

ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Issue 7

FREE

Ohiarikhó:wa/July 2021

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KANA:TAKON SCHOOL HONORS RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL CHILDREN



Kana:takon School staff and students formed a heart as they recited their Ohen:ten Kariwatehkwen and sang "Sken:nen" to honor the 215 children who were found at the Kamloops Residential School. Principal Courtney Thomas opened up the heart and explained to the students why they were gathered outside.

UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

MCA SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR 2021-2024 COUNCIL

A Facebook Live will be held on July 9, 2021 at 1 p.m. on the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Facebook page.

Please send an email to meetings@akwesasne.ca if you have any questions.

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

Lorraine Bova
Director,
Department of Infrastructure &
Housing

Joyce King
Director,
Akwasasne Justice Department

Karen Hill
Director,
Department of
Community and Social Services

Cindy Francis-Mitchell
A/Director,
Department of Health

Donna Lahache
Director,
Ahkwasasne Mohawk Board
of Education

Shawn Dulude
Chief of Police,
Akwasasne Mohawk Police
Service

Kylee Tarbell
A/Director,
Tehotiennawakon

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@akwasasne.ca.

FIVE THINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS &
IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- 1** The official results from the 2021 election are in! See page 3 for more information.
- 2** As various garbage "dump sites" are being identified, we want to remind the community not to illegally dump garbage and to do your part to keep Mother Earth clean!
- 3** MCA has resumed normal operations as of June 3, 2021. We appreciate the community's patience and diligence during our safe return to full operations.
- 4** Effective June 3, 2021, the Community Radius and Curfew has been lifted. Please continue to take safety measures when outside your immediate household.
- 5** Akwasasne Child & Family Services Home Repair Project will be made available to district community members with children under 18 years of age. To see the criteria and how to apply, see page 28.

NEWS

OFFICIAL RESULTS OF 2021 MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE GENERAL ELECTION

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Chief Electoral Officer Leona Benedict has released the official results of the 2021 General Election held on Saturday, June 26, 2021 for the positions of Kawehno:ke, Tsi Snaihne and Kana:takon District Chief's and Grand Chief.

There were no appeals received by the appeal deadline of Thursday, July 1 at 5 p.m.

Therefore, the results of the 2021 Mohawk Council of Akwesasne General Election are now official. To see the full election tally, please visit the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne website: akwesasne.ca.

For the position of Kawehno:ke District Chief, the four candidates who received the highest number of votes and who are declared the official successful candidates are:

1. Vanessa Adams with 187 votes
2. Edward Roundpoint with 157 votes
3. Vincent "Vince" Thompson with 115 votes
4. Jacqueline "Jackie" Benedict with 112 votes

For the position of Tsi Snaihne District Chief, the four candidates who received the highest number

of votes and who are declared the official successful candidates are:

1. Joann Swamp with 270 votes
2. Dwayne Thomas with 263 votes
3. April Adams-Phillips with 222 votes
4. Sarah Lee Sunday-Diabo with 208 votes

For the position of Kana:takon District Chief, the four candidates who received the highest number of votes and who are declared the official successful candidates are:

1. Ryan "Duck" Jacobs with 116 votes
2. Cynthia "Cindy" Francis-Mitchell with 98 votes
3. Julie Phillips-Jacobs with 93 votes
4. Tim "Dooley" Thompson with 88 votes

For the position of Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Grand Chief, the candidate who received the highest number of votes and who is declared the official highest ranking candidate is:

1. Abram Benedict with 766 votes

If you have any questions, please contact the Akwesasne Justice Department at 613-575-5000 or the Mohawk Government Office at 613-575-2348.



NEWS

COUNCIL ANNOUNCES PASSING OF KANA:TAKON DISTRICT CHIEF DARRYL LAZORE

It is with deep sadness that the Mohawk Council announces the sudden passing of Kana:takon District Chief Darryl "Kermit" Lazore. We offer our condolences to his family, his district and the community and we share the sorrow of this great loss.

Chief Lazore wore his heart on his sleeve and his love and respect for the people of Akwesasne was widely known and felt. He was nearing the end of his second elected term in office, having served the community

for six years with a passion for issues in housing and public safety.

In the office, Chief Lazore was known for his humor, kindness and friendliness; Council and staff will surely miss him.

We thank those who have offered their condolences and we ask that thoughts continue to be with his family and children.



NEWS

AKWESASNE MARCHES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Honouring the indigenous children across the nation who never returned from residential schools, and those who were never the same. We grieve for their loss and for pain families endured and continue to endure. Every Child Matters.

Nia:wenkowa to the hundreds of community members who marched in orange on July 1st to recognize the loss and honour the children. Nia:wenkowa to those who organized the event.



NEWS

AKWESASRONON JOSEPH KING IS PORT LANDS LOGO WINNER

The Port Lands team and the co-owners would like to congratulate Joseph King, an artist from Akwesasne, on winning their art contest!

