 Month Period**.

If you have received two Status Cards in the past 12 months, we will **not** issue another one.




Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Affaires autochtones et Développement du Nord Canada

ID REQUIREMENTS FOR CIS (STATUS CARDS)

2 PIECES OF IDENTIFICATION
OR
1 PIECE OF ID AND 1 GUARANTOR FORM

ACCEPTABLE ID INCLUDES: Drivers License Health Card Birth Certificate or Baptism Fire Arms License Provincial ID Card Employee ID, with digitized photo Old Status Card (cannot be expired for more than 6 months) Student ID Card, with digitized photo Nexus Card (counts as 2 pieces) Passport (counts as 2 pieces)	UNACCEPTABLE ID INCLUDES: SIN Card Photocopy of ID Bank Card Expired Card (Exception: Status Card can be expired for up to 6 months)
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*Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada will **not** accept Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Cards



Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Affaires autochtones et Développement du Nord Canada

New Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Requirements

CIS CARD APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

IS A OLDER

- Must provide two pieces of ID
Or
One piece of ID and Guarantor Declaration

IS A YOUNGER

- Must have one piece of ID of parent or legal guardian and one piece of ID for child
Or
One piece of ID of parent or legal guardian and one Guarantor Declaration

IMPORTANT: If the legal guardian is applying on behalf of the child, a copy of the legal guardianship order naming the guardian is mandatory.

GUARANTOR:
A Guarantor must have known the applicant for a minimum of two years. The guarantor must also write: "This is a true likeness of [applicant's name]" on the back of one photo and also sign and date it. This photo must be submitted with the application.

ACCEPTABLE ID: Certificate of Birth or Baptism Health Card Provincial ID Card Driver's License Employee ID, with digitized photo Old Status Card (Cannot be expired for more than 6 months) Passport/Nexus Card (counts as two pieces of ID - another piece is not required)	ACCEPTABLE GUARANTORS: Chief/Councilor/IRA Dentist, Medical Doctor, or Chiropractor Judge, Magistrate, Police Officer Lawyer, Notary Public Principal Pharmacist Professional Accountant Social Worker Veterinarian
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IMPORTANT: Individuals who had a Secure Certificate of Indian Status cannot revert back to a Certificate of Indian Status Card.

Please contact the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Toronto Regional Office if you have questions, at: 416-973-7517 Or Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Office of Vital Statistics at: 613-575-2250

Entsiakwakaèn:ion Tsi ni Kionkwè:non

"We will be looking back at where we came from"

Fighting on all Sides: 1812-1900

(Part 1 of 3: 1812-1850)

The next era of Akwesasne's History is very lengthy and has been broken into three sections. The First section will focus on the impacts of the War of 1812 on Akwesasne and the changes with the International Border. The Second section will focus on the Residential Schools and mindset of the Indian Act. The final section will discuss the illegal surrender of the Dundee Lands and the evolving leadership models in Akwesasne.

"The annihilation of our race is at hand unless we unite..." – Chief Tecumseh (1811)

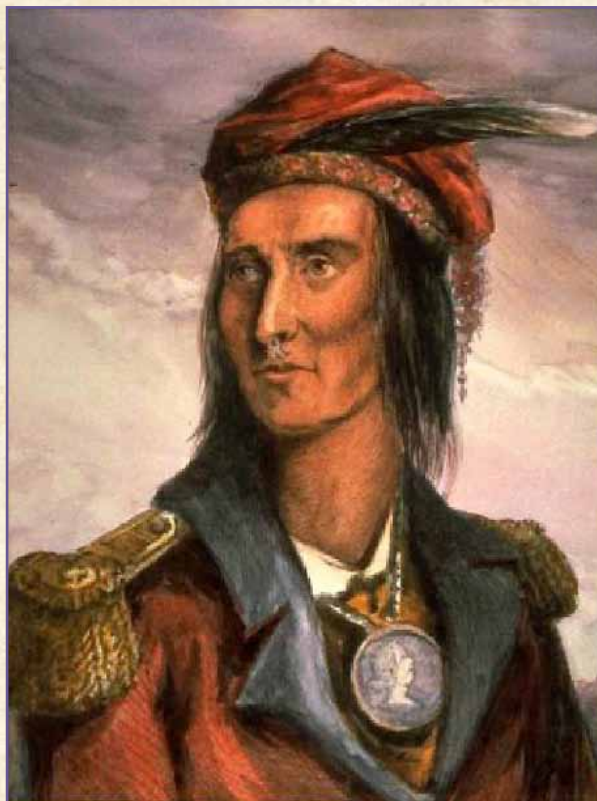
Being constricted to small communities, the Haudenosaunee and Akwesasne had a hard time adapting to change and constantly fought for survival during the 1800's. The struggle is from all sides as war, politics, famine, disease, and bad land deals negatively affected Akwesasne.

