

ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 Issue 2

Enníska/February 2020

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DTS WELCOMES NEW STAFF



TSIKARISTISERE/DUNDEE SPECIFIC LAND CLAIM REFERENDUM OFFICIALLY APPROVED



The Akwesasne Court has ruled that the 2018 referendum results accepting the Tsikaristisere/Dundee Specific Land Claim settlement offer are valid. The offer from Canada of \$239 million will be accepted.

For more information, please read the full release on Page 5.

UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

February 10, 2020

- Tsi Snaihne District Meeting - Tsi Snaihne Recreation Centre - 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

February 10, 2020

- Kawehno:ke District Meeting - Kawehno:ke Recreation Centre - 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

February 24, 2020

- Kana:takon District Meeting - Kana:takon Recreation Centre - 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

February 27, 2020

- General Meeting - Tsi Snaihne Recreation Centre - 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2018-2021

Grand Chief

Abram Benedict

Kana:takon District

Chief Theresa Jacobs
Chief Darryl Lazore
Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs
Chief Tim Thompson

Kawehno:ke District

Chief Carolyn Francis
Chief Edward Roundpoint
Chief Vince Thompson
Chief Vanessa Adams

Tsi Snaihne District

Chief April Adams-Phillips
Chief Connie Lazore
Chief Joe Lazore
Chief Tobi Mitchell

Administration

Heather Phillips
Executive Director

Daryl Seymour
A/Director,
Department of Technical Services

Joyce King
Director,
Akwasasne Justice Department

Charmaine Caldwell
Director,
Department of Housing

Catherine Lelievre
A/Director,
Department of
Community and Social Services

Keith Leclaire
Director,
Department of Health

Donna Lahache
Director,
Akwesasne Mohawk Board
of Education

Shawn Dulude
Chief of Police,
Akwasasne Mohawk Police
Service

Kylee Tarbell
A/Director,
Tehotiiennawakon

WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS

She:kon/Wat'kwanonhwera:ton,

The MCA Communications Team is proud to bring you a new issue of our print newsletter, Onkwe'ta:ke. The name Onkwe'ta:ke means "For the people" and the newsletter is our way of reporting MCA news and information to those we are serving...you, the people. MCA prides itself on transparency and accountability, and the news and reports in the pages to follow are MCA's attempt to ensure you receive informative and helpful news.

There is always a lot to learn about Council and the MCA departments, so we hope you find the newsletter both interesting and useful. We look forward to sharing our most valuable news with you in this format, and welcome you to provide feedback or suggestions by emailing our team at communications@akwesasne.ca.

FIVE THINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS &
IMPORTANT MESSAGES

1

The Federal Indian Day School Class Action Settlement claim forms are now available. You may be eligible if you attended any of the schools listed on Page 7. The deadline to submit a claim is in July of 2022.

2

The Akwasasne Court issued a ruling this month validating the results of the 2018 Tsikaristisere/Dundee land claim referendum; the five filed appeals did not meet the requirements to proceed to a full hearing. Read more on Page 5.

3

MCA is hosting a new series of MRZ card application intake sessions. Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) Secure Certificate of Indian Status cards help to simplify the border crossing process for First Nations individuals. See Page 6 for dates and additional information.

4

MCA NEWS is our new weekly video news show! Each episode can be viewed on the MCA website, Youtube Channel or our Facebook page! You won't want to miss our host, Ryan King, providing you with all your local news, in a Mohawk Minute! See MCA News and all of our videos at: www.youtube.com/c/mohawkcouncilofakwesasne.

5

The Mohawk Council of Akwasasne and Canada Border Services Agency have launched a joint initiative to make improvements at the Cornwall port of entry. It is a significant step forward toward positive change. Read more on Page 3.

NEWS

CBSA & MCA LAUNCH COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE BORDER CROSSING EXPERIENCE AT CORNWALL PORT OF ENTRY

CORNWALL — The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) are pleased to announce the launch of a co-developed strategy to improve the border crossing experience at the Cornwall port of entry (POE).

The MCA-CBSA Border Collaboration Initiative was officially launched on January 8, and aims to improve the daily lives of all who work, utilize or travel through the Akwesasne-Cornwall border crossing. The initiative has been in development for

several months and includes plans for immediate-, short-, medium- and long-term priorities with some improvements already implemented or underway.

“MCA and CBSA have taken steps in the past year to forge ahead on a new, positive path that is mutually beneficial,” said Grand Chief Abram Benedict. “Through this shared desire to improve the border experience, we’ve developed plans together for tangible improvements and long-term changes. Consideration of a domestic lane, improved communication, and dialogue on

matters that affect Akwesasronon are just some of the components of the initiative.”

While the relocation of the POE from Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island) to the city of Cornwall in 2009 brought challenges to both the CBSA and MCA, in April 2019 Government of Canada and Akwesasne officials convened for a ground-breaking two-day session that used Design Thinking methodology to collaboratively identify potential solutions.

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Representatives from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) met to discuss collaborative measures that will improve the border crossing experience at the Cornwall Port of Entry.

NEWS

CBSA & MCA LAUNCH COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE BORDER CROSSING EXPERIENCE AT CORNWALL PORT OF ENTRY

continued from page 3

Design Thinking is a strategic method of designing or improving a service or product with the user in mind. It encourages an organization, for example, to consider who they are creating services for, which then naturally improves the user experience.

Through open and honest dialogue between Government of Canada and Akwesasne officials, a co-developed vision for potential solutions emerged from the two-day Design Thinking workshop with all parties supporting user-based improvements.

"This innovative approach is of par-

ticular significance for us, as it is the first time the CBSA has used Designed Thinking in a Nation-to-Nation context. A positive relationship with Indigenous Peoples is a priority for our Agency, and we look forward to continuing to work with the Mohawks of Akwesasne First Nation and other communities near ports of entry to address challenges and leverage opportunities with border crossing," said CBSA President John Ossowski.

The initiative includes immediate improvements such as enhancing service capacity at the POE, along with medium- and long-term im-

provements, such as exploring options to improve processing for domestic travelers and to support economic development.

CBSA and MCA will share joint updates as the initiative progresses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION/MEDIA INQUIRIES:

MCA Communications Unit
613-575-2250 Ext. 2210
communications@akwesasne.ca

CBSA Media Relations
613-957-6500
questions@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca



During the meeting, the MCA and CBSA shared open and honest dialogue to co-develop a vision of potential solutions for both parties.

NEWS

TSIKARISTISERE/DUNDEE SPECIFIC LAND CLAIM REFERENDUM OFFICIALLY APPROVED

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has received official notification from the Akwesasne Court that the results of the October-December 2018 community referendum on the Tsikaristisere/Dundee Land Claim Settlement Agreement are valid.

In 2015, Canada provided the Mohawks of Akwesasne with a Land Claim Settlement Offer with an ability to regain 18,282 acres following Canada's Additions to Reserve Process, as well as a monetary offer of \$239,808,436.00. This offer was an attempt to resolve claims in the historically leased lands known as Tsikaristisere or 'Dundee.' In 2018, the final terms of the agreement were negotiated and brought forth to the community for a special referendum vote that included both online and ballot voting, which started on October 1, 2018 and concluded on December 8, 2018.