Joseph incorporated two landmarks of Cornwall that stand out to him: the Seaway International Bridge and the clock tower. He also included the St. Lawrence River, which connects the two communities. To accompany the two symbols, he added a native pattern and the tree of peace. You will also find the two row wampum, which symbolizes the peaceful relations between the two communities. Joseph will be going home with a prize valued at five hundred dollars.

The organizers would also like to thank every individual who participated, as we really do appreciate the time and effort that went into each submission.



ARTIST: JOSEPH KING
AGE: 38
FROM: AKWESASNE

DO NOT DUMP GARBAGE IN MCA DISTRICTS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Compliance and Environmental Programs are reminding individuals not to illegally dump garbage in this districts of Akwesasne. The Akwesasne Compliance Department, Environment Program, and Environmental Health Office have located various dump sites throughout the community. These sites contain waste, chemicals, and non-biodegradable materials that have serious impacts on wildlife and habitat. Illegal dumping of waste imposes severe adverse effects on wildlife. Animals may be contaminated by harmful bacteria contained in trash, which may lead to the spread of different diseases among different animals.

Waste materials that contain toxic substances, sharp objects, and household items pose serious health and safety risks not only to humans but also to the soil and underground bodies of water. Illegal dumping can also become costly when considering the removal of this hazardous waste.

The Akwesasne Compliance Department is requesting the community to report illegal dumping by calling Akwesasne Central Dispatch's non-emergency line at 613-575-2340.



NEWS

US CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION CONSTRUCTION AT NORTHBOUND LANE

The United States Customs & Border Protection Agency is notifying the community that they have begun a construction project at the Massena (Roosevelt) Port of Entry to install a new northbound canopy. During construction, traffic is being slightly rerouted to the far right lane heading north to

Cornwall Island/Kawehno:ke.

The project is expected to take approximately two months. Please use caution in the area and be alert to changes in traffic flow.

MCA OFFICES HAVE RESUMED NORMAL OPERATIONS

MCA offices have resumed normal operations as of June 3, 2021.

COVID SCREENING

All MCA employees and any member of the public entering into any MCA facility are subject to COVID screening. If the MCA facility you are visiting does not have central reception, self-screening procedures will be set-up. Any individual that refuses to be screened for COVID will not be allowed within the facility. It is important to remember, if you are not feeling well – please stay home.

RADIUS & CURFEW

Effective June 3, 2021, the Community Radius and Curfew will be lifted. Please proceed with caution when traveling into areas that are still deemed “hot spots.” If you travel beyond the former 100 mile radius, you are not required to quarantine. However, if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms at any time, you should isolate and make an appointment to receive a COVID-19 test.

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SAFETY MEASURES

When you are outside your immediate household, please continue to practice the following safety measures:

- Social distance yourself from others when in public (6 feet/2 meters)
- Wear a mask in public
- Stay home and quarantine when sick
- Respect the gathering limits

We appreciate the community’s patience and diligence for safety as we await a safe return to full operations. Nia:wen to the staff of all essential services and programs that continued to be available for community members throughout the pandemic.

YOU ARE IN THE TERRITORY OF AKWESASNE
PLEASE PRACTICE THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOLS TO ENSURE SAFETY FOR ALL:



WEAR A MASK.



PHYSICAL DISTANCE: KEEP 6 FT/2 M.



WASH HANDS OFTEN FOR 20 SECONDS.



GET VACCINATED.

NEWS

MOHAWKS OF AKWESASNE COMMUNITY SETTLEMENT TRUST 2021 TRUST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Applications for the 2021 Akwesasne Community Trust Scholarships are now being accepted.

The Trustees of the Mohawks of Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust are pleased to announce that they will be granting Scholarships of \$3,000 for full-time students and \$1,000 for part-time students to a number of Akwesasronon who are attending Universities, Colleges or Technical Institutes. See below for details on how to obtain an application form. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Who can apply for the Scholarship?

Any Akwesasronon member who is pursuing a full-time or part-time post-secondary degree and did not receive a grant from the 2020 Trust Scholarship program.

A letter of confirmation of admission (for first year

students), a copy of an official transcript/report card and copy of a completed Membership Confirmed form signed by the Applicant are required.

What is the deadline for submitting an application?

The deadline to submit your application is Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 4 p.m.

Application form

You can obtain an application form by visiting akwesasnetrust.com or by requesting one by email at applications.akwtrust@gmail.com

The form includes instructions for submitting an application and all documents that need to be included in the application. If you have any questions, please contact the Trust at applications.akwtrust@gmail.com.

**Niawenhkó:wa for doing your
part to keep Akwesasne safe.**

**For the latest COVID-19 news visit
www.akwesasne.ca**

NEWS

ONTARIO TO MOVE TO STEP TWO OF 'ROADMAP TO REOPEN'

Due to improvements in key public health areas and health systems, and increased province-wide vaccination rates, Ontario has moved to Step Two of its "Roadmap to Reopen" as of Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen includes, but is not limited to:

- Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 25 people.
- Larger indoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including weddings and funerals at 25 percent capacity.
- Outdoor religious services, rites, and ceremonies, including wedding and funeral services, capped at the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of six (6) feet.
- Indoor religious services, rites, and ceremonies, including weddings and funerals permitted at up to 15 percent capacity of the particular room/space.
- Non-essential retail permitted at 25 percent capacity.
- Essential and other select retail permitted at 50 percent capacity.
- Personal care services where face coverings can be

worn at all times at 25 percent capacity.

