

ONKWE'TÀ:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 15 Issue 7

FREE

Ohiarikhó:wa/July 2026

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INAUGURAL IETHIAHON:NIEN RUN UNITES STUDENTS THROUGH FITNESS & FUN



The Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education hosted its first-ever Iethiahon:nien Run on May 26 at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena. It was a beautiful day and the event brought together students from all three AMBE schools, Akwesasne Freedom School, and Tsiakwawennatonhe'ts for a morning focused on fitness, fun, and community spirit. Read more about the run on page 14.

UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

JULY DISTRICT MEETINGS

Kana:takon & Tsi Snaihne

July 6, 2026 · 6:00 p.m.

District Recreation Centers

Kawehno:ke

July 9, 2026 · 6:00 p.m.

Kawehno:ke Recreation Center

JULY GENERAL MEETING

July 30, 2026 · 6:00 p.m.

Kawehno:ke Recreation Center

The MCA General Meeting will be a hybrid event (in-person and virtual).

To receive the Zoom link, please email meetings@akwesasne.ca.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2024-2027

Grand Chief
Leonard Lazore

Kana:takon District
Chief Cody David
Chief Fallon David
Chief Theresa Jacobs
Chief Teresa Oakes

Kawehno:ke District
Chief Lisa Francis-Benedict
Chief Lacey Pierce
Chief Tom Thomas
Chief Vince Thompson

Tsi Snaihne District
Chief Scott Peters
Chief Tesha Rourke
Chief Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo
Chief JoAnn Swamp

Administration
Shannon Roundpoint
Executive Director

Donna Lahache
Director
Akwesasne Mohawk
Board of Education

Ashley Tarbell
A/Director
Dept. of Communications

Jaime Beechey
Director
Dept. of Community
& Social Services

Kylee Tarbell
Director
Dept. of Economic
Development

Heather Phillips
Director
Dept. of Finance &
Administration

Tessa Jocko
Director
Department of Health

Leslie Papineau
Director
Dept. of Infrastructure,
Housing & Environment

Cactus Cook Sunday
Director
Dept. of Justice

Ranatiostha Swamp
Chief of Police

WAT'KWANONHWERA:TON/GREETINGS

She:kon and welcome to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's community newsletter, Onkwe'tà:ke, which means "For the people." The primary goal of this publication is to deliver MCA's news and updates straight into the hands of community members. Should you wish to stay connected in other ways, the following channels are provided:

Contact: If you have any questions about MCA departments and services, please email info@akwesasne.ca or call 613-575-2250.

E-newsletter: Register for a weekly e-newsletter delivered straight to your email inbox. It's a great way to quickly stay up to date! Sign up by visiting www.akwesasne.ca/signup.

Social Media: Visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat!

Mobile/Cell Text Alerts: Receive urgent or important messages right to your cell phone. Sign up by visiting www.akwesasne.ca/textalerts.

Website: News and general information can be found on our website at www.akwesasne.ca. This includes job postings and Council contact information.

Local Media: Find our news and information in Akwesasne's long-serving local media, CKON 97.3 Radio.

FIVE THINGS
OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS & IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- 1** The Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic has developed new procedures for entering the facility as the main entry doors will remain locked for safety and security measures. Learn more on the entry procedures on page 21.
- 2** The MCA Environment Program's Waste Management team would like to remind community members of the various items that are allowed in your recycling bins. Please make sure the items are free of any food residue prior to placing in your bin. Learn more about the various items you can recycle on page 25. You can recycle more items than you think!
- 3** The Akwesasne Compliance Department is committed to ensuring the peace, safety, and well-being of all community members, elders, families, and pets. In this issue, they share key responsibilities of being a dog owner and consequences of non-compliance. View page 27 to learn more.
- 4** The Akwesasne Family Wellness Program is proud to announce an exciting upcoming event, "Beyond the Ice: Stories of Hope & Strength" with former NHL player Jordin Tootoo and special guest Carey Terrance Jr. Join us Tuesday, July 7 from 12-4 p.m. at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena. More details on the back page.
- 5** The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service is proud to host the 2nd annual Junior Police Academy for Akwesasró:non youth (ages 12-16). This is an exciting opportunity to explore the world of law enforcement from marine patrol to learning police tools, forensic identification, tactical, and more! Deadline to apply is July 17, 2026 with program dates from August 17-21, 2026. View the back page to learn more on how to apply.

NEWS

LITTLE NATIVE HOCKEY LEAGUE GOLD MEDAL TEAMS HONOURED AT IONKWAKWÉ:NION BOOK OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS SIGNING

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne was proud to host a special recognition gathering on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at the Kawehno:ke Recreation Center to honour local Little Native Hockey League (Little NHL) gold medal teams.

Representatives from three gold-medal winning teams attended the event alongside parents, caregivers, family members, and community supporters. During the gathering, athletes had the opportunity to sign the Ionkwakwé:nion Book of Accomplishments, which recognizes Akwesasronon who excel in academics, athletics, arts, culture, and leadership.

Kana:takon District Chief Cody David spoke to the crowd, thanking the parents and caregivers for the support, dedication, and encouragement they provide to the athletes. He also congratulated the athletes for their hard work and commitment, noting that, "not many people can call themselves champions. You should all be incredibly proud of your accomplishments."

Kawehno:ke District Chief Lisa Francis-Benedict shared background information on the Ionkwakwé:nion Book of Accomplishments and its importance in recognizing Akwesasronon achievements. Tsi Snaihne District Chief Sarah-Lee Diabo also offered encouraging words to the athletes and families in attendance.

The evening included a small ceremony with refreshments and food, and many of the young athletes proudly signed the Book of Accomplishments surrounded by their families and teammates.

Nia:wen to the athletes, parents, and families who took time out of their busy schedules to attend and celebrate these accomplishments. The community is incredibly proud of Akwesasne athletes and wishes all athletes the very best in their upcoming sports seasons and competitions.

Additional Book of Accomplishments signings will be held in the future to continue recognizing the many achievements of Akwesasronon.



NEWS

MCA PROVIDES UPDATE ON AKWESASNE MOHAWK LAND CLAIM

Ohiarí:ha/June 6, 2026 — On June 3, 2026, the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a hearing in Washington, D.C., where Senate Bill S.3475 was presented for consideration. The bill, which seeks to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Agreement of Settlement and Compromise to Resolve the Akwesasne Mohawk Land Claim in the State of New York, was reviewed alongside five other bills before the committee.

This hearing represents meaningful progress in the

legislative process and advances efforts toward final resolution of the land claim after more than four decades of work by Akwesasne leadership and partners.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne remains committed to keeping the community informed and will continue to provide updates as the legislation moves forward.

For more information or to address further questions, please contact the Akwesasne Rights & Research Office (ARRO) at arro@akwesasne.ca or 613-575-2250.

MEET THE AKWESASNE YOUTH COUNCIL

The Akwesasne Youth Council is proud to introduce the dedicated youth leaders working to represent, empower, and advocate for the voices of Akwesasne youth.

From community engagement and cultural revitalization to youth initiatives and leadership development, our Council is committed to creating meaningful opportunities for young people across Akwesasne.

Together, they are working to build a stronger future by ensuring youth voices are heard, respected, and included in shaping our community.

Youth Council Is Growing!

The Akwesasne Youth Council is currently looking for passionate, motivated youth between the ages of 18 and 29 who want to make a difference in our com-

munity. If you are interested in leadership, advocacy, community initiatives, cultural programming, or helping create opportunities for youth, we encourage you to reach out and get involved.

Interested in joining the Akwesasne Youth Council? More details available on the MCA website, www.akwesasne.ca/call-outs. A letter of interest and resume must be submitted to Kuyra Chaussi, Executive Assistant to Council, at kuyra.chaussi@akwesasne.ca, or by mail/in person to the MCA Admin. 1 Building in Kana:takon (12 Akwesasne Street, Akwesasne, QC H0M 1A0), no later than **Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.**

Your voice matters, and we'd love to have you join the team!