The referendum question asked,
"As a Voter of the Mohawks of Akwesasne, do you:
(a) approve the terms and conditions of the Tsikaristisere/Dundee Claim Settlement Agreement initiated by the negotiators for the Mohawks of Akwesasne and Canada, which settles and releases the Tsikaristisere/Dundee Claim; and
(b) authorize and direct the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne to execute all documents and do everything necessary to give effect to the Tsikaristisere/Dundee Claim Settlement Agreement?"

The total number of valid "yes" votes was: 1,749.
The total number of valid "no" votes was: 448.

Five appeals were filed to the Akwesasne Court from community members. The Akwesasne Court rendered a decision on four appeal submissions, stating that

they did not meet the threshold for a full hearing under Section 20.3 of the Tsikaristisere/Dundee Claim Settlement Agreement Special Referendum Regulations.

The fifth appeal was heard by the Akwesasne Court Justices on February 7, 2019, and a decision was rendered regarding all five appeals on January 7, 2020 confirming that the referendum "was conducted in good faith," and declared the referendum results valid.

The terms of the claim require the settlement funds to be used only for specific, financially sound and secure purposes, as defined in the agreement.

Council is currently consulting with financial managers in preparation for receiving the settlement, and a new series of educational meetings and informational campaigns will be conducted to gather the community's feedback for the financial aspects of the claim. Decisions as to the use of the compensation amount will not be made without community input and consultation. The Tsikaristisere/Dundee Specific Land Claim was initially filed in Federal Court in 1981; negotiations with the Crown based upon mutually agreeable terms began in 2005.

For more information please contact Mohawk Government at 613-575-2348.



NEWS

MRZ INTAKE SESSIONS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to invite the community to either of two application intake sessions for Canada's new Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) Secure Certificate of Indian Status cards.

The MRZ cards help to simplify the border crossing process for First Nations individuals. As a secure and scan-able document, it can be used at ports of entry (POE) between Canada and the United States, speeding up wait times and processing times.

The application intake sessions will be held:
Thursday, Feb. 6 from 2-7 pm – St. Regis Recreation
Friday, Feb. 7 from 9 am-2 pm – St. Regis Recreation

These intake sessions are only for those individuals who have already been issued a status number.



Individuals can save time by completing the application and obtaining photos before attending the intake session.

For more information, please contact the Mohawk Government office at 613-575-2348.



NEWS

FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION COMMUNITY UPDATE

The Federal Court has confirmed that class members in the Federal Indian Day School Class Action will be able to submit claims for compensation beginning January 13, 2020.

The Federal Indian Day School Class Action claim forms are now available starting January 13, 2020. Forms can be found online as "Claim Form" at: indiandayschools.com/en/documents.

Class members can also request copies be mailed to them by class counsel Gowling WLG or the Claims Administrator. Copies will be available for the community at the MCA Administrative 1 Building (A-Frame), Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility reception desk, Office of Vital Statistics at CIA #3 (pick-up only), Mohawk Government Building #1 and the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office at MG #2.

Class members have until July 13, 2022, to complete and submit a claim form for compensation.

For support with filling out the claim form and where to submit it, class members can call the Claims Administrator starting January 13, 2020, at 1-888-221-2898.

For free legal support from Gowling WLG call 1-844-539-3815 or email dayschools@gowlingwlg.com. Gowling WLG will be conducting claim intake sessions in the near future as scheduling is confirmed for other communities.

Mental health and emotional support available 24/7 through the toll-free Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310 or the online chat at hopeforwellness.ca).

FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL SETTLEMENT

IF YOU ATTENDED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AKWESASNE SCHOOLS IN THE TIME PERIODS LISTED, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM COMPENSATION

CORNWALL ISLAND WEST

September 1, 1876 - June 30, 1983
(Current Island Recreation location)

CORNWALL ISLAND EAST

February 10, 1936 - September 1, 1958
(McCumber Road area)

AKWESASNE CHENAIL

October 3, 1881 - September 1, 1990
(Current Snye Homemakers location)

CHETLAIN

December 3, 1913 - July 31, 1948
(Snye - Louie Lazore homestead area)

ST. REGIS ISLAND

1885 - June 30, 1954

ST. REGIS VILLAGE

1867 - September 1, 1987

For more information please visit
www.indiandayschools.com

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

MOHAWK COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

MCR #67 Executive Director Hiring

Moved by: Chief Tim Thompson
Seconded by: Chief Connie Lazore
For: 6 Against: 1

CARRIED

MCR #068 Bank of Montreal-Guarantee ORHLP

Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore
For: 7 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #069 Authorization to enter into Contribution Agreement with Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis
Seconded by: Chief Tobi Mitchell
For: 5 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #070 Non-Disclosure Agreement for Fiber Optics Project

Moved by: Chief Edward Roundpoint
Seconded by: Chief Tobi Mitchell
For: 9 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #071 Tsiionkwanonhsote Fire Alarm System & Security Upgrades

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs
Seconded by: Chief Joe Lazore
For: 5 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #072 To Accept and Approve the ISC/DIAND Amending Agreement for Agreement No. 1516-ON-000028-Amendment No. 0058

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs
Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis
For: 5 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #073 Stanley Island LOT Lease Agreement Transfer

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson
For: 5 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #074 Name Change Request-Lame Squaw Island (MILS 1534) No Plan

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore
Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis
For: 5 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #075 Permit-Lot 90-2 Che-nail Range

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson
For: 5 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #076 Ontario Ministry of Transportation Petition for Subsidy

Moved by: Chief Joe Lazore

Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson
For: 5 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #077 Indigenous Service Canada Child and Family Services Community-Based Prevention Funding 2019-2020

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis
Seconded by: Chief Julie Jacobs
For: 6 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #078 Appointment as Trust Overseer

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson
For: 6 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #079 Akwesasne Financial Administration Law-Law Enactment Process Phase IV

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs
Seconded by: Chief Carolyn Francis
For: 6 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #080 Housing-Upgrade Application

Moved by: Chief Julie Jacobs
Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore
For: 6 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #081 Housing-Upgrade Application

Moved by: Chief Vince Thompson

Seconded by: Chief Darryl Lazore
For: 6 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #082 Housing – Upgrade Application

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson
For: 6 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #083 Increase New Construction Loans to \$150,000

Moved by: Chief Darryl Lazore
Seconded by: Chief Vince Thompson
For: 6 Against: 0

CARRIED

MCR #084 Awarded Tender-Construction Readiness Implementation

Moved by: Chief Carolyn Francis
Seconded by: Chief Julie Jacobs
For: 6 Against: 1

CARRIED

MCR #085 Contribution Agreements for Akwesasne Community Justice Program

Moved by: Chief Connie Lazore
Seconded by: Chief Julie Jacobs
For: 7 Against: 0

CARRIED

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



December 16, 2019

- Eric Duncan, Member of Parliament (MP) for Stormont, Dundas and South Glengarry, introduced himself to Council and gave the highlights of his vision for assisting Akwesasne in his role as MP.
- Representatives from TNG Consulting Inc. provided an overview on the Governance Review they will be conducting of Council and the

- processes that support Council.
- Council discussed the proposed content of congratulatory letters to be sent to newly appointed Ministers for the Government of Canada.
 - A briefing was provided on a concern received about Council involvement on child welfare matters.
 - Council discussed the need to ensure that positive communication is occurring between Council, Portfolio Chiefs, and department administration.
 - MCRs passed: Acceptance of 18/19 audit for Healthy Living Program; Acceptance of 18/19 audit for Home and Community Care Program; Acceptance of

- 18/19 AIDS annual reconciliation report; Acceptance of 18/19 audit for Community Support Services Program; Approval of service contract for Pharmacy Services provided to Iakhihsotha; Approval of an upgrade loan to a Community Member; Approval of an amendment to a housing loan MCR to increase loan amount; Approval of a contribution agreement with Cornwall & the Counties Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) for research and development of a development corporation; Approval of a lease on Clark Island; Acceptance of 18/19 audit for Aboriginal Healthy Babies Program.