- Stores and shopping malls open, with restrictions.
- Outdoor dining with up to six (6) people per table, with exceptions for larger households.
- Outdoor amusement and water parks at 25 percent capacity.
- Public Libraries permitted at 25 percent capacity.
- Outdoor fitness classes capped at the number of people who can maintain six (6) feet distance.
- Outdoor sports games, leagues, and events at 25 percent capacity.
- Overnight camps open.
- Outdoor cinemas, performing arts, live music events and attractions at 25 percent capacity.
- Outdoor motor speedways permitted at 25 percent capacity.
- Outdoor attractions such as zoos, landmarks, historic sites, and botanical gardens with capacity and other restrictions.

For more information, or to review the full Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen, please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario>.



**ONTARIO TO MOVE
TO STEP TWO OF
'ROADMAP TO REOPEN'**

NEWS

CANADA EASING SOME BORDER RESTRICTIONS FOR VACCINATED TRAVELLERS

Canada has announced that as of 11:59 p.m. on July 5, 2021, fully COVID-19 vaccinated Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and those registered under the Indian Act will no longer be required to quarantine upon their arrival or return to Canada. Akwesasne Mohawks registered under the Indian Act were already exempt from quarantining due to the border's location through our community.

The Canada-U.S. border will remain closed until at least July 21, 2021. However, fully vaccinated people

arriving by air who meet the criteria for entry will no longer have to quarantine for 3 days in a hotel, or for 14 days total, as was previously required. The requirement for COVID-19 testing will still apply to those arriving to Canada by land or air, and Akwesasne Mohawk registered under the Indian Act continue to have exemption from this requirement.

To find out if you meet the eligibility for entry to Canada, a wizard can be utilized on their website: <https://travel.gc.ca>

FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION — MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

With the ongoing Federal Indian Day School Class Action lawsuit, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to remind community members that help is here for you.

Talking or thinking about painful past experiences can trigger difficult thoughts or feelings. It can help to talk to a trusted person, such as a friend, family member, an Elder, or a therapist.

For mental health support and counselling services, please contact the MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3115.

You can also contact the toll-free Hope for Wellness Help Line at 1-855-242-3310 or the online chat at hopeforwellness.ca open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

NOTICE OF TENDER: KANA:TAKON PARK ST & HILLTOP DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne will be accepting tenders until July 8, 2021 at 11 a.m. for Contract 2019-002. The project is phased construction with both phases consisting of full road reconstruction and infrastructure upgrades and improvements for both Park Street and Hilltop Drive in Kana:takon.

The first phase Identified as Hilltop Road is scheduled

to be completed now, followed by Park Street in the spring of 2022. The tender documents have been organized this way to meet current timelines and each phase consists of the same type of work.

Please visit the Akwesasne.ca website to view the entire tender.

NEWS

WALKER CLIMATE CARE DONATES TO AKWESASNE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

In June, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne accepted a donation on behalf of the Akwesasne Cancer Support Group from Walker Climate Care in Cornwall. The company donates monthly to a local charity as part of giving back to the community and requested a recommended charity from Council.

Chief Vanessa Adams accepted the check from Walker Climate Care Branch Manager Tom Rand and their associate Amos Conners. The check will be delivered to a representative of the Akwesasne Cancer Support Group.

Grand Chief Abram Benedict and Kawehno:ke District

Nia:wenkowa to Walker Climate Care for the generous donation.



NEWS

MCA FINANCE COMMITTEE FILLING VACANCIES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is currently filling four (4) vacant seats on the Finance Committee:

- One (1) vacant seat for the district of Kana:takon, with a term of not less than three (3) years
- One (1) vacant seat for the district of Kawehno:ke, with a term of not less than three (3) years
- One (1) vacant seat for the district of Tsi Snaihne, with a term of not less than three (3) years
- One (1) vacant seat for a member at large, with term of not less than three (3) years

The Finance Committee is established to provide Council with advice and recommendations in order to support Council's decision-making process respecting the Financial Administration of Akwesasne. In the spirit of transparency, accountability and integrity the Finance Committee shall assist Council with safeguarding community assets by ensuring compliance with all relevant laws and regulations.

The Honorarium rate for this position is determined by Council's Honorarium Policy, which is \$25-hourly for meetings, and training related sessions.