WAR OF 1812: BATTLE FOR NORTH AMERICA

While the War of 1812 (1812-1814) was formally between the newly establish American government and the British Loyalists of Upper and Lower Canada, Akwesasne was right in the middle. No other Haudenosaunee community was as greatly affected after the War of 1812 as Akwesasne, and even today those effects are still felt.

President Madison declared war on the British in the summer of 1812 hoping that the American military would be seen as liberators for the rest of the North American continent. British ships had been harassing and imprisoning "British deserters" on American ships, and the American people wanted to show their military strength on a world stage. By removing British Crown control over North America the Americans

hoped they could secure their borders from any British threat and to declare the entire continent open for settlement without Crown obligations to First Nation People.



A depiction of Tecumseh from c. 1915

TECUMSEH: SHAWNEE LEADER

Chief Tecumseh, a Shawnee leader, feared that the Western territories protected by the British Crown would fall to the American forces without support from the First Nations. He raised the idea of a "pan-Indian" resistance to repel American expansion and sought support from the Haudenosaunee to remove the American threat. The Haudenosaunee, who were still divided and recovering from the American Revolution, were not so eager to join the conflict and Buffalo Creek formally declared their neutrality from the War of 1812. This did not stop individual communities and people from act-

ing on their own and Grand River rushed to support the British during the Niagara Frontier Campaign because they feared the loss of their land base by an American invasion force.

The Americans had several campaign fronts, in which one objective was to have a military force travel from Lake Ontario down the St. Lawrence River in order to 'liberate' Montréal from British rule. Akwesasne was right in the middle of the war path, but the community had formally declared neutrality. This did not stop individuals from joining both sides of the St. Lawrence River Campaign as some men acted as scouts and lead the American forces along the tricky rapids and islands of the St. Lawrence River.

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER CAMPAIGN: BATTLES OF CHATEAUGUAY AND CRYSLER'S FARM

The first part of the American plan to take Montréal was to send a force north from Plattsburgh, and the other would travel down the St. Lawrence River from Watertown. On October 26, 1813 The American forces with inexperienced troops and poor terrain were defeated by the British Canadian Forces and their Mohawk allies at the Battle of Chateaugay.

On November 11th 1813, the American forces were looking to cross the river and land their forces on the northern shores at Crysler's Farm in Upper Canada (Ontario). A loyalist regiment of militia with several Mohawk Tyendinaga scouts and sharpshooters helped repel the American invasion force. Some men from Akwesasne participated in this battle. In the end the Americans abandoned their war efforts along the St. Lawrence River to capture Lower Canada (Quebec) at Montréal.

By the end of the war, an army surgeon

stationed at French Mills (Fort Covington) remarked that “St Regis” lost more than half of the male population in the War of 1812. Reports stated that Akwesasne was divided in three parts between British Loyalists, American Patriots and neutral factions; with a majority reported to be in support of the British. As the war ended the Onondaga and Oneida mixed community of Oswegatchie was fully dislocated by the American operations at Ogdensburg and many of them relocated to Akwesasne or back to Onondaga. This migration is one source of the Snipe, Deer and Beaver Clan members that are present in Akwesasne.

BORDERS: STATUS QUO

When the fighting finally stopped nothing changed between the American government and the British colonies after they signed the Treaty of Ghent in 1815 and the international border between the two countries was still the same prior to the war. The treaty had a provision that upheld all First Nation rights and treaties prior to 1811, primarily protecting occupancy and mobility rights.