January 6, 2020

- Representatives from the Bank of Montreal introduced themselves to Council and discussed current services the bank has to offer. Council discussed on-going concerns and possible future financial discussion for consideration.
- Council was briefed on a current application to the Mohawk Court regarding a housing issue.

- Cannabis Committee Chiefs provided an overview and update on the application process and advised of next steps for approvals.
- Council discussed a recent proposal to sell parcels of land to Council; further research will be done and reported back.
- A briefing was provided on the establishment of a medical review board for community support

- disability clients; administration will follow up.
- Council passed a motion for the Executive Director to remain in the position and completing the probationary period.
- MCR's passed: Approval of contract award to International Water Supply Ltd. to replace Vertical Turbine Pump.

January 13, 2020

- Council discussed and set the agenda for the upcoming General

- Meeting set for Thursday, January 23 in the district of Kana:takon.
- Legal counsel for the MCA

- briefed Council on upcoming proposed resolution and discussed next steps for the signing of the

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COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT CONTINUED

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Tsikaristisere/Dundee Settlement Agreement.

- Council discussed letters received by BMO clients regarding Declaration for Tax Residence; further follow-up with be done with BMO.
- MCR's passed: Approval of amendment to Akwesasne Health

Access Centre agreement; Approval of amendment to Akwesasne Canada agreement for tobacco awareness, prevention, reduction and cessation activities report; Approval of allotment of land to community member (loan paid off); Approval of allotment of land to community member (loan

paid off); Acknowledgment of the final referendum result for the Tsikaristisere/Dundee referendum as declared by the Chief Referendum Officer; Confirmation and approval of the Tsikaristisere/Dundee final settlement agreement and identification of representatives to sign the agreement.

January 20, 2020

- A representative from the Community Support Program (CSP) provided Council with an update and next steps related to a homelessness case. Further updates will be provided.
- A briefing was provided from a recent meeting with Transport Canada and the Canada Lands Company (CLC). Council agreed further conversations will continue with Transport Canada and CLC regarding partnership opportunities.
- Council discussed the current self-government negotiations,

including the use of the Mohawk language in the draft agreement. There was also a discussion on the impacts of Akwesasne on certain provisions of the draft agreement. Council will further discuss at a later date.

- A briefing was provided on the preliminary findings of the Governance Review and the next steps were outlined for Council's information.
- Council agreed that a sign for the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena will be placed on International Road that will include the arena logo.

- A concern was discussed regarding the current emergency management protocols in case of a possible emergency.
- Council discussed the possibility of forming a Language Act working group. Research will be done on existing work on the MCA Mohawk Language Strategy.
- MCR's passed: Approval of amendment to Akwesasne / Canada funding agreement; Appointment of an Enforcement Officer for Akwesasne Interim Cannabis Regulations; Approval of Issuance of Cannabis Cultivation license.

STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES



Portfolio: Justice, Public Safety, Executive Services

Month: November 2019

Committee: Finance, Governance, Cannabis Working Task Group

Monthly Notables:

1. The November weekly Special Meeting of Council was held on November 4th, 18th and 25th. Council had presentations on: Band Rep (DCSS/Justice), Coast Guard Liaison, Old Age Security, Change Management and Climate Change Health Vulnerability & Adaptation Assessment. Discussion was held on: General Meeting Agenda, December 2 Council Meeting, Drinking Water, Firearms Permit Course, ANIHB, District Meetings, Member Portal MCA Website, ATR, Budget, Heating Assistance and Cannabis Dispensaries. Resolutions were presented and considered for: Housing, Peace Tree Mall Lease, Wetland Phase 2 Project, Fibre Optics Service, Flood Vulnerability Gap

Analysis, AEL Amendment, Special General Meeting Results, TPAR Reports MHLTC Annual Reconciliation report, ISC Amending Agreements, Land Allotment.

2. Justice Portfolio Meeting was scheduled and held on November 14th. We received program updates. Legislative priorities were identified. Appeal Commission call out is ongoing. Update on proposal submissions.

3. Public Safety Portfolio Meeting was held on November 21st.

4. Executive Services Portfolio Meeting was held on November 13th. Various program and personnel updates were provided.

5. District Meeting was held on November 12th. We had one person present and had discussion on health concerns and facility management.

6. A General Meeting was held on November 16th on Kawehno:ke. It was held on a Saturday, the Agenda included: Follow Up Items, Business from the Floor, Council Updates, Presentation from DTS on Priorities. Business from the Floor included: Pow Wow Funding, Support for Elders Need, per-capita funding, Indian Act vs Membership Code and a concern with Certificate of Possession for property.

7. There was no Youth Council Meeting this month.

8. Legislative Commission Meetings were held this month on

November 5th, I was away on travel.

9. The monthly Police Commission Meeting was held on November 4th. I was away on travel therefore unavailable to attend.

10. I attended the Governance Committee Meeting on November 26th. Agenda topic was to discuss the review of the boards, committees, commissions and tribunals of the MCA. We discussed the governance structure as well. Much work to do here.

Work in Progress:

1. Recreation Cannabis Working Task Group Meetings continues. Meetings were held on November 8th, 22nd and 27th—the WTG reviewed applications and licensing agreements.

2. I participated and attended the Assembly of First Nations Quebec & Labrador (AFNQL) meeting in regards to the Ad Hoc (formerly known as Monitoring Committee) that I am a member of that is working on the AFNQL Relationship Protocol between Nations. The Ad Hoc Committee met on November 4th prior to the AFNQL Chiefs Assembly. I attended the AFNQL Chiefs Assembly on November 5-7th in Quebec City. I also held Grand Chief Benedict's proxy for this session. Provided name of staff person to work with AMPS on power point presentation.

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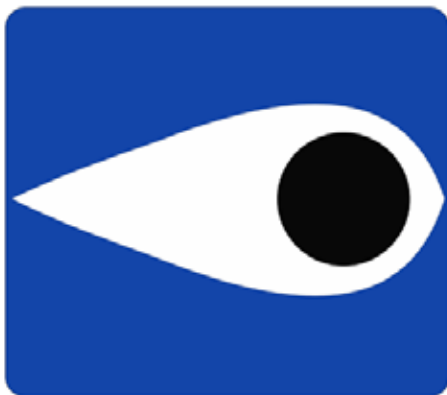
COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES

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3. I met with Constable N. King to begin discussion on the "Neighborhood Watch Program on November 29th. We discussed creating presentation for district and general meetings and creating a power point for these sessions. We hope to host by January/February. We are looking to change the name, invite the community participation to select pilot neighborhood and we need to create signs and logo.

**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH**



WE LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER

4. I attended the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Committee Christmas Enchantment Event held on November 7-10th. I volunteered in ticket sales and concession throughout the weekend.

5. The Joint Advisory Committee on Fiscal Relations meetings has started as of September 12th. I attended the meeting in Ottawa, where we began discussion

and creating a work plan as the engagement of First Nations will begin. Our next meeting is in Ottawa on December 2nd. I participated in the conference call for November 12th.