To qualify for appointment for the position, a person must:

- be a Member;
- have knowledge of Mohawk cultures and traditions;
- have good character, credibility and reputation in the Akwesasne community;
- have good communication skills;
- Shall be independent from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- Shall have Financial Competency
- be "in good standing" as defined in the Akwesasne Good Standing Policy;
- not be a Council member of the Mohawk Council of

Akwesasne; the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council; or, the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs;

- not be an employee of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- produce a valid certificate from the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC);
- have the means to participate in Finance committee whether it be held in person or in a virtual setting;
- attend and actively participate in training deemed essential for the successful operation of the Finance Committee;
- attend regularly scheduled Finance Committee meetings to conduct business and attend Public Meetings as scheduled;
- sign the Oath of Appointment within 30 days of appointment.

Interested candidates are required to complete an Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Finance Committee Application, which is available at MCA, Executive Services (Administration 1 Building). Candidates are also required to submit a letter of interest on how they meet the criteria established in the Finance Committee Charter.

All interested individuals are asked to submit a completed package no later than Monday, August 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions regarding this community notice or which to submit a Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Finance Committee Application please contact:

Executive Services
Executive Director, Heather Phillips
PO Box 90
Akwesasne, QC H0M 1A0
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2120

NEWS

MCA RECOGNIZES JUSTICES' FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is recognizing the service and contributions of Justice D. Darlene Francis and Justice Shannon Hall. We thank you for your commitment in this position and wish you both well-wishes as you move on to other endeavours.

In 1999, the Council took a historic step in appointing Justices Hall and Francis as the first inherent right justices of the Akwesasne Tekaiat'orehthà:ke (Akwesasne Mohawk Court). Their appointment paved the way for other indigenous communities seeking to establish inherent right courts.

For the past 20 years, Justices Francis and Hall have demonstrated a deep commitment to the evolution of the Akwesasne Court process. Through their tireless work and professionalism, they have made substantial contributions to the Court's credibility and acceptance within the community.

The MCA Council thanks both of these individuals for their many years of service and dedication, and for paving the road for future Akwesasronon wishing to be a Justice. Niawenhko:wa!



Photo (left to right): Justice D. Darlene Francis, Justice Shannon Hall, the late Justice Cecelia Square.

ABOROGINAL RIGHTS & RESEARCH OFFICE

MCA CONDOLENCES FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS OF RASENNES PEMBLETON

With sadness, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne acknowledges the passing of our team member, Rasennes Pembleton, who worked for the past ten years as a researcher in the Aboriginal Rights and Research Office (ARRO).

Throughout his years at MCA, Rasennes was instrumental in educating the community on Ak-wesasne's land claims and other rights-based matters. He will continue to be remembered as ARRO and MCA move ahead in land claim processes.

We extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends and our staff who are mourning his loss.

We thank his family for sharing him with us. He will be greatly missed.



COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

CONGRATULATIONS TO NOREEN COOK ON HER RETIREMENT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Mohawk Government staff would like to congratulate Noreen Cook on her retirement.

Noreen worked with Council for 23 years and was instrumental in creating the intricate filing system for Mohawk Council Resolutions (MCRs) and other official documents. She was very dedicated to her job and takes pride in the corporate knowledge she gained. Noreen could be relied on to recall any past MCR even from many years ago.

All of Council and her colleagues throughout MCA wish Noreen enjoyment in her retirement. Congratulations and nia:wenkowa for your many years of service.

The following are words of praise and congratulations from Council:

- *"Noreen was always patient, kind and helpful. Especially being new she helped me to navigate this new role. Noreen was a definite asset to Mohawk Government and will be missed, and I do hope she enjoys her retirement."* - Kawehno:ke District Chief Vanessa Adams.
- *"Noreen worked with my Mom, Marylou, for many years. I was able to get to know her better when I joined Council. Her dedication to helping Mohawk Government run smoothly was always greatly appreciated and will be missed. Enjoy your retirement Noreen, you deserve it!"* - Kana:takon District Chief Julie Phillips-Jacobs.
- *"Noreen was always friendly and reserved, and I appreciated her efficiency. She helped wherever she could and she will be missed. I wish her health and happiness in her retirement!"* – Kawehno:ke District Chief Carolyn Francis.
- *"Noreen was always kind, helpful, and a library of knowledge when it came to Mohawk Government."*

When the day has been long and stressful it was a relief to speak to Noreen at the day's end, she understood our position and what it entailed. Thank you for your years of service and kind smile." – Tsi Snaihne District Chief April Adams-Phillips.

- *"Noreen was always a welcoming sight when I walked into the office. She was a pleasure to work with, resourceful, dependable, and extremely professional. I will certainly miss her welcoming smile accompanied with her 'good morning!' She was an asset to Mohawk Government and Mohawk Council. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement Noreen and please do not be a stranger! Take Care."* – Tsi Snaihne District Chief Connie Lazore.
- *"Noreen was an early bird, always the first one in the office taking care business. Making Coffee. She was patient when the chiefs were asking for certain things especially an old MCR. We will miss her greeting us in the morning with a smile on her face. Take care Noreen, wishing you all the best."* – Kana:takon District Chief Tim "Dooley" Thompson.