The same 45° parallel border that bisected Akwesasne into a northern and southern portion after the American Revolution was upheld. Akwesasne would be reassured by government officials that the border would not affect residents of Akwesasne even as both Indian Agents and community members would routinely enforce the border. Veterans, immediately after the war were not willing to share their annual monies with their opposing neighbors, and annual payments would no longer be shared with both sides of the community. American and British veterans from Akwesasne fought over lands and several British Loyalists were sent to live on the islands by their American counterparts. A once united community was split between American and British loyalties.

ANGLO-AMERICAN BOUNDARY COMMISSION: 1817 – 1818

As part of the Treaty of Ghent, a boundary commission was established and released a report in 1822 to reaffirm the boundary

separating Canada and the United States, with specific detail to the St. Lawrence River area. Akwesasne was the starting point of the commission as the 45° parallel border runs into the river. From that point the border was to be equal distance from the two shorelines, and the islands would be equally divided as officials suspected illicit border trade could occur on bisected, hard to patrol islands.

This would mean several islands that have been territory of Akwesasne were claimed by either the Americans or Canadian officials. To add to the complication of the border, the city of Kingston sought to have the large Wolfe Island as a protective buffer and in return New York State could claim Barnhart and Baxter Islands which have been part of Akwesasne and were leased to Canadian settlers. Those families would later be compensated by New York State.

NATURAL DISASTER: WORLD FAMINE

Between 1815-1816 Mount Tambora, a volcano in the Pacific Ocean erupted and its ash cloud cooled the world climate for several years. World famine occurred as several frosts and cold spells destroyed many farms and 1816 became known as, “the year without a summer,” with snowfall that ended in June and winter frosts that began in August. Akwesasne experienced failure of crops and the river had barely provided enough food. As Europe was hit hard with the climate change, several waves of immigrants sought to move to North America and many looked to settle along the St. Lawrence River and Great Lake regions that were least effected by the climate change.

LAND DEALS

With so much disease and limited food supplies, Akwesasne tried to lease lands to settlers in order raise an income for the community. These leases ended up being sources of issues as settlers would pay and clear the lands, but expected to be true land owners afterwards and refused to continue payments. Agents acted in favor of the settlers and allowed accounts to lapse, and many times the settlers would petition to

have clear title to the lease lands and have them removed from Reserve status.

EASTERBROOK: TRESPASSING ON KAWEHNOKE

In 1816 the center area of Kawehnoke was leased to the British Indian Agent Solomon Chesley with the idea of generating annual incomes. The land leases would later be sold to the Easterbrook family. The 200 acres lease continued for 118 years and which violated several documents including, the Royal Proclamation of 1763, Indian Affairs policy, two Canadian Federal court rulings and community complaints. Some of the lessees were German immigrants seeking suitable farm land. Akwesasne residents would be forcibly removed for trespassing on the leased lands and some surviving community members remember the threats of the Indian Agent towards trespassers. After the death of the last lease holder, the lands were returned back to Akwesasne and land tracts were divided up to Mohawk families in need, by lottery distribution.

In 1995, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne filed a land claim against Canada for the duration of the illegal leases and in 2004 negotiations began to settle the claim. Finally in 2012 the final settlement agreement was signed and Canada awarded \$4.4 million to Akwesasne for damages.

EPIDEMICS:

By the spring of 1829, waves of Smallpox spread throughout the community and “swept off great numbers” which prompted the British government to vaccinate the community. Unclean and infected water lead to cholera outbreaks and then typhus was spread by fleas and lice. Both diseases killed several dozen people in Akwesasne and continued to plague the community for years.

In 1832 Asiatic Cholera and Typhus Fever broke out in St. Regis Village with a majority infected and caused several deaths, but because the community was so divided Hogansburg reported no infections. Deep divisions within the community made St. Regis and Hogansburg act as two separate communities with little interaction between the

two. Outbreaks of Cholera, Smallpox and Typhus continue in Akwesasne and cause several deaths on a regular basis through this era as living conditions in the community do not improve very much.