6. A meeting was held for the Strategic Plan Follow Up, I participated through conference call.

7. Indigenous Services Canada came to Akwesasne; they reached out to me to arrange a visit to the Station #3 in Tsi Snaihne to view the facility for renovation or build new.

8. I attended a Wildland Fire Conference in Ottawa on November 19-21st. This was interesting however, geared for more technical people. One day was geared for Indigenous presentations. I hope that we can coordinate to have a few of our firefighters attend next year.

9. I attended the Swearing In



Ceremony for the Membership Board. An invitation was extended to Council.

10. I attended the First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum hosted by the AFN in Ottawa on November 28th. As a member of the Chiefs Committee on Emergency Management, I was asked to participate. The

Regional Chief for this portfolio was unavailable and I was his suggested alternate. I sat as panel member to discuss Emergency Management on First Nations.



11. I attended a meeting with legal Counsel on the Old Age Security. Council has established a Working Task Group to work on this file. I am a member of the WTG.

12. I attended a meeting with Transport Canada along with other Council members. We continue these meetings as we work on establishing relationships and potential partnerships.



COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES

Portfolio: Justice, Public Safety, Executive Services

Month: December 2019

Committee: Finance, Governance, Cannabis Working Task Group

Monthly Notables:

1. The December weekly Special Meeting of Council was held on December 9th and 16th. Some of the discussion items for Council included: ACCESS, CBSA, ISC Tour, Letter to Cabinet, AMBE and DCSS. Presentations included: TNG Governance, MP Eric Duncan, Pow Wow Committee, Vibrant Communities and Lake St. Francis Wildlife. Resolutions considered were: Proposal for Jordan's Principle Enhanced Service Coordination, Amendment to various funding agreements for Ministry of Health Long Term Care, Ministry of Children Community Social Services, Land Allotment, Consulting Service Contract, Pharmacy Service Contract, Housing Upgrade, Housing. Fisheries & Ocean Lease and Audit Financial Statements DCSS Program.

2. Justice Portfolio Meeting was scheduled and held on December 12th. Updates were provided by Youth Justice Program, Director, Legislative Development and the RFM Pilot Project.

3. Public Safety Portfolio Meet-



Council welcomed Claire IsaBelle to Akwesasne. Mrs. IsaBelle is a Member of the Coalition Avenir Quebec (CAQ) for the National Assembly of Quebec, Huntingdon riding. We invited Mrs. IsaBelle to learn more about Akwesasne and our unique challenges.

ing is scheduled on a bi-monthly basis with the next meeting scheduled for January 16th.

4. The Finance Committee Meeting was not scheduled this month.

5. The Executive Services Portfolio Meeting was not scheduled this month.

6. District Meeting was not scheduled this month.

7. A General Meeting was not scheduled this month.

8. Youth Council Meeting was not scheduled this month.

9. I did not attend any Legislative Commission meetings in December 2019. However, there were meetings: one to discuss the work

plan and the others were to work on the Election Law; portfolio not included.

10. We did not schedule the Governance Committee Meeting this month due to the Holidays falling on the same day.

Work in Progress:

1. I attended a meeting with Mrs. Clair IsaBelle, a member of the Quebec Government and Grand Chief and Council. Mrs. IsaBelle came to Akwesasne to meet with Council. We had discussion on Health and the language barrier, education of young and the Adult Education programming.

2. Recreational Cannabis Work-

continued on page 14

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES

continued from page 11

ing Task Group Meetings continue. Meetings were held on December 18th & 20th as we continue the work of reviewing applications.

3. As a member of the AFN Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal I attended a meeting in Ottawa on December 2nd. My first meeting, I was appointed by the AFNQL. This committee reviews the Charter of the AFN, we prepared to present Phase I of the work to the Chiefs in Assembly at the AFN - Special Chiefs Assembly December 3rd.

4. I also attended the AFN Special Chiefs Assembly in Ottawa for December 3-5th. As part of that session I was also present at the daily AFNQL Chiefs Caucus. This Assembly had chiefs from across Canada. The various Chiefs Committee provided updates of their work. As mentioned, I attended the AFNQL Caucus held each morning prior the start of the assembly, here I had the opportunity to speak with the Minister of Justice and Minister of Crown and Indigenous Affairs where I address issue of Justice: Compliance, Court and Administrative Funding.

5. As a member of the Joint Advisory Committee on Fiscal Relations. I attended a meeting in Ottawa on December 2nd. This meeting we began looking at the engagement process for the First Nations; the process, video, in person, dates,

etc. Next meeting in late January.

6. As a member of the CBSA Leadership Committee, we had meetings to review the CBSA work plan developed from the Design Think Tank work between MCA/ CBSA.

7. I attended Iakhihsotha on December 20th to judge their Door Decoration Contest. Great job by the decorators certainly made judging difficult. I was happy to participate.

8. I attended the three Christmas Dinners this month. Great turnout and great food.

9. I participated in a Governance Review Interview for Mohawk Government Office.

10. Office Closure December 25-January 1st.



The Holiday Dinners are one of Chief Connie Lazore's favorite community events of the year.

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF TOBI MITCHELL UPDATES



Portfolio: Environment, Department of Health, Nation Building, Economic Development

Month: November/December 2019

Committee: Finance, Governance, Cannabis Working Task Group

November

For the Health Portfolio, there was a tour and meeting with CISSMO, which is the local regional health authority in Quebec. I was able to attend the meeting with them, but I missed the tour due to another meeting. The purpose of the tour and meeting was to inform and educate them about who we are, how we operate, what services we are able to offer, as well as where we are lacking and where they can assist us. I was asked to attend a meeting with a service provider to discuss their issues with the Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits Program. These concerns were passed onto administration to address them, where possible. I attended the Health Coordination Unit

and Ontario Chiefs Committee on Health, held at the Chiefs of Ontario offices in Toronto. The IFN Health Director was unavailable to attend the technical HCU meeting, and with my previous health technical background, I was asked to attend that meeting as well. At this meeting, I was asked if I was interested in the recent vacated Co-Chair role. I agreed, and the recommendation was sent up to the Ontario Regional Chief Roseanne Archibald.

For the Tehotiiennawakon portfolio, I attended a meeting in Toronto with the Ontario government to discuss Tobacco. I'm still familiarizing myself with the various files and projects within the Tehotiiennawakon department, so for me it was more of an informational and background meeting. We discussed what was realistic for Akwesasne, and how Ontario's approach will not work for us. There will be follow-up meetings to continue this discussion. I attended the AFN Water Symposium that was held in Toronto, along with staff from both the Water and Environment programs. I was disappointed in the meeting, as the objectives of the meeting did not follow what we were told it was going to. The long term strategy that we had discussed at the preparatory meeting, was barely discussed and not much work was done on it. Most of the

Symposium was presentations and information gathering. Politically, it was not what we were told it was going to be. I expressed my disappointment in the evaluation forms, as well as with some AFN staff.

Other activities over the month in-



clude, volunteering at the Snye Recreation's annual Christmas Enchantment fundraiser and I attended the Membership Board Swearing-In ceremony. I was at the Snye District meeting, and unfortunately, I was out of town for the re-scheduled General meeting.