— HAPPY —
Retirement

NOREEN COOK

We appreciate all of that you have done over the years within the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne organization! We wish you a very happy retirement!



COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY GRAND CHIEF ABRAM BENEDICT



MAY 31, 2021

- A request for a financial allocation to the Environment Program for the purchase of a new truck and boat was discussed. Further research will be done and an MCR will be presented for consideration.
- Council discussed recent activ-

- ity on common land whereby the shoreline is being improved for a temporary use. Administration will follow up.
- A request to purchase Council land was discussed; Council determined the offer will not be considered.
- Council was provided an overview of the Council transition schedule.
- An update was requested on a recent decision to allow for MCA programs to expand grass cutting services using external contracts. An update will be forthcoming.

- **MCR's passed:** Acceptance of contract with ACCESS
- for supports to welding contract; Approval of (2) lease assignments (Pilon Island, Hamilton Island); Approval to rescind Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law; Approval of CIBC to manage short-term investment accounts; Approval of new Youth Council representative; Approval of amendment to Akwesasne/ Canada funding agreement; Approval of Finance Committee Charter.

JUNE 7, 2021

- Council agreed that the Wednesday COVID update calls will now occur every other week.
- A briefing was provided on the revisions to the Portfolio Terms of Reference and Council's feedback was requested.
- Council discussed a recent correspondence from the Town of Iroquois regarding the use of an Indian Head logo on the town's water tower. Council agreed that a letter will be sent informing them that the logo should be removed and its use discontinued.
- A request for a letter of support

from the First Peoples of Thousand Islands was discussed and will be followed up on for more information.

- **MCRs passed:** Approval of professional service contract; Approval of new lease Ross Island; Approval of new lease Clark Island; Approval of issuance of cannabis retail license; Approval of Terms of Reference for Legislative Oversight Committee; Approval of financial allocation for equipment and material pre-order request for Fibre to the Home Project; Approval of participation in fish consumption study; Approval

of participation in project Akwesasne Youth Mobilization for a Sustainable Environment project; Approval of allocation of financial resources for the purchase of a boat and truck for our Environment Program; Approval of Department of Health On-Call Policy; Approval of appointment of community members to serve on Elders Council.



SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

FACEBOOK STATS



Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in June

1. Council Announces Passing of Kana:takon District Chief Darryl Lazore
2. MCA Congratulates Eddie Gray on Retirement
3. Akwesasne Marches for Children and Families of Residential Schools
4. Akwesasne Mohawk Police Welcomes Four New Constables
5. MCA Condolences for Family, Friends of Rasennes Pembleton

Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in June

1. Council Announces Passing of Kana:takon District Chief Darryl Lazore — 23,200 reached
2. MCA Congratulates Eddie Gray on Retirement — 9,853 reached
3. Akwesasne Marches for Children and Families of Residential Schools — 8,349 reached
4. Police Investigating Sudden Death in Kana:takon — 7,359 reached
5. Queerness & The Environment — 5,739 reached

TWITTER STATS

Top Tweet in June



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
@MCAkwesasne



MCA & SRMT have lifted the ban on in-home wakes, but urge the community to continue practicing COVID-19 safety. Read more:

akwesasne.ca/mca-srmt-lift-...

YOUTUBE STATS



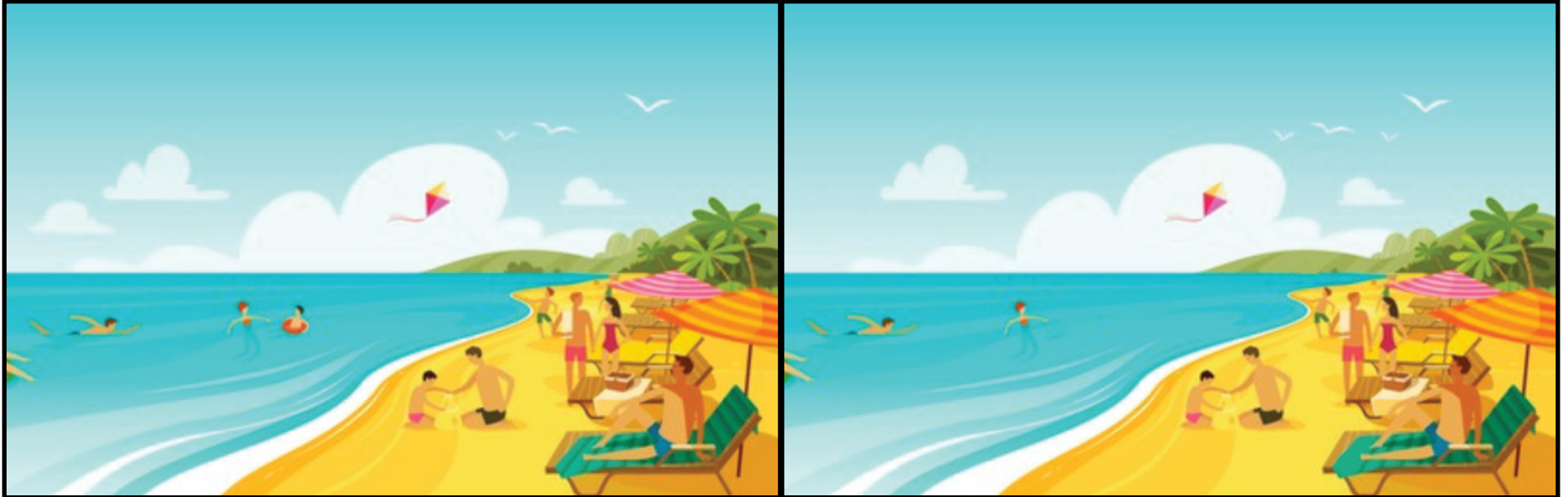
Highest Viewed Videos on the MCA Youtube Channel for June