Taylor Adeline Day
Chair



Cayde Lazore
Secretary



Niiostosera:ah Thompson
Treasurer

NEWS

2026/27 AKWESASNE COMMUNITY FUND REVIEW TEAM REPORT

The Akwesasne Community Fund was established by Council and is intended to support community-based not-for-profit community groups, organizations, and agencies within the jurisdiction of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA). Funding for the Akwesasne Community Fund is derived from our community's overall share of Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation revenue. Council has set aside a portion of the revenue received to be distributed to the community to support various initiatives that might not otherwise receive government funding.

The concept of an Akwesasne Community Fund Review Team was established by Council to include representation from each of the three districts under the jurisdiction of MCA with the responsibility to: establish and annually update the eligibility criteria, guidelines, and application form; conduct a community callout for applications; review applications; make decisions to approve or deny applications; and determine how much funding to allocate to approved applicants.

The following applications were approved for funding:

APPLICANT	FUNDING AMOUNT
Akwesasne Economic Development Agency	\$7,608.00
Akwesasne Jr. C Lightning	\$7,250.00
Akwesasne Minor Hockey Association	\$51,640.00
Akwesasne Wild Women's Hockey	\$9,880.00
Akwesasne Wild Women's Senior C Hockey	\$5,943.00
Aseshate:ka'te Grief Services	\$11,000.00
Families in Motion	\$70,000.00
lahki'nikonhketskwas Lifting Their Minds	\$13,117.00
lakwa'shatste Youth Fitness	\$43,537.00
Onkwehonwe Midwives Collective	\$27,065.00
Turtle Island Balloon Event	\$2,960.00
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROVED	\$250,000.00

PLEASE NOTE: A second call out will take place this fall to distribute the remaining \$50,000. Approved applicants will be eligible for a maximum of up to \$5,000 each.

For the 2026/27 Fiscal Year

A call out for applications for the Akwesasne Community Fund was advertised on MCA's website and Facebook page, at the front door to MCA buildings, and at local businesses within the three districts during the period of April 1, 2026 to April 29, 2026. A total of \$300,000.00 was available for distribution to the community. This year's call out resulted in 23 applications being submitted with a total ask of \$613,976.00.

The following community members served as Review Team members:

DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE
Kana:takon	Amanda Jacobs and Jerome Cook
Kawehno:ke	Ivan Thompson and Tommy Francis
Tsi Snaihne	Jason Lazore and Hilda King

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

MCA WELCOMES NEW YOUTH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

On May 15, 2026 Niiostosera:ah Thompson officially joined the Akwesasne Youth Council (AYC) after signing her oath of office, administered by Cactus Cook Sunday, Director of the Akwesasne Justice Department.

The Akwesasne Youth Council provides young leaders with an opportunity to become involved in local governance, advocate for Akwesasne youth, and contribute ideas and recommendations that help shape the future of the community. As a Youth Council Representative, Niiostosera:ah will work alongside fellow representatives Cayde Lazore, Kayanna Jackson, and Taylor Day in carrying out this important work.

Congratulations to Niiostosera:ah on joining the Ak-

wesasne Youth Council. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne looks forward to the contributions AYC will make as a unified voice for Akwesasne youth.



COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: GRAND CHIEF LEONARD LAZORE



Onerahtohkó:wa/May 25, 2026

Discussion Items:

- IC - Consultation Policy, Terms of Reference and Blackfoot Resolution
- Focus Meeting - ARRO
- Focus Meetings and Minutes
- Cemetery
- Portfolio Work Plan Session
- AFNQL Chiefs Assembly – May 26-28, 2026
- AFAL – Auditor Report
- Motions
- HAVFD
- Large Item Pickup
- ALTO

MCRs: Indigenous Initiative Fund (IIF IV); Upgrade Application; Upgrade Application – Rescind Approved Repair Loan; Upgrade Application – Rescind Approved Renovation Loan; JTBA Executive Committee; Rescind MCR 2025-2026 #357; Assignment of Lease – Pilon Island

Ohiari:ha/June 1, 2026

Discussion Items:

- Letter to B. Runciman
- Hydro Quebec Pole
- Bill S-2
- Power Outage

Presentation:

- RAP Fish Tumors by Kayla Sunday & Claire McFaul

MCRs: ISC Amendment No. 187 to Funding Agreement No. 1920-ON-000024; ISC Amendment No. 189 to Funding Agreement No. 1920-ON-000024; ISC Schedules of Revenues and Expenditures – March 31, 2025; MCA Updating CIBC Private Wealth Signing Authorities; Appointment of Local Director – Child, Youth and Family Services Act; Child Protection School Handbook; World Indigenous Suicide Prevention Conference and Culture Exchange; Youth Initiative; 2025-26 Housing First Nations Children's Housing Fund; AMS Primary School Playground Addition; DOH Organizational Chart 2026; AMPC New Member; Council Meeting Minutes – February 2, 2026; Council Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2026; Council Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2026; Council Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2026; Emergency Council Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2026; Emergency Council Meeting Minutes – March 4, 2026; Council Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2026; Council Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2026; Council Meeting Minutes – March 23, 2026; Council Meeting Minutes – March 30, 2026

Ohiari:ha/June 8, 2026

Discussion Items:

- Hilltop Drive
- Canada Census
- Data Center Presentation
- NYS Land Claims
- Funeral Protocol
- CBSA

Presentation:

- Quebec Political Protocol by Natalie Jacobs

MCRs: ISC Amendment No. 192 to Funding Agreement No. 1920-ON-000024; Focus Meeting – 2026-2027 MCA Budget and 2024-2025 Audit; Enhanced End of Month Large Item Pickup Services; Organization Chart - DIHE; DIHE Management Authority of All MCA Assets; Upgrade Application; Upgrade Application; Upgrade Application – Rescind Approved Ren/Rep Loan; Rescind MCR 2023-2024 #036; Assignment of Lease – Pilon Island; Allotment – St. Regis Village; Authorize ED to Sign/Accept the FNCCEC Agreement; Approve the ILC Program Contribution Agreement; Approve the Indigenous Institutes Operating Grant Amendment for 2026-27

Ohiari:ha/June 15, 2026

Discussion Items:

- Akwesasne Wild Junior Hockey Club Proposal
- Abandoned Homes
- HPV Screening for Cervical Cancer
- Portland Resolution
- COP Hiring
- OLG Funding
- Akwesasne Border Framework
- Hilltop Drive
- Canada Census Discussion
- CBSA

MCRs: Authority granted to Program Manager of AFWP to issue Occupancy Licenses; Focus Meeting – Seaway Claim & Nutfield Tract Update; ICS Amendment No. 193 to Funding Agreement No. 1920-ON-000024; Akwesasne Quebec Political Protocol Agreement; Purchase of Thompson Wellness Building and a section of Lot 193-5 for the AMBE Early Years



MCA COMMUNITY MEETINGS

DISTRICT MEETINGS

JUL. 6
KANA:TAKON & TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT MEETINGS
DISTRICT RECREATION CENTERS • 6 PM

JUL. 9
TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT MEETING
TSI SNAIHNE RECREATION CENTER • 6 PM

AUG. 10
KANA:TAKON, TSI SNAIHNE & KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT MEETINGS
DISTRICT RECREATION CENTERS • 6 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS

JUL. 30
GENERAL MEETING
KAWEHNO:KE RECREATION CENTER • 6 PM

OCT. 22
GENERAL MEETING
TSI SNAIHNE RECREATION CENTER • 6 PM

**Please note: scheduled meeting dates are subject to change. Community members can find updates through the MCA Facebook page and 97.3 CKON Radio.*

Council encourages community members to attend the monthly district and general meetings to receive updates and information. If you have any questions regarding these meetings, please do not hesitate to contact the Mohawk Government Office at 613-575-2250.