HOGANSBURG: LEASED LANDS

Michael Hogan was born in Ireland and between 1807 and 1809 purchased over 20,000 acres of land from Alexander Maccomb in upstate New York State. These lands included the southern portion of Akwesasne and in 1817 he had leased lands from Akwesasne which became known as Hogansburg and, constructed a mill and operated a ferry under contract with the St. Regis Mohawk Trustees. The southern portion of Akwesasne was consolidated into the hamlet of Hogansburg which would be part of the township of Bombay by an act of New York legislation passed in March 30th, 1833. The wedge of land leased by Mr. Hogan has been contested and continues to be part of the New York State land claims.

INDIAN REMOVAL: MOVING WEST

Under President Jackson, in 1830 the Indian Removal Act was signed and forcibly removed all "Indians" to lands west of the Mississippi River. With this act the infamous Trail of Tears was started, and many First Nation communities were forced west. Unless a specific treaty protected land many Haudenosaunee people moved west. Some Seneca, Cayuga, and Oneida did their best to remain in New York but several did move to Oklahoma and Wisconsin. Some families simply integrated into the settler society around them and became absorbed into the mainstream society.

The Seneca signed several treaties including the Treaties of Buffalo Creek, which illegally ceded a majority of their lands in order to remain in New York State. The traditional community of Tonawanda rejected the deals and started the divide between the traditional community and the rest of the Seneca Nation. The Grand Council at Buffalo Creek was then moved back to Onondaga but they were then forced to cede portions of lands to

the Town of Salina, which later became the city of Syracuse.

NUTFIELD TRACT: GOVERNMENT MISMANAGEMENT OF LANDS

The Nutfield Tract was a narrow strip of land that was to be for the benefit for Akwesasne in order to allow passage to the northern interior for hunting and gathering purposes. Portions of the strip of land were leased to settlers in hopes to gain some annual income from payments. In 1847, the tract was illegally surrendered after decades of lessees' failure to pay rents to Akwesasne. Another issue is on the faulty 1784 survey of the Nutfield Tract, which displaced approximately 6,000 acres. The St. Regis Chiefs had the survey redone to be accurate but were not compensated for the costs from an incompetent Crown survey.

BAXTER AND BARNHART ISLANDS

The Baxter and Barnhart Islands were named after the respective families that leased the lands. In the 1790's the area was leased to Canadian settlers, and then with the Boundary Commission of 1822, the political boundary was drawn between Canada and the United States and through the islands. In 1823 the State of New York deeded the island to the Ogden brothers and evicted the Baxter and Barnhart families. Both families would be given compensation for their losses, but only gave Akwesasne a minor sum of \$5,960 in 1856.

The land claim filed in 2012 is to hold Canada responsible for the loss of the lands and the proper compensation that is owed from the loss. The islands are also in negotiation with New York State land claims.

GRAND COUNCIL AT ONONDAGA

After the signing of the Seneca Buffalo Creek Treaties, the Grand Council fire was raked up and relocated back to Onondaga Nation Territory in 1847. The Council reconvened in Onondaga for the first time since the Clinton-Sullivan Campaigns forced the area to be evacuated during the American Revolution. By this time the Onondaga Na-

tion territory has been drastically reduced in size due to a number of New York State land transactions. The Grand Council at Onondaga was very fragile as it has been devastated after the American Revolution. As it split the wampum and people with Grand River, the Seneca also split over land deals, the forced mitigation of several Oneidas, Cayuga and Seneca westward and all Haudenosaunee land bases had been reduced to ever smaller communities.

CONTINUATION

Between 1812 and 1850, the Haudenosaunee and Akwesasne had faced many dark battles, including warfare, famine, disease and loss of lands, but more is to come. The War of 1812 didn't change Canada or the United States but deeply imprinted the political border on Akwesasne and its people, and effectively created two community mindsets. Warfare and famine both lead to disease and Akwesasne had to deal with sickness and death on a regular basis as living conditions had not improved. Land deals and leases were all attempts to gain some annual income for Akwesasne with very little success.

The next section will deal with what both the United States and Canadian governments had in mind to deal with the "Indian Problem," as children became the next target in the fight for survival.