1. MCA General Meeting — May 27, 2021
2. Nia:wen to Our First Responders & Essential Workers
3. CKON Community Update with Grand Chief — May 25, 2021

CHILDREN'S PAGE

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES!

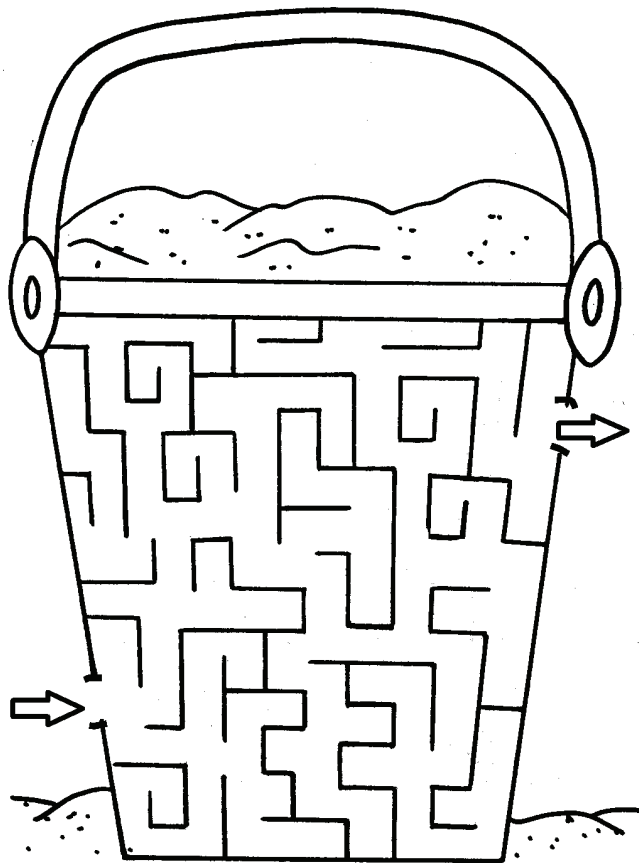
Can you spot the 5 differences between the family beach day?



1. Cloud missing on left side. 2. Extra bird on top right. 3. Person missing on right. 4. Missing stripe on tube in water. 5. Bush missing from hill.

SIMPLY A-MAZE-ING

Help find your way out of the sand pail.



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

What kind of tree fits in your hand?

Palm tree!

What did the little corn say to the mama corn?

Where is pop corn!

Where do sharks go on vacation?

Finland!

Why does ice cream always get invited to the party?

It's cool!

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HAPPY RETIREMENT TO EDDIE GRAY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is extending a big congratulations out to Eddie Gray who retired on June 15th from the MCA Traditional Medicines Program. Eddie has been with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne since 1997 and everyone in the organization is thankful for the invaluable knowledge that he has shared with the community.

Eddie was taught at an early age to survive off the land and all the natural surroundings that Mother Earth has provided to him. He was taught by the elders of this community to learn how to identify and harvest the natural medicines. During this lifetime learning process, Eddie was able to study the purpose of each individual plant and apply his teaching abilities to other interested community members. During the harvesting season, Eddie always had time to lend a helping hand to assist his elders in crop harvesting and medicine picking. This is his way of life. Eventually, the community came to rely on him for his expertise in medicines and traditional ceremonies.