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

KANÁ:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF THERESA JACOBS UPDATES



Portfolios:

Dept. of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment, Dept. of Health, Government Secretariat

Committees:

Lobbying, Finance, Governance, Executive, Property Acquisition Team

MONTHLY NOTABLES

Monday Council Meeting: Council received updates from the Executive Director and Grand Chief. A presentation from Jennifer Herne on the Akwesasne Animal Society took place.

Property Acquisition Team (PAT) Meeting: Assessment of properties will be done that include a site visit with interested departments. The Executive Director will be part of the negotiations on properties. Invited the Department of Health to the PAT meetings to see if there are any interest in any of the properties that were sent to MCA. Just a note for community members: If you have a property that you are looking to sell, please reach out to Taylor Armstrong at taylor.armstrong@akwesasne.ca.

Border Partners Meeting: It was reported that funeral processions need police escort at the front of the line and the back of the line when in transition through the border. It is ideal for the funeral homes to call ahead and let the borders know so they can be prepared.

Governance Committee Meeting: We discussed changes to composition of portfolios, Terms of Reference for Executive

Committee, and the Good Standing Policy. The last Good Standing Policy was passed in 2007.

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and Partners of MCA Meeting: The Committee had a presentation on the American Eel Activities and Akwesasne opportunities associated with Saunders Generating Station. OPG is reinvesting in some of their assets that are 70 to 90 years old and will have updates on the facilities (turbines and generators). Iohahiiio Women in Trades program took a trip to OPG for a site visit to see if there was an interest in employment. OPG has also donated to Power For Change from the Native North American Traveling College (NNATC), Friendship Days at the NNATC, Healing Center in Tsi Snaihne, the Akwesasne Powwow, Kids for Fishing with PJ Burns, World Wetlands Day at Cooper Marsh, which takes place during the winter months and had close to 300 people in attendance. OPG attended the career fair at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena on Kawehno:ke and they are currently working with the organizer for the Three Sisters Garden. There is a lot of interaction between Akwesasne and OPG in which they are more than happy to help where they can.

National Guardian Network Meeting: Over the past few months there had been bad media coverage on a past representative that involved a fraudulent situation and due to the location of the space they are renting as a touchdown here within the community, they felt they owed Council an apology as Council wasn't aware they were situated here within the Community. The fraud took place in Manitoba. During the meeting it was also mentioned that they fund certain initiatives along the lines of climate change etc.

Health Advisory Board Meeting: The Health Portfolio Meeting was combined with the Health Advisory Board Meeting with presentations and discussions on confidentiality. Understanding privacy and confidentiality for patients and their right to control their personal health information. This applies to all staff, leadership, and advisory board members. Information must not be shared without permission. There are many times when Council receives emails in which a

community member is informing us of an issue with the programs they are receiving. This is confidential information, and we have to ask permission from the member to forward this information to the department to address. Also in public forums, members are unaware that they cannot discuss their personal information and they should be made aware.

Access to Information Training (ATIPP) with Council: If Council will be doing public meetings, this will be taken into consideration. Departments also need to be prepared for MCRs coming to the table for review and approval.

Monday Council Meeting: Several MCRs were presented and viewed a presentation on the Department of Health's organizational chart.

Kana:takon District Meeting: Discussion items were on:

1) The need for Sweetgrass Lane in the village to go to reconstruction. It was reported that Sweetgrass Lane would not be done this year. Currently the design phase of the project has put out a tender for a company to do internal footage of the sewer pipes beneath the roadway.

2) Garbage issues in the village. We currently have free garbage pickup in all three districts. Environment Program will be purchasing additional service from the provider conduct a large item pickup for a one day/one time chance to help eliminate most of the excess.

3) The data center was a topic that was also discussed. The community, as well as Council very much opposes this.

4) Abandoned home issues in the village and community was discussed. It has been on Councils radar for some time. Kana:takon District Chiefs will be setting up a meeting with Emergency Measures to see how we can help. It isn't as easy as it appears as there would need to be permissions from the property owners as well to take down any of the structures.

5) Another discussion item was on the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena on Kawehno:ke. The elevator at the arena has been out of order. There has been debate on the purpose of the room on the second floor. The question being is it for elders to sit in the room upstairs

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

KANÁ:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF THERESA JACOBS UPDATES

that is enclosed to watch the games and to use the elevator to access the room or is it a service elevator. The community want to see the Arena Board brought back and the Arena needs some updates to its appearance from painting to seating etc.

6) The next topic was the rumble strips on the roads. There are vehicles travelling on the opposite side of the roadway to avoid hitting the rumble strips, and the noise of the rumble strips that the cars do drive on are loud, and the homeowners put up with it all hours of the night. There is a blind corner close to the rumble strips in one section of the village and when cars travelling on the opposite side of the road are risking a head on collision.

7) Four wheelers in the village driving all hours of the night was discussed and a communication will be asked to be put back out on this.

8) Dogs in the village and those that are roaming around in packs have become more frequent. District members are not happy because they cannot go for a walk without running into them. We kindly ask all community members to be mindful of this.

DIHE Portfolio Meeting: The Kana:takon Beach Project will restart now that construction season is approaching. The dock was changed in the plans to be aluminum in order to have it pulled out before the winter months, and a fence will be put around the ball field. Substantial completion is anticipated to be July 1. Block 97 Pump Station is awarded to a contractor and will begin mid-June, lakhihsotha Lodge kitchen construction need more funds, and the Hamilton Island Bridge is finalizing the designs. Kana:takon School HVAC is substantially completed. There is still a part on back order and Iohahiiio Cultural center is waiting for interior finishing. The classroom foundation was poured and delivery for the building is set for mid-July. Paul Cree road waterline connections completed along with restoration. Phase 1 of the Iohahiiio roof is done. The Waterplant roof in Kana:takon is slated next for repair.

Housing Authority Meeting: Housing is looking at Emergency Housing constructed at a site in Perth as it may be more efficient cost wise.

Power Outage: Power outage took place in the District of Tsi Snaihne and Kana:takon. Grand Chief called a meeting on Saturday morning to see what is in place and what will be done in the event of the outage lasting longer. A few chiefs were on the meeting informing of plans. Kana:takon District Chiefs handed out pizza to families that stopped by Admin. 1 to pick up. We also dropped off pizza for those who reached out and did welfare checks on community members at the same time. We are grateful the weather wasn't too cold.

Dog Issue: Met with a community member on the dog issue within the community as they are free to roam.

Court Concern: Met with a community member on a court concern. The concern is when approached by police in the village or Tsi Snaihne, they are subject to go to court in Valleyfield, QC because of location. They want the option to be able to attend court here on reserve in the village of Kana:takon or Tsi Snaihne.

AMBE Unity Day: Attended the AMBE Unity Day event held at Generations Park. This event was planned by a group of AMBE students with various activities for all students to enjoy. Funds were raised throughout the school year by students and Council gave a donation to help assist. I had a chance to meet with these future leaders along with the teacher who helped ensure the event was a success. Upon arrival, Chief Scott Peters and a representative from AMBE were directing traffic. Akwesasne Thunder Lacrosse player Carsten Mitchell #6 was a good sport who sat at the dunk tank for students to hit the bullseye to knock him in the cold water. It was an enjoyable day, and I would like to say, great job to all involved in organizing.

MMIWG Day of Remembrance: Attended the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program's MMIWG Day of Remembrance event on May 5 at the Kana:takon Recreation Center with guest speakers and programs from both the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and MCA.

PORTFOLIO ISSUES

Housing shortage issues, waterline connections, roads need to be funded, Environmental impacts from outside entities.

Health concerns on what is covered for our community members, need testing completed on our territory for health care. Licensing in the province of Quebec is a big issue due to the French language requirement. Other areas are outside agencies thinking they can come on our territory without consulting us or doing projects that will affect our future generations.

OTHER ISSUES

- A community member raised an issue of the Hydro rates getting out of hand. Hydro bills are going up, and the community is being affected with this rising cost.
- Hydro Quebec issues and our homes and facilities.