-Written by Phillip White-Cree, Aboriginal Rights and Research Office

Published Works for Further Research

Iroquois in the War of 1812 (1998) by Carl Benn

A Sorrow in Our Heart: The Life of Tecumseh (1993) by Allan W. Eckert

Field of Glory: The Battle of Crysler's Farm, 1813 (1999) by Donald Graves

The War of 1812 PBS Website

A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York (1853) by Franklin B. Hough

Conspiracy of Interests: Iroquois Dispossession and the Rise of New York State (2001) By Laurence M. Hauptman

MCA Youth Employee Profile: Ashley Tarbell

My name is Ashley Tarbell and I am a Communications Officer at the MCA. I was born and raised in the beautiful community of Akwesasne and although I did temporarily reside away while completing my post-secondary education, I knew that Akwesasne was where I would return to in order to serve the community I adore. I find it is very rare to have such a supportive, caring, vibrant and dynamic community that you want to and are capable of returning to. I am so blessed that I can call Akwesasne my community and home.

I graduated from Salmon River Central School in 2004 and continued my post-secondary education at SUNY Cortland, where I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Minor in Communications. Since 2012, I have been working with the Mohawk Council as a Communications Officer and I am approaching my third year in that capacity.

The Communications Unit (which is comprised of Shannon Roundpoint, Program Manager; Brendan White, Communications Officer and myself) collaboratively works with Council, Executive Services and the community. Communications is an integral component of any organization and I believe that our Unit is not only beneficial, but necessary. I am grateful of the opportunity to better inform the community and to provide transparency for the organization; an element that Council and Executive Services feel passion-

ately about. One of my main duties is formatting the layout for publications, but our Unit has many responsibilities and tasks, including: composing community notices, creating flyers, assisting with speaking notes, drafting correspondences, creating communications strategy's for programs/departments and more. Although the Communications Unit is involved with numerous assignments, two upcoming projects that I would like to share additional information on include the MCA's Annual Report and the Sharing through the Generations project.

Currently, I am formatting the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Annual Report. This report is a complete overview of the services and programs that the organization provides and also gives a financial update for the previous fiscal year. This will provide community members with an overview of the activities that were completed as well as to provide financial transparency. Once complete, a newspaper version of the Annual Report will be sent to all district residents. I would highly recommend all community members to review this report. Please anticipate receiving the Annual Report before the New Year.

Another project that I am working on includes a collaborative art project titled "Sharing through the Generations." The purpose of this project is for two artists, one from Akwesasne and one from Quebec, to learn



about each other's culture and then create a mural depicting what they have learned. In addition, the artists will be creating a collaborative mural. I will be providing monthly updates in Onkwe'ta:ke on the artists journey throughout the project.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments for the Communications Unit, please do not hesitate to contact me through email (ashley.tarbell@akwesasne.ca or communications@akwesasne.ca) or through phone at 613-575-2348.

Support a Drug Free Community!

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

SUBSTANCE ABUSE EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Wholistic Health & Wellness (Addictions & Counseling) (613) 575-2341 ext. 3100	Mohawk Police & Ambulance (613) 575-2000	CRIMESTOPPERS (613)575-2255	ONEN'TO:KON TREATMENT SERVICES (450) 479-8353
Ionkwanonhsasetsi Adolescent Treatment Center (613) 932-5050	MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE 1-866-996-0991	Cornwall Hospital Withdrawal Management Services (613) 938-8506	SUBSTANCE ABUSE/ DRUG-RELATED CRISIS (800) 480-4208
IETHINISTEN'HA FAMILY WELLNESS PROGRAM (613) 937-4322	Akwesasne Eagle Watch <i>Promoting a Safe and Drug free Akwesasne</i> facebook	Akwesasne Child & Family Services (613) 575-2341 ext. 3139 (613) 575-2000 (After Hours)	ASEO-STE0 <small>ADDICTION SERVICES OF EASTERN ONTARIO</small> (613) 936-9236 (800) 272-1937

Economic Development Program

The Economic Development Program's mission is to support the growth and development of a clean and sustainable Akwesasne economy through the development of Economic wealth generators, through Business Development, and through the delivery of training and finance programs to Akwesasronon.