Eddie would conduct sweatlodges and fasting camps

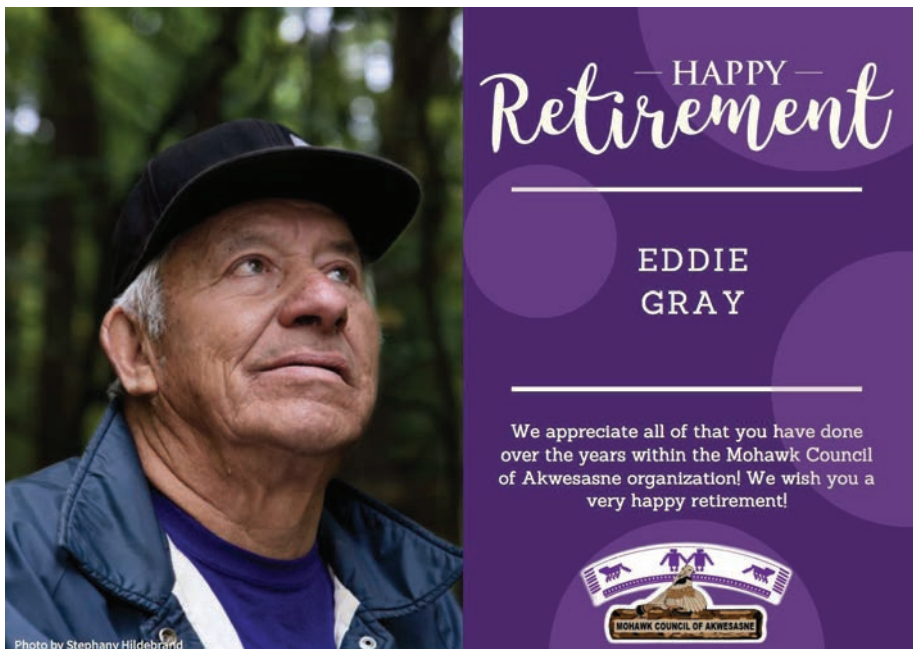
for Akwesasronon, along with hosting medicine walks. Workshops and presentations were provided to youth within the local schools districts to display his medicines. By doing so, he would promote self-identity through his traditional teachings and providing the younger generations the opportunity to learn about natural medicines.

Eddie sits with the Traditional Council of Chiefs within the Iroquois Confederacy representing the Turtle Clan for approximately 35 years. Some of his governance involvement has been with the settlement of land claims, treaty negotiations, land disputes, development of policies and procedures, and attending United Nation meetings. For the spiritual aspect of his duties, Eddie ensures that all ceremonies are being conducted as it was originally instructed. In addition to this, he provides the medicine necessary for ceremonial purposes, provides spiritual guidance to his people and to the surrounding First Nation communities.

Tsi Snaihne District Chief Tobi Mitchell, who sits on the Health Portfolio said "I'd like to thank Eddie for all of his years of dedication to the health and well being of our community members. I'd also like to wish him well on his next chapter in life. Niawenhko:wa Eddie."

Grand Chief Abram Benedict added, "We want to express our gratitude to Eddie who has helped community members and people from across turtle island. Although we will miss having you here in our organization, we wish you nothing but the best in your next chapter. On behalf of council, I wish you a wonderful retirement spent with lots of family, love and relaxation."

Congratulations Eddie—we hope you enjoy your retirement!



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COVID-19 COMMUNITY SITUATION REPORT

JULY 5, 2021

| MCA | |
|----------------------|-------|
| TOTAL TESTS | 2,234 |
| TOTAL POSITIVE CASES | 358 |
| ACTIVE CASES | 0 |

*This information was provided by the MCA Community Health Program.
Data was updated as of July 5, 2021.*

| SRMT | |
|----------------------|-------|
| TOTAL TESTS | 9,764 |
| TOTAL POSITIVE CASES | 339 |
| ACTIVE CASES | 0 |

*This information was provided by the SRMT Emergency Operations Center.
Data was updated as of June 25, 2021.*

| | |
|--------------|----|
| TOTAL DEATHS | 10 |
|--------------|----|

| SURROUNDING AREAS | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ACTIVE CASES | TOTAL CASES | TOTAL DEATHS | TOTAL TESTS |
| EOHU REGION | 1 | 4,726 | 111 | 144,069 |
| FRANKLIN CO. | 1 | 2,633 | 17 | 97,048 |
| ST. LAWRENCE CO. | 13 | 7,552 | 97 | 340,524 |

This information was provided by the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (updated July 5, 2021), Franklin County Public Health (updated July 5, 2021), & St. Lawrence County Public Health (updated July 1, 2021).

| PROVINCIAL, NATIONAL & GLOBAL | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | TOTAL CASES | TOTAL DEATHS |
| ONTARIO | 545,973 | 9,215 |
| CANADA | 1.416 million | 26,360 |
| WORLDWIDE | 183.5 million | 3.97 million |

*This information was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health, Health Canada, & the World Health Organization.
Data was updated as of July 5, 2021.*



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DOH REMINDS COMMUNITY TO CONTINUE FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has rescinded the Emergency Curfew Law, effective as of June 3, 2021. With the rescinding of the law, the curfew hours, travel radius, and quarantine requirement after travel are being dissolved.

The MCA Department of Health is reminding the community that even if you are fully vaccinated, in order to keep our entire community safe, you must continue to follow public health guidelines. Please continue to wear a mask when in public, practicing social distancing of at least 6-feet, stay home and quarantine if you're sick, and respect the gathering limits. Should you become sick and exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, begin your isolation period and contact the Community Health Program for advisement, and continue to follow their guidance until cleared from isolation

by a health professional.

The DOH is informing community members of our upcoming COVID-19 vaccine clinics:

- July 14, 2021 - Moderna, 18+ - Kana:takon Recreation, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 to register.