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

- Waiting on the Akwesasne/Quebec Political Protocol agreement that is currently sitting with the Lawyer for review.
- Participating in border issue where Border Patrol wants to access to our waterways to transition to the St. Regis River. We don't agree on this.
- Participating in conversations regarding the Green Card issue. We do not feel it is in the best interest of our people to apply for a Green Card in order to attend school in the United States.
- Participating in the purchase of the Canada land near the Cornwall canal up to Iroquois.
- Looking to bring the Multi Jurisdiction table back so we can sit down and look at what the roads needs are to go after funding. This has been sent to the Director and was announced at the DIHE Portfolio meeting in which we all agreed that we need funding from all sources. Would like to have phases of projects begin this year and each year moving forward. DIHE will be compiling all projects that are tender ready and will meet with Portfolio Chiefs for future planning with funding sources.
- Community members getting CERB and CRA requesting money back. Strategy session is needed on this so we can meet with the government to address this concern.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION



FACEBOOK STATS

Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in June

1. AMBE Celebrating and Strengthening Kanien'keha Culture (Video)
2. Bird Sightings & Sweet Treats: Totas Day Out
3. Happy Pride Month (Graphic)
4. Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Extends Condolences to the Family of Margaret George
5. Department of Health Welcomes New Health Advisory Board Members

Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in June

1. Bird Sightings & Sweet Treats: Totas Day Out — 10,230 Reached
2. AMBE Celebrating and Strengthening Kanien'keha Culture (Video) — 10,177 Reached
3. Protecting Wild Garlic for Future Generations — 6,945 Reached
4. Iroquois Caucus Welcomes the FIFA World Cup — 6,854 Reached
5. MCA Provides Update on Akwesasne Land Claim — 6,529 Reached



X STATS

Top Post in June



YOUTUBE STATS

Highest Viewed Video on the MCA YouTube Channel for June

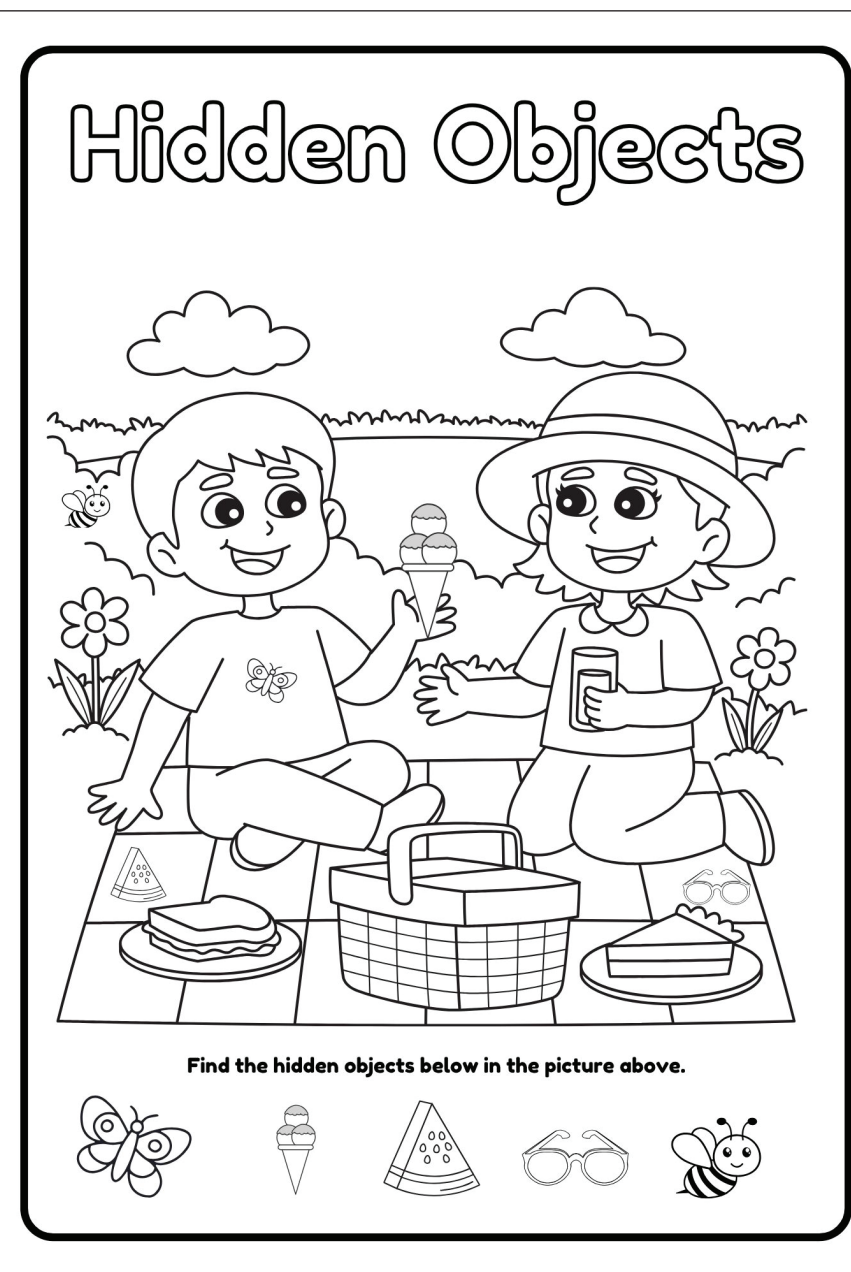
AMBE Celebrating and Strengthening Kanien'keha Culture



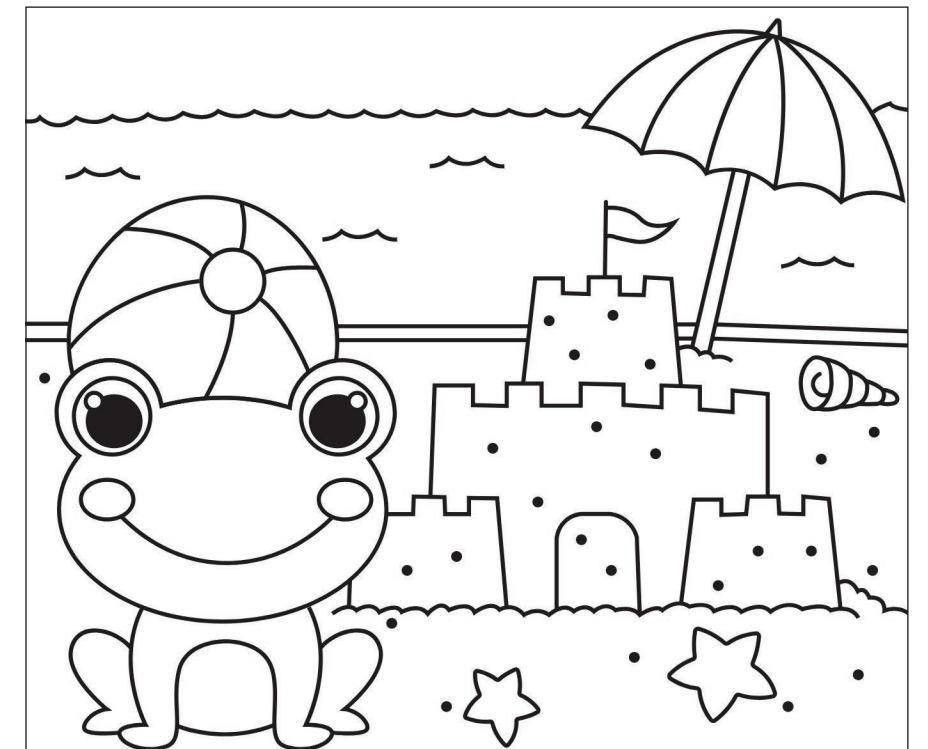
Scan QR Code to view video!

To view more videos, please visit:
www.youtube.com/MohawkCouncilofAkwesasne

CHILDREN'S PAGE



COLOR THE FROG AT THE BEACH



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Why did the banana wear sunscreen?
Because it did not want to peel!

Why did the ice cream truck break down?
Because it had a rocky road.