December

The Ontario Representative to the AFN Chiefs Committee on Health, Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, had requested that I attend the CCOH meeting with him, given my technical background on some of the files that the AFN is working on, namely the Non-Insured Health Benefits Joint Review. I attended the meeting on the Monday before the AFN Special Chiefs Assembly, the agen-

continued on page 14

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT TOBI MITCHELL LAZORE UPDATES

continued from page 13

da had changed over the weekend, due to the new Minister of Indigenous Services Marc Miller accepting the invitation to attend the meeting. While preparing for the meeting with Minister Miller it was mentioned that he would not be able to speak to too many things, as he had not yet received his mandate letter. I asked the question if we (First Nations) had ever sent mandate letters to the Ministers who we work closely with. As an outcome of the discussion, AFN staff were tasked with drafting up template letters for communities and organizations to utilize, if they want to. Grand Chief Fiddler was unable to make the meeting with Minister Miller, so as Ontario's representative, I raised the top concerns in Ontario, that I was briefed on by the Chiefs of Ontario. I also took the opportunity to ask Minister Miller to apply some political pressure on the Quebec government to rectify the language issue, which restricts our ability to hire physicians in Akwesasne.

I provided opening remarks at the IFN Jordan's Principle Knowledge Exchange Symposium, which was opened up by Akwesasne youth Mylee Lazore, who did a great job. I attended what keynote speakers and workshops that I could at this conference, but since I am also the health representative for the IFN, I

was often assisting in other areas. I also attended the AFN Special Chiefs Assembly in Ottawa, I utilized this opportunity to have side meetings with health colleagues and to touch base with the National Aboriginal Trust Officers Association on the upcoming Women's Summit that I was asked to speak at.

The Entewatatha:wi program had an information/planning meeting with Canada, to look at our calendars for the upcoming year and begin to look at what issues are remaining. I attended this meeting, as well as the preparatory meeting. We came out with an overall calendar for upcoming meetings, which can be very

hard to schedule, as well as a plan for the first half of the year, and a commitment to come back together to re-examine how this process is working and remaining meeting dates.

Throughout the rest of the month, I attended various Christmas activities and dinners. I was asked to serve at the Kana:takon School Christmas Luncheon. I attended both the Kawehno:ke and Kana:takon Community Christmas Dinners; unfortunately, I was out of town during the Tsi Snaihne dinner. I took a few days off early for the Christmas break.



In December, Chief Tobi Mitchell was "arrested" at the annual Akwesasne Holiday Helpers fundraiser with fellow Chief Vanessa Adams and Chief Daryl Lazore.

ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - "WE WILL GOVERN"

ENTEWATATHÁ:WI PRESENTS AT IOHAHI:IO

The team from Entewatathá:wi – We will Govern, was pleased to provide two 3-hour presentations to Iohahi:io, Akwesasne Education & Training Institute.

The General Arts and Science class under the instruction of Crystal Bay were the recipients of these educational presentations.

The first presentation was based on the social economic impact of the Indian Act. The following week was the Overview of the History of Akwesasne and Self governance.

If you would like a presentation to your organization, contact Peter Garrow at 613-575-2341 ext. 3194.



Surrounded by students from the General Arts and Science class is Peter Garrow, Coordinator for Entewatathá:wi, Crystal Bay, an instructor at Iohahi:io and Mavis Williamson, Communications Specialist for Entewatathá:wi.

FAMILY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Entewatathá:wi offers family information sessions to give you more insight about the self-governing process. Staff will join you, your family and friends to provide you with information on the program and have a good conversation on what the

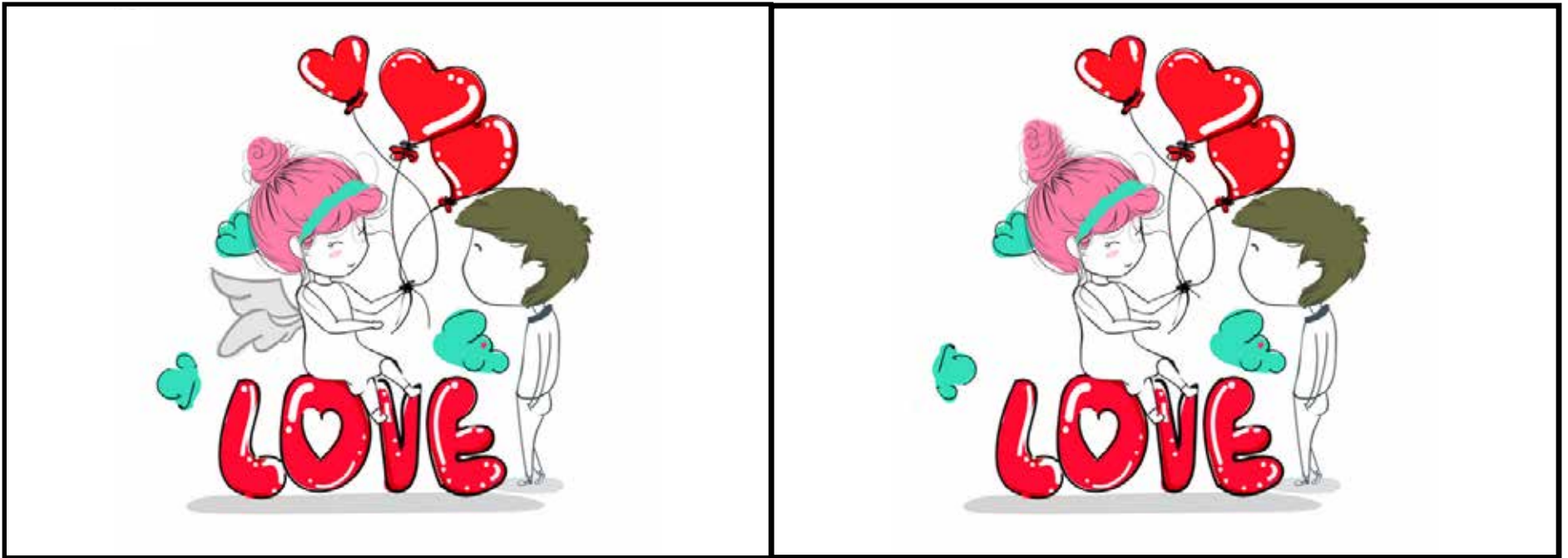
Entewatathá:wi Program does and is all about.

If you would like to host a family information session, please call the Entewatathá:wi office to reserve your spot today at 613-575-2341 ext. 3193.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Can you find the five differences between these two lovebirds?



1: Hair on female is larger in second image. 2: On the top of the L in love, there is a white dot missing. 3: The strings on the balloon are shorter in the second image. 4: The cloud on the left side is flipped in the image. 5: The angel wings are missing in the second image.



SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

Can you get to the finish line?



YOU GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

What did the chocolate syrup say to the ice cream?



I'm sweet on you!