Stop in or call us for more information regarding our:

- Business Registration
- Akwesasne Economic Development Fund (AEDF)
- Small Business Grant (SBG)
- Training

INITIATIVES

RIBBON SHIRT FRIDAY'S we are encouraging the community to participate and lead by example. The goal is to promote our local ribbon shirt businesses and culture! Together we can all support this unique part of the economy. If you would like to submit a photo of yourself promoting Ribbon Shirt Fridays, please send to cathy.mitchell@akwesasne.ca and we will be more than happy to share on our Economic Development Facebook page.

TAX-EXEMPT CIGARETTES If you are interested in retailing Tax-Exempt Cigarettes at your place of business, please contact the MCA Tobacco Compliance Office for the requirements and more information at Pamela Brown, Tobacco Compliance Officer (613) 575-2250 ext. 1057 pamela.brown@akwesasne.ca

Selling Tax-Exempt cigarettes has the ability to increase revenue, increase patron traffic, create a closer working relationship with MCA and also diversify and increase your product offerings!

MUTI-USE TRAIL DEVELOPMENT There are an alarming number of people of all ages in Akwesasne who suffer from metabolic disease, namely diabetes and obesity. Many efforts are being made in the community to help remedy these issues. One initiative that is being sought out by Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's (MCA) Economic Development Program, is to develop and construct multi-use trails in Kanatakon, Tsi Snaihne, and Kawehno:ke.

MCA used some of these funds to hire a well know trails consultant to write a supporting report and an application for a \$10M National Trails Coalition Grant for trail development in Kahweno:ke (funding is rewarded in October). This proposed project will have three phases. Phase 1 includes a riverfront boardwalk trail (10'-15' feet from the water on the slope) that would connect the trails at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena and the Akwesasne Mohawk School and provide link to the trails in Cornwall by the bike lane on the new bridge. Phase 2 involves a walking trail and bike pump track at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena. Phase 3 consists of a walking trail, a low ropes course and adventure trail (in the woods) at the Akwesasne Mohawk School. MCA will discuss the proposed trail project with all landowners that are involved.

MCA is in the process of having conceptual drawings developed for Kanatakon and Tsi Snaihne. Trails in all three districts have tremendous potential. The development of these trails will inspire people of all ages to become more physically active, create jobs and increase tourism in our community.

We need your help! MCA's Economic Development Program submitted an idea to the Aviva Community Fund. We can receive up to \$100,000 for the proposed "Multipurpose Loop Trails and Bike Pump Track Project on Kawehno:ke." This is phase one of our Community Wide Trails Development Initiative in Akwesasne. Conceptual drawings will be created for Kanatakon and Tsi' Snaihne next!

In the meantime, please register for this proposal for Kawehno:ke! You can cast 15 votes during each of the two remaining Qualifying Rounds and another 15 votes during the Semi-Finals at any time within each phase of the competition, but you can only vote for each idea once a day. Every vote counts! The total votes we get counts for 15% of the overall scoring criteria. PLEASE VOTE at <https://www.avivacommunityfund.org/ideas/acf19907>! If you have questions, please contact Troy Thompson at 613-575-2250 ext.1056 or troy.thompson@akwesasne.ca.

NATIONAL CHILDRENS DAY Akwesasne Child & Family Services is currently working on putting together a Talent Show/Art Gallery/Kids Market Starting on National Child's Day (November 20). Economic Development is helping with kid's entrepreneur. For more information you can listen to the Radio, check local newspaper, or see the circulating flyer. Pre-registration will be held in the beginning of November in each district, dates and times to follow. For More information please contact Dana Skye at 613-575-2341 ext 3169 or our Economic Development office at 613-575-2250 ext 1053

LEAKAGE STUDY RESULTS

Estimation of economic activity (Akwesasne spending) = \$140 million per year

- HOUSEHOLDS EXPENDITURES: \$73.3 MILLION
- BUSINESSES EXPENDITURES: \$22 MILLION
- MCA EXPENDITURES: \$44.7 MILLION

Estimation of leakage (\$ spent off the territory) = \$107 MILLION per year
76% Leakage off Territory

- HOUSEHOLD SPENDING: \$53.4 MILLION
- BUSINESSES SPENDING: \$16.6 MILLION
- MCA SPENDING: \$37.1 MILLION

MCA's Economic Development Office will be presenting this information to general meetings and will have information in Indian Times as well as CKON.