What did one popsicle say to the other?
You're pretty cool!



AKWESASNE RIGHTS & RESEARCH OFFICE

MISSION STATEMENT

The Akwesasne Rights and Research Office will work to advance the full recognition of the Inherent, Indigenous and Treaty Rights of the Mohawks of Akwesasne within the political, legal, social, and economic environments in which they are affected. The Akwesasne Rights and Research Office will initiate activities and projects that make known and understood our Inherent, Indigenous and Treaty rights within the community of Akwesasne and the public at large.

The Akwesasne Rights and Research Office will work toward settling the land claims of the Mohawks of Akwesasne in an expeditious manner and will educate and inform the community to the best of its ability to ensure that issues leading to settlement are favorable, commensurate, and acceptable.

SPECIFIC CLAIMS

ARRO works with legal and research advisors to construct legal arguments against Canada for various issues such as land loss/illegal land sales, loss of culture and livelihood, and asserting inherent and treaty rights.

ADDITIONS TO RESERVE

ARRO has been taking part in the Additions to Reserve (ATR) process for over 10 years. The ATR process is lengthy but ensures that lands returned to Akwesasne are protected and under our jurisdiction. Lands are returned for:

- Protecting culturally sensitive sites
- Lands needed for community growth
- Legal obligation or settlement agreements

CONSULTATIONS



Archaeology

Consult on research of items, returning cultural artifacts or objects, and monitor active archaeological sites and projects.



Cultural Awareness

Present Akwesasne's unique history and culture to various departments and organizations that service the surrounding area.



Duty to Consult

Consult on infrastructure, energy, and environmental projects within our territory to protect inherent rights and access to lands.



Collaboration

Assist or collaborate with First Nation communities or organizations on projects that benefit the community.

Contact Akwesasne Rights & Research Office:

- ☎ 613-575-2250
- ✉ arro@akwesasne.ca



2026 AMBE CULTURAL CELEBRATION

In May, the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) proudly hosted its annual Cultural Celebration at the A'nowara'ko:wa Arena. Held over two days, the celebration brought together students from Early Years through Grade 8, along with families, staff, and community members, to honor and celebrate the richness of Onkwehonwe culture. Throughout the event, students shared traditional songs, dances, and regalia, filling the arena with energy and pride.

The Cultural Celebration is a meaningful opportunity for students to connect with their culture and help carry forward traditions and teachings of their ancestors.

From the youngest learners taking part for the first time, to the older students demonstrating their growing knowledge and confidence, each student reflected the importance of preserving and celebrating Onkwehonwe identity.

Niawenhkó:wa to the singers, drummers, organizers, staff, and community supporters whose continued dedication helps keep our culture strong and thriving for future generations. It was a memorable celebration that highlighted the strength, resilience, and vibrancy of our culture.



INAUGURAL IETHIAHON:NIEN RUN UNITES STUDENTS THROUGH FITNESS & FUN

It was an exciting and energetic day at the A'nowara'kó:wa Arena on Tuesday, May 26, as the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) hosted its first-ever Iethiahon:nien Run.

The event brought together students from all three AMBE schools, Akwesasne Freedom School, and Tsiakwawennatonhe'ts for a morning focused on fitness, fun, and community spirit. Participants ranging from Head Start to Grade 8 filled the arena grounds with laughter, determination, and friendly competition, while family members, teachers, and supporters cheered them on from the sidelines.

Staff also joined in the excitement with a lighthearted teachers' race featuring inflatable costumes, much to the delight of the crowd. In the end, the eagle from Tsiakwawennatonhe'ts soared to victory, earning first place and taking home the Golden G.O.A.T. trophy.

The Iethiahon:nien Run was a wonderful celebration of wellness, unity, and school pride, bringing students, staff, families, and community partners together through movement, encouragement, and positive energy.

A special niawenhkó:wa goes out to the organizers for planning such a successful event, as well as to the many partners, volunteers, and supporters who helped make the day possible. Thank you to the Tri-Recreation Committees, Chippy Lippy and Island Girlz Catering for water and food donations; the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program; the Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department and first responders; and MCA's Commu-

nity Health Services, Special Needs Program, and Jordan's Principle for their support.



AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

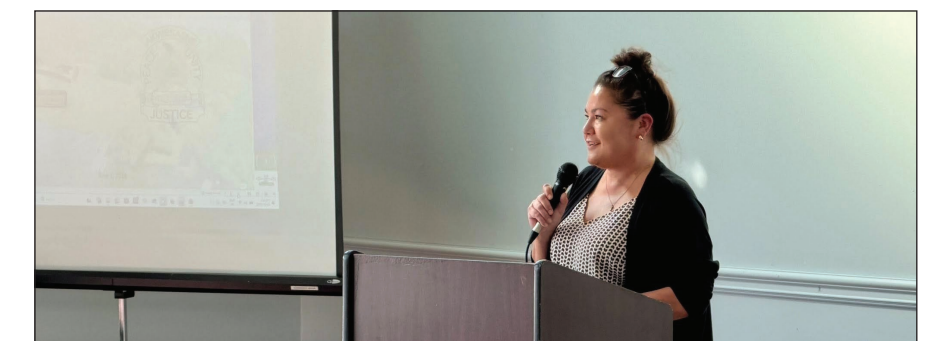
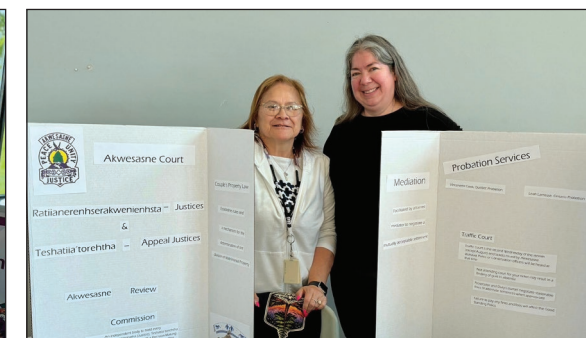
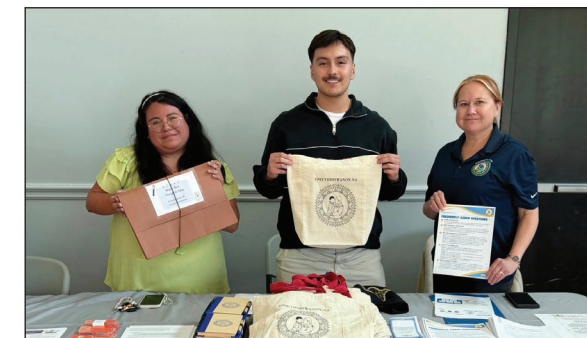
The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Akwesasne Justice Department welcomed community members to its Open House on June 1, 2026, providing an opportunity to learn more about the department's programs, services, and the support available to Akwesasró:non.

Throughout the evening, attendees visited programs information tables, connected with staff, and learned about the important work carried out by Administration, the Akwesasne Community Justice Program, Akwesasne Court, the Akwesasne Representative and Advocacy Program, and Legislative Services. Community members who completed their event passports by visiting each station were

also entered for a chance to win several prizes.

The Open House offered a valuable opportunity for community members to ask questions, gather information, and build a greater understanding of the resources and services available through the Akwesasne Justice Department.

Nia:wen to everyone who attended and helped make the event a success. Your participation and support are greatly appreciated. If you were unable to attend the Open House and would like to learn more about the departments programs and services, please visit our website at www.akwesasne.ca/justice.



OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS



OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Services provided by OVS:



Indian Status



Lands



Estates



Membership/Residency



Leasing



CIA #3 Building
101 Tewesateni Road (Kawehno:ke)
Akwasasne, ON K6H 0G5

Tel: 613-575-2250 ext. 1013
Email: ovs.office@akwasasne.ca

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

AN EVENING OF TRUTH, STORYTELLING, AND CONNECTION

On Wednesday, May 27, 2026, Haudenosaunee Universe and the Akwasasne Family Wellness Program hosted author Jordan Ritter Conn for a discussion on his book, *American Men*.