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

FACEBOOK STATS



Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in January

1. New Mental Health Therapist at Wholistic Health & Wellness (Photo)
2. You're Invited — Kanien'keha Language App Unveiling (Flyer)
3. Police Operation Leads to Seizure of 282 lbs. of Cannabis Marihuana (Release)
4. Mid-Winter Teachings (Flyer)
5. Business Spotlight — Onkwehonwe Midwives Collective (Video)

Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in January

1. Police Operation Leads to Seizure of 282 lbs. of Cannabis Marihuana — 6,299 reached
2. New Mental Health Therapist at Wholistic Health & Wellness — 5,689 reached
3. You're Invited — Kanien'keha Language App Unveiling — 5,293 reached
4. AMPS Seizure of Pills and Cocaine — 4,684 reached
5. Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training — 3,197 reached

TWITTER STATS

Top Tweet in January



YOUTUBE STATS



Highest Viewed Videos on the MCA Youtube Channel for January

1. MCA News — January 14, 2020
2. MCA General Meeting — January 23, 2020
3. Business Spotlight — Onkwehonwe Midwives Collective

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

NEW AND CHANGING FACES AT MCA

November 2019

David Runions.....Supply Teacher Skasenneo Shenandoah.....Financial Analyst
Jacob Sunday.....Cook/Dietary Aide Trisha Morrow.....Instructor
Jody Toupin.....Supply Teacher Tyren Terrance.....Caretaker
Naomi Hill.....Emergency Medical Tech



COMPLIMENTS & APPRECIATIONS

- The OVS Staff would like to send out a niawenko:wa to Landon Thompson for doing such a great job at CIA 3! We appreciate it!
- Nia:wen to the staff of the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office for their continued excellence in the face of many challenges for the past year.
- Nia:wen to Taylor Bova, Eric Laughing and Staff for the installation of the new sensory decals on the floor at the AMS School. The students were very excited to see and use the new sensory path.
- Thumbs up to AMBE and Iohahi:io Administrative staff for supporting the Snye Recreation, Kawehno:ke Recreation and Kana:takon Recreation. They made generous donations to their Annual Christmas fundraisers. WAY TO GO AMBE!!
- Nia:wen to the heating assistance program. I appreciate the services that they offer. I know that it is not a guaranteed program, but nonetheless, I appreciate the help!
- A big niawenko:wa goes out the Kawehno:ke Recreation when they offered haircuts for kids free-of-charge. It was greatly appreciated!
- I would like to send out a thank you to the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club. They offer wonderful programming for children at the AMS. What a lifesaver for parents who can't afford fees. The ABGC is truly a positive place for kids!
- Nia:wen to the ACCP staff who hosted open houses in each center in November 2019.
- The Kawehno:ke Child Care would like to send a big niawenko:wa to the Kawehno:ke Recreation who coordinated the PJ and book drive for the children of Kawehno:ke Child Care.
- Nia:wen to the IT Team for maintaining and trouble shooting to keep the networks up and running.
- Nia:wen to the Kana:takon Recreation for all their work keeping Halloween safe for kids as well their Christmas Event. Nia:wen to the Snye Recreation for the amazing job on the Christmas Tree Enchantment!
- Nia:wen to the staff of the Community Health Program for organizing and providing Flu Shot Clinics in all three districts during the month of November 2019.
- Nia:wen to the Tsi Snaihne Firehall for use of their space to hold the Flu Shot Clinics in November 2019.



Here is an example of the sensory decals installed at the AMS School.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NEW MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST AT WHOLISTIC HEALTH & WELLNESS

The MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program would like to introduce their new full-time Mental Health Therapist to the community!

Wennietanoron Oakes is a graduate from the University of Ottawa with a Masters in Counselling Psychology.



WENNIETANORON OAKES

MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST, WHOLISTIC HEALTH & WELLNESS

She is a member of the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO) and the Canadian Counselling & Psychotherapy Association.

Wennietanoron has worked in various roles throughout the community of Akwesasne, most recently with the Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education for over 19 years with families and children. She is also certified in Attachment Centered Play Therapy, which offers clinicians a holistic, play-based approach to child and family therapy.

“My approach to counselling is integrative as each client is unique, as well as their families. It is important for families, children, and individuals to be given the tools to help assist in growth, change and provide the support that is needed,” said Oakes.

Wennietanoron will be practicing and supporting mental health in all three districts of Akwesasne. For more information, please contact the Tekanikonrahwa:kon Wholistic Health & Wellness Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3115.

WEEKLY YOGA SESSIONS!

Join the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne: Community Health Program for weekly yoga sessions at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center! The classes will be held on Mondays at 6 PM from January 13 through May 25. Everyone is welcome — don't forget your mat and water!

For more information, please contact Community Health at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MCA WELCOMES NEW NURSE PRACTITIONER

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to welcome Nurse Practitioner Katelyn Fedorak to the community.

Ms. Fedorak is the newest member of the team of staff at the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic, joining fellow Nurse Practitioner Janet Brant, Dr. Funnell, and Dr. Torres. With the addition of Katelyn, Akwesasne will have greater access to walk-in clinics and same-day appointments.

“Our growing community has growing health needs and we are proud to bring another qualified professional to Akwesasne,” said the Health Portfolio Chiefs Tobi Mitchell, Vanessa Adams, and April Adams-Phillips.

“Securing qualified doctors and nurses is not always easy due to the complications of our jurisdictions and border, so we welcome Katelyn and thank her for choosing Akwesasne. We also thank the MCA staff for working together very passionately to recruit new professionals.”

Ms. Fedorak is a recent graduate of the University of Ottawa. Originally from British Columbia, she previously worked with a First Nation near her hometown, and was alarmed with the “huge lack of access to healthcare” her First Nations clients faced and said, “the health disparity was shocking to me.” She developed a strong interest in aboriginal health. “I’m very excited to be working here,” she said. “The past two weeks have been a great experience and the patients have been very

welcoming.”

MCA’s Wholistic Health & Wellness Program, part of the Dept. of Health, has been actively seeking new health professionals to provide regular and consistent services to the community. The program also oversees the Akwesasne Medical Clinic in Kana:takon, the main headquarters for Dr. Horn, Dr. Saylor and Dr. Levac. The program also includes medical clinics within the community’s long-term care facilities Iakhihsotha and Tsiionkwanonhso:te, as well as Mental Health, Addictions, and the Traditional Medicines unit. Through these services, the Wholistic Health & Wellness Program works to serve the community’s needs in all areas of their physical, mental and spiritual health.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SMUDGING AT KANONHKWATSHERI:IO HEALTH FACILITY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health - Wholistic Health & Wellness Program, which includes the Traditional Medicine unit, provides culturally-appropriate and traditional health services. We have grown very proud of the unique care we're able to provide our clients and community members that reflects Mohawk customs and practices.

For many years, the Traditional Medicine unit has hosted smudging and sage burning practices at our Kanonhkwatsheri:io Health Facility. Unfortunately, the smoke and fragrance from these activities creates poor air quality and unintentional side effects in the health of our employees. We are obligated by law to provide a safe and healthy work environment, free of smoke.

Therefore, a specific location at the health facility has been designated for smoke-related traditional prac-

tices. For clients and service providers who prefer to have open smudging as part of their care, we offer a separate location which is better equipped to ventilate and won't compromise the health of others. The health facility serves many community members every day, and houses many different departments and programs with staff who medically require a smoke-free atmosphere.

We are very proud of the inclusion of cultural practices into our health care system; it's a very unique aspect of the MCA's Dept. of Health and Wholistic Health & Wellness Program. The Traditional Medicine unit continues to find new and improved ways to provide traditional-based health care services.

We thank the community and staff for their understanding and continued respect for one another.

MEN'S PROGRAM—FLOOR HOCKEY

Starting on January 21, the Wholistic Health & Wellness Program began their men's floor hockey program designed to help attendee's stay active, healthy and sober!

When: Tuesdays | 7 PM - 9 PM

Where: Kana:takon School

For more information or to pre-register, please contact Brandon David at 613-575-2341 ext. 3108.