2015 BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Akwesasne Employment Resource Center (AERC), Akwesasne Area Management Board (AAMB) and Akwesasne Chamber of Commerce (ACoC) have partnered up to begin preparations for the 2015 Akwesasne Business Directory. If any businesses; big or small, would like to be included in the business directory please contact one of our offices. There is no charge! I would like to remind our community members who sell products/services (i.e., Avon, Thirty-One Bags, Princess House, Tupperware Pampered Chef etc.) as well as our local artisans that you are a business too! We would like to encourage you to contact us so you can be included in our business directory.

Go to www.akwesasnebusinessdirectory.com there are forms available to fill out to be part of the 2015 Business Directory.

You can contact Kylee Tarbell, MCA (613)575-2250 ext. 1050, Christopher Thompson, SRMT (518)358-2856, Beatrice Johnson, AAMB (613) 575-2626, ACoC (518)333-0385.



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Economic Development

**If you have any questions or would like more information please contact
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Economic Development Program
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1053**

Celebrating Local Business Success:

Lazare Tree Removal and Lawn Care

Owned by Darryl Lazare

Managed by Sherril Lazare

"My goal is to keep my business successful and handing it down to my kids. I want to expand my business and hire more people; keep Akwesasnon working here"

Darryl is hard working, determined and sticks to what he knows in order to provide the best service he can. Although he has only been open for business the past three years, he has the experience and knowledge as a professional tree feller. He began cutting trees with his uncle when he was a young man and also worked with a friend in Philadelphia on weekends. He observed an opportunity where his experience and knowledge could turn into a business and provide a living for his family and has been successful ever since.

In running a business, there are two major aspects; the work and the finances. Darryl handles all the manual labor and hiring that is required to run his business. For the financial and administrative part, that is where his wife Sherril comes in to help. She has experience with workbook, spreadsheets and keeping track of money.

Lazare Tree Removal and Lawn Care currently has two full time employees that are from Akwesasne. Darryl has high standards for his employees and enforces a strict policy of being drug-free. They implement drug testing and the employees must sign waivers, not just for insurance purposes but in the workplace heavy machinery is used and this type of job requires everyone to be alert and safety is a number one priority.

Darryl has received numerous training and certifications in order to maintain the highest safety standards to do his job. He is CPR certified, OSHA certified, a technical tree feller and a certified Arborist. He has received training on fall protection and chainsaw safety. He is also in the process of becoming CSA certified in the United States. Darryl has been asked by Agricultural Canada to take the training Train the Trainer course so he can become a trainer within Eastern Ontario to assist with the training needs in his field of expertise.



In addition to training, Lazare also maintains insurance in Canada and the US. “Insurance is not easy, the insurance companies make it really hard to make a business succeed; it is costly and the requirements are difficult to deal with sometimes. You have to be good at managing your money and getting a handle of your finances but we are able to get jobs off of the Rez because we are insured. Off the reservation, home insurance requires workers to hold insurance and I was also able to get a bid with the Tribe because I was insured.”

Darryl has utilized MCA’s Economic Development Program to the fullest. Darryl has received funding from AEDF and the training grant as well as talking to the Business Service Officer William Papineau at every opportunity to keep his business going in the right direction. “Without AEDF, we wouldn’t have been able to acquire a third of our equipment and the training also helped me tremendously with pushing my business forward. Without Willy’s help we wouldn’t have gone this avenue.”

Darryl would like to expand Lazare Tree Removal and Lawn Care. Being able to sell firewood full time, purchasing larger equipment such as a wood processor and being able to mill wood pellets and sell on and off the territory are also some future plans Darryl has in mind.

Some advice Darryl and Sherril have for our current and future business owners is to “stay determined on your business. If you feel like you’ve hit a wall, keep going. You must focus on your business, do not expect other people to make it a success; you have to make it a success. Also, do what you say you’re going to do and keep going with your goals.” Darryl has a known reputation for doing what he says he is going to do and when; if he gets a call requesting a tree to get cut he immediately goes to the site and informs the person when he is going to cut it and he follows through with his word and does it. Due to the United States Endangered Species law, Lazare Tree Removal and Lawn Care can’t bring wood through the US Customs. However, they don’t let this discourage them. They still do business in Kawehno:ke, the land owner just keeps the wood from the cut trees.