During the evening, Ritter Conn was joined by Akwasasronon Ryan King, who is featured in *American Men* as one of four individuals that the book follows. Together, the two shared a heartfelt and deeply personal conversation that kept the audience engaged throughout the evening. Filled with moments of laughter, tears, and meaningful dialogue, the environment created a space where King could open up about his own experiences with truth and honesty.

King reflected on his time being interviewed for the book, sharing that at the time, only his partner knew he was participating. While King and Ritter Conn discussed that experience, it was also revealed that King was the only individual in the book who chose not to use an alias, something he felt was important while telling his story authentically and openly.

He shared that, "Somewhere, another Indigenous youth may be going through the same thing I went

through, and for that reason, I had to represent my true self."

It was a moment that resonated deeply with those in attendance and highlighted the importance of representation, truth, and healing through storytelling.

Nia:wen to the Akwasasne Family Wellness Program and Haudenosaunee Universe for making this meaningful event possible, and a special niawenhkó:wa to Ryan King for sharing your truth so openly and courageously. Your willingness to speak from the heart makes the community proud.



AKWESASNE FAMILY WELLNESS PROGRAM PRESENTS:

GATHERING OUR STRENGTH



Join us every month for an opportunity to share, listen, and learn in a respectful environment. Discussions will focus on human and sex trafficking, as well as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP), with an emphasis on education, healing, and supporting healthy living.

**EVERY THIRD MONDAY
OF THE MONTH**
Next Date: July 20, 2026

7:00 – 8:30 PM

KAWEHNO:KE REC
(10 RECREATION CENTER LANE,
AKWESASNE, ON)

Open to all.
Light refreshments will be provided.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jo-Joe Van Hooser, Human Trafficking Liaison
jojo.vanhooser@akwasasne.ca | 613-662-8516 (4:30 – 9:00 p.m.)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

Akwesasne Child & Family Services Presents:

New Beginnings:

SUPPORT FOR EXPECTING & POSTPARTUM PARENTS

Join a welcoming support circle centered on connection, wellness, and shared experiences through the journey into parenthood.

Come together in a safe & supportive space to:

- Share stories and experiences
- Access breastfeeding support with Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC) Iohstha Montour
- Discuss postpartum wellness, baby blues, anxiety, birth stories, and adjusting to parenthood
- Participate in gentle yoga, breathing exercises, and relaxation techniques

Kana:takon Recreation Center: July 1, 8, 15, 22
Ahkwasahsne Mohawk School (AMS): August 5, 12, 19

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Open to all Akwesasne:non • No registration required!

WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE CLASSES

The Akwesasne Family Wellness Program invites women ages 18+ to join a supportive and empowering Self-Defense Class! Whether you're a beginner or have no previous experience, all participants are welcome.

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- ✓ Build confidence
- ✓ Increase personal safety awareness
- ✓ Develop practical self defense skills

CLASS DETAILS:
10-WEEK PROGRAM, 2 SESSIONS PER WEEK

June 24 – August 29, 2026:

- **Wednesdays:** 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Saturdays:** 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Good Mind Grappling
 1571 State Route 37, Akwesasne, NY

No registration required, drop-ins welcome!

For more information, contact the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program at: afwpoutreach@akwesasne.ca

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

KICK OFF SUMMER STRONG WITH BALANCE & PLANNING BASICS

As summer begins in Akwesasne, routines often shift. Longer days, more time spent outdoors, and busy evenings filled with activities can make schedules feel less structured. However, maintaining a few simple habits can make healthy eating feel easier and more sustainable throughout the season.

Build a Balanced Plate

A helpful place to start is by focusing on balance at mealtimes. Using a simple visual guide can make health eating easier, without the need to measure portions or track food intake:

Plate Portion	Food Group	Examples
1/2 Plate	Fruits & Vegetables	Salads, slaws, grilled vegetables, fresh fruit, soups, veggies with dip
1/4 Plate	Lean Protein	Fish, poultry, eggs, lean meats, beans, lentils, tofu
1/4 Plate	Whole Grains/ Starches	Barley, quinoa, corn, squash, potatoes, sweet potatoes, rice, wild rice, pasta, etc.

This approach helps support steady energy, better blood sugar control, and keeps you feeling satisfied longer.

Everyday examples:

- Fish + roasted sweet potato + grilled vegetables
- Shrimp tacos + black bean mango salsa + cabbage slaw
- Burger + side salad + 1 cob of corn
- Grilled chicken kebabs + potato wedges + mixed vegetables

There's no need for perfection, just aim for a balanced meal most of the time.

Plan Ahead Like the School Year

Summer schedules may be less predictable, but planning ahead makes a big difference. Keep some of the organizational habits you may help you stay on track throughout the rest of the year. Taking a few minutes to identify busy days when cooking a big meal is less feasible versus quieter evenings when you have more time to prepare one, can help prevent skipped meals and reduce last-minute convenience choices.

Identify where you might need to:

- Pack meals or snacks before work, outings, or activities
- Bring a cooler with water, fruit, yogurt, or leftovers

Keep a few quick meals ready in the fridge (ie. portioned leftovers to grab and go). Below are some easy packable ideas:

- Wraps (chicken, tuna, or hummus with vegetables)
- Yogurt with berries and nuts
- Cottage cheese with fruit
- Hard-boiled eggs with crackers and cut vegetables

Think of this as continuing the habits from the school year — just adapted for summer.

Busy Evenings & Sports Nights: Quick Meal Ideas

Summer often means evenings at the ball field, arena, or community events. These nights can feel rushed, but with a bit of planning, you can still pull together balanced meals.

Quick "before-you-go" meals:

- Whole grain wrap with chicken + veggies + fruit on the side
- Black bean or chicken quesadilla with guacamole and salsa
- Leftover grilled meat + salad + bread or corn
- Eggs, egg-bites (mini quiche) or Veggie Omlette + toast + sliced fruit

Pack-and-go options:

- Pasta/Grain/Legume based salad (ex. Greek lentil salad, Black Bean Salsa Salad)
- Grain bowl (rice/quinoa + veggies + protein)
- Snack box: cheese, crackers, veggies, fruit, nuts

When time is tight, pair something quick with something fresh:

- Store-bought rotisserie chicken + bagged salad + cut fruit
- Smoked salmon +avocado + bagel/wrap + cucumber slices

The goal isn't complicated meals, it's ensuring there's some balance to keep energy up through busy evenings.

Healthy summer eating doesn't need to be complicated. By focusing on balanced meals, planning, and making small adjustments for busy days, you can enjoy the season while supporting your energy, goals, and overall health.

Article brought to you by MCA's Department of Health's Sector 4: Clinical Care, Integrated Services Registered Dietitian.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SMILES, STORIES & SPIDER PLANTS: TSIIONKWANONHSO:TE WELCOMES SPECIAL YOUNG VISITORS!

The residents at Tsiionkwanonhso:te were recently brightened by a heartwarming visit from students of St. Joseph's Catholic School in May! The students were full of excitement as they spent time meeting, chatting, and connecting with our totas through meaningful and fun activities.

The visit featured a creative clay pot painting activity, where students and totas worked side by side to design their very own pots. Once complete, each pot was planted with a beautiful spider plant — a special keepsake for the totas to enjoy in their rooms. The students even helped deliver the finished pots, adding a lovely personal touch to each elder's space.

The group also spent time reading "Big Bear" by Strong Nations together, sharing stories and laughter along the way. To top it all off, everyone gath-

ered to enjoy a delicious Pizza Hut lunch — bringing even more smiles and full hearts to the day!

A special nia:wen/thank you to everyone who helped plan and bring this wonderful visit to life, and to the thoughtful students and staff at St. Joseph's Catholic School for making the day so memorable for our totas. Your kindness and time truly mean the world!