RIBBON SHIRT CLASS



Jerome Cook proudly wears his finished ribbon shirt from a workshop held in December by Wholistic Health and Wellness. . Nia:wen to instructor Iakonikonriiostha and to all involved!

DEPARTMENT OF TEHOTIENNAWAKON

WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2020

Please join us in celebrating Mother Earth! On Sunday, February 2, 2020, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) Environment Program is hosting the fifth annual World Wetlands Day event in the heart of Akwesasne's wetlands, Snye (Tsi Snaihne).

We are extending a special invitation to join in on this fun-filled, family-friendly, educational event. We wish to share knowledge and to connect with the community through various informational booths and activities that focus on the health of the River, the importance of her wetlands, and our roles and responsibilities within the ecosystem. It is time to put the 'We' back in 'Wetlands' by re-establishing our relationship with the environment, and by becoming caretakers and advocates for the protection and enhancement of wetlands.

World Wetlands Day is dedicated to honouring the importance of wetlands worldwide. Wetlands are often equated with a wasteland; a place to be drained, filled in, burnt off and re-purposed, and yet, wetlands are vital for human survival. Wetlands are among the Earth's most productive and biodiverse environments, which support the survival of countless plant and animal species. Sadly, close to 70 percent of Canada's wetlands have been badly degraded or disappeared since 1900.

Here, the mighty Kaniatarowanenneh runs through every part of our daily lives and wetlands are an important part of the river ecosystem. Event Coordinator and MCA-Environment Program's Fish and Wildlife Technician,

Jacey Hall says, "World Wetlands Day promises to be lots of fun for the entire family and will include lots of hands on activities for all ages."

Abraham Francis, Environmental Science Officer with the MCA-Environment Program says, "The River and her wetlands are the history and heart of Akwesasronon".

With this in mind, presentations and interactive exhibits from MCA-Environment Program and their partners will focus on a variety of river-related topics, including some of the many species of fish and wildlife that live in and along her shores and within wetlands. Special guests include the River Institute, the Eastern Ontario Water Festival, Thousand Islands National Park, the Great River Network, and Seaway Valley Divers. We are hoping to host the "Paddling Puppeteer", Glen Caradus from Peterborough again this year, as well as a snowshoe walk lead by Iakwa'shatste Youth Fitness and Thompson Island Cultural Camp. There will be free food, giveaways, and door prizes.

**World
Wetlands Day**
2 February 2020



Wetlands and biodiversity

Department of Tehotiennewakon
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1053

A'nowara'ko:wa Arena
(613) 936-1583

CONTACT US!

Economic Development
(613) 575-2250 ext.1053

Emergency Measures
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1030

Environment Program
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1038

DEPARTMENT OF TEHOTIENNAWAKON

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT - INDIAN TIME

Since July 1983, the Indian Time newspaper has been serving the community of Akwesasne. They first began to cover local news and the events from our sister confederacy nations in an unbiased manner, that didn't automatically put us in a negative light.

Since the beginning and to present day, Indian Time has been a staple in many households—not only in Akwesasne, but across the United States and Canada. Individuals can utilize the delivery and subscription service so that they always know what is happening in the community. For those that want the feeling of home, even when they are thousands of miles away, Indian Time is the perfect way to reconnect with the community and see what family and friends are up to. Subscriptions begin at \$115 USD per year for a weekly mailing, which also includes an on-line subscription. If you want to go paperless, you can also purchase an online subscription for \$40 a year. For local Akwesasronon, you can pick up a new issue at most local stores for \$1.25 (at par) every Thursday.

Helen Cook-Lazore, who has worked (on and off) at the paper since 1983, said she is so proud to see "how much the paper has grown."

It is evident that the staff enjoy what they do and it reflects in their writing. Margie Skidders, the Indian Time editor, noted that "it is such a privilege to work at the Indian Time. Staff are great and it is so wonderful to cover the events... and one of my favorite parts is to meet our people. It is hard work, but every day is different and it never gets old."

From sporting events to birthday wishes; birth an-

nouncements (PSA to new parents—this is a free service!) to graduation celebrations; classifieds to events in the community; Indian Time has it all! We also can't forget the infamous "Blast from the Past" column. Indian Time is truly the original #ThrowbackThursday.

Randy Jock-Reidy, the Advertising Consultant at Indian Time noted, "My business clients tell me regularly of the great quality of our writing, the layout, and the advertising, which makes me proud to work here. I love the boost that my regular and new clients give me, which keeps me looking forward to each day; otherwise I wouldn't have stayed here for over 21 years. I also credit the great staff that I work with as well."

Indian Time is funded entirely by advertising and paper sales. So, if you enjoy and want to continue reading and learning more about our community (and who doesn't get excited when you, or your family and friends make the paper?), show support for the hard-working crew! Purchase those papers and advertise your business. For those who are interested in expanding their writing and attending community events, the Indian Time is also looking for part-time reporters.

Nia:wen to all the hard-working staff at the Indian Time!

To get your copy of Indian Time today, please visit your local stores across Akwesasne and Fort Covington or visit the Indian Time offices at 22 Hilltop Drive in Kana:takon. For more information, please contact their offices at 613-575-2063 or 518-358-9531 or visit their website indiantime.net, which is updated regularly.



AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

AMBE — \$10,000 RAFFLE

The AMBE Food Services Program is announcing the beginning of their annual fundraising efforts for the AMBE Food Services Program offered at Ahkwesahsne Mohawk School, Kana:takon School and Tsi Snaihne School. They will be having a \$10,000 raffle!

First place prize is \$5,000
Second place prize is \$3,000
Third place prize is \$2,000

The draw date will be February 14th. The cost of the

ticket is \$100, only 200 tickets are being sold.

All monies raised will go towards purchasing food and/or equipment for the AMBE Food Services Program for the three AMBE schools.

If you are interested in selling or purchasing tickets, please contact Louella "Guzzy" Lazore at the AMBE office at 613-933-0409 ext. 1411 or 315-705-8618.

IOHAHI:IO —COMPUTER CLASSES

Iohahi:io is excited to host two free computer classes for those looking to improve or refresh their technology skills! The sessions will begin in early February and will run for six weeks.

WEDNESDAY EVENING CLASS:

This class will be held from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM (starting Feb. 5) and will focus on file management and an introduction to Microsoft Word.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON CLASS:

This class will be held from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (starting Feb. 6) and will focus on basic computer skills — this class is ideal for those with little computer experience.

These classes are offered in cooperation with the MCA Community Support Program! For more information or

to register, please contact Iohahi:io at 613-575-2754 or email cathy.salmon@ambe.ca.



CONTACT US!

Ahkwasahsne Mohawk
Board of Education
(613) 933-0409 or
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1400

Tsi Snaihne School
(613) 575-2291
Kana:takon School
(613) 575-2323

Iohahi:io
(613) 575-2754 or
(613) 575-2250 ext. 4100

Ahkwasahsne Mohawk School
(613) 932-3366

STUDENTS REWARDED FOR OUTSTANDING CONDUCT

Tsi Snaihne School students who received the Outstanding Conduct Award from September to December were rewarded with a field trip to the movies to watch *Dr. Dolittle*.

The students have shown the character traits of Respect, Responsibility, Courage and Friendship.

Nia:wen to Enbridge and the Community Fund for sponsoring this fun outing! The students had a great time at the movies!