Darryl and Sherril “would like to thank MCA’s Economic Development as well as Willy Papineau because without them we wouldn’t be where we are today.”

Lazare Tree Removal and Lawn Care: (613) 575-2846

Economic Development would like to recognize all of our local construction and laborers and say niawen ko:wa for all of your hard work and keeping safety a priority for Akwesasronon!

SUPPORT OUR BUSINESSES & BUY LOCAL!!

Clear Bags No Longer For Solid Waste Pickup

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Technical Services is notifying the community that clear garbage bags are no longer required for MCA's solid waste pickup households. Colored bags are now permitted for household waste.

Clear garbage bags were previously used to identify unauthorized waste materials being put into the waste stream, such as paints and oils. There have been no significant events like this in recent time so the clear-bag requirement has been lifted.

Please do not use 'Yellow' colored bags as they are associated with asbestos removal projects and they will not be collected. We recommend not to use 'Red' colored bags either as they are associated with Bio-Hazard materials.

Akwesasne Mohawk Court Rescheduled Due To Snow Day

Due to the inclement weather conditions on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 which caused the postponement of the Akwesasne Mohawk Court's regularly scheduled court session, individuals who were scheduled to appear in court will have the opportunity to reappear on: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Anyone who had matters that was to be presented before the Akwesasne Mohawk Court will be notified by regular mail of the new court date of January 14, 2015.

For any questions regarding the rescheduling please feel free to contact the Akwesasne Mohawk court at 613-575-2250 ext. 1026, the Court Clerk will be glad to assist you.

MCA Will No Longer Pay For Seized Vehicles at CBSA

Cap in Effect After January 23, 2015

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is notifying the community that after January 23, 2015, community members' fines for Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) car seizures at any CBSA port will no longer be paid for by MCA.

Since September of 2009, MCA has paid the \$1000 and up fines for Akwesasne community members who had their vehicle seized for the first time by CBSA. Over the past 5 years, MCA has paid \$313,868 toward these fines.

On December 9, 2014, Council passed MCR 2014/2015 - #271 stating that these penalties will no longer be paid by MCA as of 45 days of the MCR date.

Community members travelling through the CBSA port after January 23, 2014 will be responsible for any fines incurred.

If you have any questions related to CBSA vehicle seizures please contact MCA's Community Advocate Wesley Benedict at 613-575-2250 Ext. 1031.



Young skaters from the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena's Learn to Skate. (Pictured from left) Ra'shatstenhserahawi, Rex Benedict, Kaydence Jackson, Odin Benedict, Mac Roiananoron, Katana Thompson, Sakyah Diabo, Kingston Delormier, Tehotsirahthe King and Sadie Square.

More Than 100 Children Benefit from Free Dance School at St. Regis Recreation

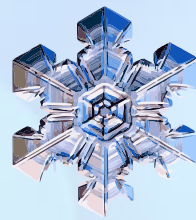
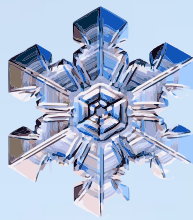
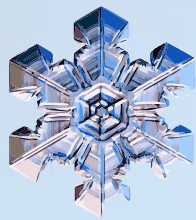


More than 100 children from Akwesasne were part of the St. Regis Recreation Centre's very first dance school for children this past fall. The overwhelming success of the program can be attributed to it being entirely free to the community! The St. Regis Recreation and its dance program head Laura Thompson applied for funding to host the program. Kudos to the St. Regis Recreation and dance school volunteers for such a positive, community-minded initiative.



Photos: More than 300 people packed an auditorium this fall to enjoy the St. Regis Recreation's dance school recital. The free dance school relied on many committed volunteers and parents and the season finale dance show was highly entertaining for proud family members.

*The Mohawk Council of
Akwesasne would like to wish
you a very happy, healthy
and safe holiday season!*



*Tekwanonhwera:tons tsi
Roton:ni tanon Ohserase*