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Akwasasne Non-Insured Health Benefits:
613-575-2341 ext. 3340

Community Health Services:
613-575-2341 ext. 3220

Jordan's Principle:
613-575-2341 ext. 2652

Addiction & Mental Health Services:
613-575-2341 ext. 3115

Land-Based Healing:
613-575-2341

Sahatiha'hará:ne Detox Center:
613-932-5050

Traditional Medicine:
613-575-2341 ext. 3100

Akwasasne Medical Clinic:
613-575-2341 ext. 3215

Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic:
613-932-5808

Home & Community Care:
613-575-2341 ext. 1618

Elder Services:
613-575-2341 ext. 1661

Iakhihsoththa Lodge:
613-575-2507

Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care:
613-932-1409



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

KAWEHNO:KE MEDICAL CLINIC UPDATED ENTRY PROCEDURES

The Clinical Care Services Sector is notifying the community that the entry procedure to the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic (KMC) has been updated.

For main entry doors to the KMC will be remain locked for safety and security measures and to allow staff to manage the clinic properly.

All clients of the KMC are asked to follow the entry procedure below:

- Wait in your vehicle upon arrival
- Call the KMC at 613-932-5808 to let staff know you have arrived
- A KMC staff person will come and get you when ready

We kindly ask patients not to let others into the building or hold the door open for others to enter

unless requested by KMC staff.

We appreciate your patience and understanding in this matter.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic at 613-932-5808.



EXPANDED PICK-UP LOCATIONS – NOW IN ALL THREE DISTRICTS

TETEWATSKA:HON GREEN FOOD BAG SCHEDULE

ORDER DEADLINE:

July 3, 2026 September 4, 2026
August 7, 2026 October 2, 2026

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

PICK UP DATES/LOCATION:

KAWEHNO:KE REC. OR
*A'NOWARA'KO:WA ARENA

July 14, 2026
August 18, 2026
Sept. 15, 2026
Oct. 20, 2026*

KANA:TAKON REC. &
AKWESASNE HOMEMAKERS

July 15, 2026
August 19, 2026
Sept. 16, 2026
Oct. 21, 2026

When purchasing a bag, location pick-up MUST be specified. If none is indicated, distribution will default to Kana:takon.

\$20 per bag, due at the time of order! Cash or e-transfer accepted (etransfer@akwasasne.ca). In the Message section, please include: "Green Food Bag" and the month along with your name and phone number, and pick-up location.

PICK-UP TIME
11:00 AM -
5:00 PM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DOH CLINICAL CARE SERVICES · SECTOR 4: INTEGRATED SERVICES ADVANCED DIABETIC FOOT CARE

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: ATHLETE'S FOOT

Condition Basics

What is athlete's foot?

Athlete's foot (tinea pedis) is a rash on the skin of the foot. It's the most common skin infection caused by a fungus. Athlete's foot can cause itching, peeling, and cracking on the bottoms of the feet and between the toes.

How do you get it?

You can get athlete's foot by touching the foot of a person who has it. Most often, people get it by walking barefoot on contaminated surfaces near swimming pools or in locker rooms. The fungi then grow in your shoes, especially if your shoes are tight and air can't move around your feet.

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms of athlete's foot vary from person to person. Some people have severe discomfort, while others have few or no symptoms.

Common symptoms include:

- Peeling, cracking, and scaling of the feet.
- Redness, blisters, or softening and breakdown (maceration) of the skin.
- Itching, burning, or both.

Your symptoms may depend on the type of athlete's foot you have.

How is athlete's foot diagnosed?

A doctor can usually tell if you have athlete's foot by looking at your feet. He or she will also ask about your symptoms and any past fungal infections you've had. If your symptoms are unusual or treatment didn't help before, your doctor may take a skin or nail sample to test for fungi.

How is it treated?

Treatment for athlete's foot depends on its type and severity. Most cases can be treated at home with antifungal medicines. They kill the fungus or slow its growth. You also need to keep your feet clean and dry.

Over-the-counter antifungal lotions, creams, or sprays usu-

ally are used first. These include clotrimazole (Lotriderm) and tolnaftate (Tinactin).

Prescription antifungals may be tried if non-prescription medicines don't help. Some prescription antifungals are put directly on the skin. Others are taken as a pill.

If you have a severe infection that doesn't improve, your doctor may prescribe antifungal pills. They are used only for severe cases.

How can you care for athlete's foot?

You can usually treat athlete's foot at home by using non-prescription medicines and taking care of your feet. But if you have diabetes and get athlete's foot, or if you have infections that are severe or long-lasting or that keep coming back, see your doctor.

Here are some things you can do to help treat and prevent athlete's foot.

- Keep your feet clean and dry.
- Dry between your toes after you swim or bathe.
- Wear shoes or sandals that allow your feet to breathe.
- Wear socks to absorb sweat. Change your socks daily, or more often if wet.
- Use an antifungal spray or foot powder that helps to absorb moisture.
- Let your shoes air out for at least 24 hours before you wear them again.
- Wear shower sandals in public pools and showers.
- Avoid spreading athlete's foot to other parts of your body.
- If you have athlete's foot, dry your groin area before you dry your feet after bathing.

Book an appointment with us:

Foot care services are available at two convenient locations: Kanoonhwa'tsheri:io Health Facility in Kana:takon and Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility on Kawehno:ke.

For questions or to book an appointment, please contact MCA Integrated Services/Diabetes at 613-575-2341 ext. 3247.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WELCOMES NEW HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

The MCA Department of Health (DOH) is pleased to warmly welcome the newest members of the Health Advisory Board, officially sworn in on Thursday, June 11, 2026. Each member will serve a three-year term, and with these additions, the Board is now fully seated.

We are delighted to introduce the following individuals, who will represent their districts and bring valuable perspectives to the Health Advisory Board:

- Cheryl Jacobs, Kaná:takon
- Sherril Lazare, Kaná:takon
- Joanne Jocko, Kawehno:ke

The Health Advisory Board plays an important role in supporting the Department of Health by helping guide and shape health programs and services. Through strong connections to the community, Board members provide meaningful feedback and insight to the DOH Administrative Team.

The swearing-in ceremony was officiated by Justice of the Peace Alexandra David.

Our newest members join the current Health Advisory Board representatives:

- Dwayne Thomas, Tsi Snaíhne
- Delia McDonald, Tsi Snaíhne
- Mindy Thompson, Kaná:takon
- Iakonikonriiosta, Kawehno:ke

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our new Health Advisory Board members! We look forward to their contributions and continued collaboration in strengthening the health and well-being of our community.



New Health Advisory Board members L-R: Joanne Jocko (Kawehno:ke), Sherril Lazare (Kaná:takon), and Cheryl Jacobs (Kaná:takon).

BEAT THE HEAT: RECOGNIZING AND RESPONDING TO HEAT EXHAUSTION

As temperatures rise, it is important to recognize the signs of heat exhaustion and know how to respond. Heat exhaustion is a serious heat-related illness that can occur when the body overheats and loses excessive fluids and electrolytes through sweating. It is often caused by prolonged exposure to hot weather, physical activity, or a combination of both.

Common signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion include:

- Heavy sweating
- Cold, pale, moist, skin
- Fatigue, weakness
- Intense thirst
- Fast, shallow breathing
- Muscle cramps
- Confusion, dizziness
- Nausea, headaches

If you or someone else is experiencing heat exhaustion:

- Move to a cooler, shaded location
- Remove as much clothing as possible, including socks and shoes
- Apply cool, wet cloths, ice, and cool water to head, face, or neck
- Drink water, clear juice, or a sports drink
- Get medical aid if you don't start to feel better
- Stay with someone until help arrives

Heat exhaustion can quickly progress to heat stroke unless action is taken quickly.

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

RIVER ROAD – PHASE 2 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Infrastructure, Housing & Environment (DIHE) is announcing the successful tendering and contract award of the River Road – Phase 2 Reconstruction Project to Delormier Trucking & Construction.

Construction will take place on River Road from Bittern Creek Bridge to the end of the road easement in Sugar Bush. Work is scheduled to begin the week of June 15, 2026, and is expected to continue through early October.