Congratulations to the students and we hope that you keep up the great work!



Students from the Tsi Snaihne School who received the Outstanding Conduct Award.

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES UPDATES

The Department of Technical Services (DTS) is pleased to introduce two staff this month.

The first is, Mr. Clayton Benedict who was newly hired in December 2019 within the DTS Building Maintenance Sector as the Building Maintenance Manager. Mr. Benedict will be overseeing the maintenance services for the Department of Health and Department of Community and Social Services Buildings. He hails from Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island) and he graduated from C CVS in Cornwall ON, and SUNY Potsdam University.

Clayton enjoys participating in community events that mostly include watching his children compete in sports. If you see Clayton please wish him a warm welcome!

If you need to contact Clayton you can do so by email: clayton.benedict@akwesasne.ca or via telephone at 613-575-2250 extension 1023.



Photo: Clayton Benedict, DTS Building Maintenance Manager, Health and Social Buildings.

The second introduction is for Mr. Spencer Thompson who is the Acting Head Caretaker within the DTS Building Maintenance Admin Sector. Spencer is replacing our former employee, Kevin (Sturge) Lazore who retired in October 2019. We wish Sturge good health and happiness in his retirement!



Spencer Thompson, DTS A/Head Caretaker.

Spencer is a graduate from C CVS High School who has a Small Engine Mechanic Diploma from Canadore College. He has worked within the DTS caretaker sector for many years starting as a term placement in 2007 and full-time placement in 2012. As A/Head Caretaker, Spencer's responsibilities include overseeing the operation and maintenance of the Peace Tree Trade Centre on Kawehno:ke, the Roads Garage, and all of the Cornwall Island Administration (CIA) Buildings. He supervises a staff made up of full-time and casual employees by identifying work via ASSET NAV, assigning work, and ensuring service completion. Spencer also coordinates work with external trades people and con-

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES UPDATES

tractors as part of over-all maintenance Management. Spencer hails from Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island), and in his off time he enjoys hunting, fishing, ATV-ing, live sports, cooking, visiting family and friends and working in his garage. Níawen, Spencer for your service and congratulations on your new assignment!

If you need to contact Spencer you can do so by email: spencer.thompson@akwesasne.ca or via telephone at 613-575-2250 extension 1204.

Other exciting news comes from our Roads Department who received delivery of their new Toromont CAT 140 Motor Grader!

The previous Motor Grader was well past the Ministry of Transportations normal replacement schedule for this type of equipment. The funds to replace the Motor Grader were provided from DTS application to the First Nation Infrastructure Investment Plan, which is part of a project investment through Indigenous Services Canada.

The equipment operators were very happy to receive the new equipment and recalled memories of years ago

when they had to wear full skidoo suits with helmets inside the graders because graders did not afford the interior protection they do now.

Níawenko:wa to Kennedy Garrow, Kenny Mitchell, and Joe Francis for ensuring the proposal submission was done, as well as for the administration and arranging delivery of the Motor Grader purchase from Tormont. In addition, níawenko:wa to all of the Roads Crew for their continued dedication to roads safety in our community. Well done!



The MCA Department of Technical Services thanks Indigenous Services Canada for the funding for the purchase of this new equipment through First Nations. Pictured above is Kenny Mitchell and Joe Francis with the new Motor Grader.

CONTACT US!

Department of Technical Services
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1003

Maintenance Program
(613)-575-2250 ext. 1022

Roads Department
Central Dispatch (613) 575-2340
or (613) 938-5476

Water / Wastewater Infrastructure
Emergency (613) 575-2000

After Hours Pager (518)404-3352
Office Hours Mon – Fri. 8AM-4PM (613) 933-4924

Solid Waste Management (Garbage and Recycling)
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1022

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

AFWP — MOVIE NIGHTS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

The MCA Akwesasne Family Wellness Program would like to invite the community to two movie showings in honour of Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Join us for these free events on February 3 and February 10 at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena (7 PM start time both days).

MOVIE NIGHT #1 — FEBRUARY 3:

The AFWP will play the movie "Trafficked", which was based on real events. After being forced into slavery in the international sex trade, three young women from India, Nigeria and the United States attempt to escape from a brothel in Texas.

MOVIE NIGHT #2 — FEBRUARY 10:

The AFWP will play the movie "Skin in the Game", which was also inspired by true events. Abducted off the sidewalk of suburban America, fifteen-year-old Dani finds herself trapped in the horrific underground world of human trafficking. With no initial assistance from the police, Dani's mother and an ex-prostitute take to the streets in an effort to find her before it is too late.

Parental discretion is strongly advised for both movies! Snacks and drinks will be provided. For more information, please contact the AFWP at 613-937-4322.



The poster features a dark blue background with the title "MOVIE NIGHTS" in large white letters at the top. Below it, "FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH" is written in teal. Two movie posters are shown: "TRAFFICKED" on the left and "SKIN IN THE GAME" on the right. The dates "MONDAY, FEB. 3" and "MONDAY, FEB. 10" are placed above their respective posters. The poster is decorated with yellow and blue movie tickets and a film strip on the right side.

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

PHONE SCAMS

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service has been receiving a number of calls relating to phone scams in our community. Please be careful who you give your information to over the phone.

Below is a list of phone scam calls community members have been reporting to the police. If you receive a similar call please hang up and contact your local law enforcement agency and report the scam.

Government Scam: This is a phone scam where the caller pretends to be from the government. Usually, the caller sounds threatening and will tell you a badge number. They will threaten you with lawsuits or police action.

Lottery Scams: This phone scam is where the caller will try to make you believe that you have won a foreign lottery. The giveaway to this phone scam is the caller will say you have to pay taxes or fees to collect winnings.

Family Members In Trouble: This phone scam targets seniors. The caller will pretend to be a younger family member and will tell individual that they have been arrested or need money asap. If you get this call, hang up and call that family member back directly.

Fake Charity: Typically this caller will pretend to be from a disaster relief fund or other tragedy relief. You should not give any donations to unsolicited callers.

Technical Support Calls: This caller will pretend they are from a well-known company and that they have found a detected error on your computer. They will walk you through a series of steps to "fix" your computer but they are having you install software that will give them access to your computer.

Website Password Requests: This is a scam where

the caller is after your online accounts. They call acting like they are following up on a technical support issue and will ask you to confirm your identity with your online password. You should never give out your online passwords to anyone over the phone.

Urgent Requests: This scam consists of the caller creating a sense of urgency. In almost all these scenarios the caller insists that the matter they are calling about needs to be addressed immediately or your opportunity will be gone forever.

Health Care, Insurance, and Debt Scams: There are numerous scams where the fraudster will try to sell auto warranties, confirm health insurance information, and offer debt consolidation loans. Do not buy anything from someone who calls you and you did not know them before the phone call.

Bank Fraud Scams: In this scam, the caller will pretend to be on your side. They will let you know that there is a potential fraud in your bank account. They will attempt to gather your account numbers, passwords, or other information to access your bank account.

Fake Customer Requests Scam: This scam targets both individuals and small businesses. They will have an issue that will need to be dealt with immediately. The scammer will eventually request that money be wired right away somewhere.





COMMUNITY FITNESS

A'nowara'ko:wa Arena

OPEN GYM
11:00am-1:00pm
Monday-Thursday

Starting Date: February 3, 2020



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
Community Health Program



For more information contact:
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