As part of the project, the existing road asphalt and granular base will be removed and replaced. Addi-

tional work will include the installation of new culverts and guiderails, grubbing of existing ditches, placement of new granular base, and the application of new asphalt lifts.

During construction, community members can expect traffic delays in the area. DIHE appreciates the patience and understanding of residents and travelers while these improvements are being completed.

For more information, please contact the Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment at 613-575-2250.

D&R DISPOSAL

PICK-UP SCHEDULE

TUESDAY	RECYCLING
WEDNESDAY	MCA FACILITIES
THURSDAY	TSI SNAIHNE
FRIDAY	KAWEHNO:KE
SATURDAY	KANA:TAKON

CONTACT D&R DISPOSAL: 613-932-4588

KNOW BEFORE YOU THROW: RECYCLING REMINDERS

The MCA Environment Program's Waste Management team is reminding community members that more items can be recycled than you may think!

Did you know that clean styrofoam, free of any food residue, can be placed in your recycling? Items such as chip bags, snack wrappers, and other accepted materials can also be recycled. To ensure these items can be properly processed, all recyclable materials must be clean and free of food residue.

Please note that plastic cutlery is not accepted in recycling and should be disposed of with your regular household garbage.

Want to learn more about what can and cannot be recycled? View the full list of accepted recyclable materials by visiting: www.akwesasne.ca/environment.

You can also use the Cornwall Recycling Coach, a helpful online tool that provides quick and easy guidance on how to recycle items correctly.

As a reminder, recycling day is every Tuesday in all three districts. Nia:wen for helping reduce waste and keep our community clean!

PROTECTING WILD GARLIC FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

This past spring, the MCA Environment Program assisted with the seizure of 8.5 lbs of wild garlic (wide leeks), helping ensure the plants could be redirected toward conservation efforts in our community.

Bulbs with intact roots and leaves have been replanted on Akwesasne lands, where they will be monitored to support future growth and regeneration. Bulbs without roots or leaves have been donated to the MCA Traditional Medicines Program.

Wild garlic is an important part of our natural environment and cultural practices. As harvesters, we all share a responsibility to ensure these plants remain healthy and abundant for future generations.

When harvesting wild garlic:

- Avoid taking all of the leaves from a single plant, as this can prevent the bulb from surviving.
- If harvesting bulbs, sever them at the root so the plant can regrow.

- Harvest only what you need and avoid overharvesting a patch.
- Consider taking only one leaf per plant when harvesting leaves to encourage continued growth and seed production.

Wild garlic grows slowly, often taking up to seven years for a bulb to fully mature. Practicing sustainable harvesting helps protect this valuable plant and reflects our responsibility to care for Creation.

Niawenhkó:wa to everyone involved in the transport, recovery, replanting, and donation efforts, and to all those who continue to harvest respectfully and sustainably.



CAMPING ADVENTURE CONNECTS AKWESASRÓ:NON WITH LAND, LANGUAGE & WELLNESS

Thirty Akwesasró:non, including participants and staff, recently gathered in the Thousand Islands National Park for a memorable land-based camping experience through a partnership between the MCA Environment Program and lakwa'shatste Youth Fitness.

Hosted at Parks Canada's oTENTik accommodations, participants enjoyed a unique outdoor experience surrounded by the beauty of the Thousand Islands — spending time reconnecting with nature, learning new skills, and building relationships through shared experiences on the land.

Throughout the trip, participants shared five meals prepared over campfires and camp stoves, creating opportunities for connection, storytelling, and community.

A highlight of the weekend was a medicine hike through Landons Bay Lookout led by Sateiokwen Bucktooth of Snipe Clan Botanicals and language speaker Otsitsia Sunday. Participants learned about medicinal plants, traditional teachings, and the importance of maintaining a connection to the natural world. Otsitsia also created educational resources and interactive activities focused

on Kanien'kéha language learning, fish identification, and medicinal plants, helping participants strengthen both their cultural and environmental knowledge.

Steven Thompson of lakwa'shatste Youth Fitness led a morning yoga session to begin the day in a good way, followed by an evening painting activity that encouraged creativity and self-expression. Melanie Alguire of the MCA Environment Program facilitated a nature journaling workshop, providing participants with an opportunity to slow down, observe their surroundings, and reflect on their experiences outdoors.

Field Technicians were also on hand throughout the trip, assisting youth with fishing and helping participants gain confidence and skills on the water.

The camping adventure was a wonderful opportunity to bring together land-based learning, language, wellness, recreation, and environmental stewardship.

Niawenhkó:wa to everyone who helped make this experience possible and to all who participated in making it such a meaningful and memorable weekend!



COMMUNITY SAFETY & RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP IN AKWESASNE

The Akwesasne Compliance Department is committed to ensuring the peace, safety, and well-being of all community members, elders, families, and pets.

Responsible dog ownership helps support shared spaces and healthy communities. Please review the following local requirements and by-laws:

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DOG OWNER

- Keep Dogs Secured: Under the Emergency Interim Dog Control Regulation, your dog must be kept under control at all times. Allowing a dog to roam freely in neighbourhoods or on public grounds (such as school grounds, clinics, or day-cares) constitutes an offence.
- Vaccinations & Living Areas: Owners are legally required to provide proper care, including adequate food, water, shelter, and up-to-date vaccinations. Failing to provide proper living areas or failing to maintain proper vaccination records can result in an "Improper Care of Dog" charge.
- Preventing Aggression: Aggressive dogs pose a significant risk to public safety. If your dog shows aggressive tendencies, it must be securely restrained and kept away from the general public

to prevent highly dangerous biting incidents.

- Preventing Unwanted Litters: We strongly encourage all residents to spay or neuter their dogs to prevent overpopulation.

CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Failing to properly manage your domestic animals can lead to enforcement actions:

Financial & Legal Liability: Owners are strictly liable for any property damage or physical injuries caused by their dog when it is not under control. Victims have the right to seek compensation through the Akwesasne Mohawk Court. Additionally, repeat offences or violations of the Control of Dogs By-Law can result in a fine of \$1,000, a term of imprisonment of up to 30 days, or both.

Seizure and Surrender: Under our current operating procedures, the Compliance Department can seize loose or aggressive dogs that pose a risk to the community. Captured dogs are taken to a holding facility. If an animal is not claimed by its owner within four (4) days, it will officially be deemed a surrender and transferred to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

ATV SAFETY TIPS

Scan the QR code below to view ATV Safety Tips by AMPS!

Visit the MCA YouTube channel: @MohawkCouncilofAkwesasne

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE

BEYOND THE ICE

STORIES OF HOPE & STRENGTH

We invite all Akwesasró:non to join us for an inspiring afternoon of stories, connection, and community as we welcome former NHL player, author, documentary participant, and motivational speaker Jordin Tootoo to Akwesasne!

 **JULY 7, 2026**

 **A'NOWARA'KO:WA ARENA**

 **12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Keynote presentation and Q&A with Jordin Tootoo
- Meet and Greet with Jordin Tootoo & Carey Terrance Jr.
- Book signing and autograph opportunities

 **400 books will be given out and autographed by Jordin!**

NO DROP-OFFS PERMITTED

FORMER NHL PLAYER JORDIN TOOTOO



ENJOY FREE
FOOD &
ACTIVITIES!



CAREY TERRANCE JR.
Hartford Wolf pack (AHL)



JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Services is thrilled to bring back the 2nd Annual Junior Police Academy, offering Akwesasró:non youth (ages 12-16) an exciting opportunity to explore the world of law enforcement!

EXPERIENCE:

Marine Patrol • Police Tools • Forensic Identifications • Tactical and more!

HOW TO APPLY:

- Apply using the QR code or by visiting: joinamps.ca/civilian-careers
- Please submit the completed application, a copy of your status card, and a 250-word essay to jobs@akwesasne.ca.



Program Dates:
August 17-21, 2026



Deadline to Apply:
July 17, 2026