Clinics are by appointment only at this time.

If you need more information about the public health guidelines, or to register for one of the upcoming vaccine clinics, please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341.

DOH PROVIDES UPDATE ON COVID-19 VACCINE EFFICACY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health (DOH) is providing the community with an update on the COVID-19 vaccine's efficacy, and effectiveness against Variants of Concern (VOCs).

mRNA vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer) have an estimated efficacy of 94-95% 14 days after full vaccination (having received both doses). Studies are ongoing to gauge the exact effectiveness of the vaccines to the variants of COVID-19, however, trials have shown the vaccines are highly effective against infection and illness.

According to the National Advisory Committee on Immunization of Canada (NACI), the effectiveness of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines against Variants of Concern (VOCs) continues to evolve. There is evidence that both Pfizer and Moderna have proven effective against

the UK variant (B.1.1.7), the India variant (B.1.167.2), and the South Africa variant (B.1.351). Data is currently limited regarding the vaccines and their effectiveness against the Brazil variant (P.1 and P.2).

After six months of being fully vaccinated, a study on the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines has shown to have a 91.3% or greater efficacy against the COVID-19 virus, and 100% effective against severe disease. At this time, it is not known if a third booster, or annual inoculation will be required.

It is still possible to become COVID-19 positive even after being fully vaccinated, but these cases have been rare. It is still highly recommended that you wear a mask and practice physical distancing when out in public, and adhere to public health guidelines.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

IAKHIHSOHTHA LODGE VISITATION PROCEDURES UPDATE

Iakhihsohta has resumed outdoor visits as of Wednesday, June 16, 2021, for Essential Caregivers and other family members. Visitations will take place Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitation hours will remain in effect until a directive from the Ministry of Health provides increased, or decreased, visitation hours.

All long-term care (LTC) facilities must be responsible for supporting their residents in receiving visitors, while mitigating the risks of exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

To ensure the health and safety of residents and staff, the following procedures **MUST** be followed:

- Must be screened for COVID-19 prior to visit.
- If a resident is in isolation, symptomatic, or the home is in outbreak status, only Essential Caregivers will be allowed for outdoor visits
- Only two (2) visitors per resident will be permitted for visitation. Visitors must call and set up an ap-

pointment 24 hours in advance for visitation, by calling the facility at 613-575-2507 ext. 3 or by emailing Sue Smoke at sue.smoke@akwesasne.ca.

- Must follow physical distancing, hand hygiene, and wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- General visitors must wear a mask, cloth masks are acceptable.
- Outdoor visits will be limited to 30 minutes, once per week. If weather doesn't permit outdoor visits, outdoor visits will be cancelled for that day.
- Failure to comply with the Ministry of Health's guidelines can and will result in cancellation of that particular persons visiting privilege.

As the Ministry of Health continues to progress and provide updates to LTC visitations, Iakhihsohta Lodge will continue to keep our residents' families and the community updated. Should you have any questions regarding the visitation procedures being implemented, please call 613-575-2507.

IAKHIHSOHTHA LODGE VISITATION PROCEDURES UPDATE



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

TSIIONKWANONHSO:TE LTC VISITATION PROCEDURES UPDATE

The Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care (LTC) facility has received notice from the Ministry of Health is supporting the advancement of visitations for Essential Caregivers and other family members to outdoor visitations. A major component of care is the residents' emotional well-being, which includes visits with loved ones. Tsiionkwanonhso:te is announcing the rules and regulations that are in place that need to be followed to ensure the safety and health of our residents and staff.

Effective June 9, 2021, outdoor visitations with Essential Caregivers and other family member will take place on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday between the hours of 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. These visitation hours will remain in effect until a directive from the Ministry of Health provides increased or decreased visitation hours. All LTC facilities and homes must be responsible for supporting its residents in receiving visitors, while at the same time mitigating the risks of exposure to the COVID-19 virus. Visitors MUST consider their personal health and susceptibility to the virus as a determining factor on whether a visit to the LTC's is appropriate.

The following procedures must be followed when visiting the Tsiionkwanonhso:te LTC:

- Must be screened for COVID-19 prior to visit.
- If a resident is in isolation, symptomatic, or the home is in outbreak status, Essential Caregivers are the only visitors allowed.
- All Essential Caregivers must show proof of being fully vaccinated. Non-vaccinated visitors will be provided outdoor visitations only.
- Only two (2) visitors per resident will be permitted for visitation. Visitors must call and set up an appointment 24 hours in advance, for either indoor or outdoor visitation, by calling the facility, or emailing Teresa David (teresa.david@akwesasne.ca).
- Must follow physical distancing, hand hygiene, and wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- General visitors are encouraged to wear a cloth mask or face covering for indoor visits; eye covering for outdoor visits is not necessary if fully vaccinated.
- Tsiionkwanonhso:te will provide the Antigen test to staff, Essential Caregivers, and visitors, as necessary.
- Outdoor visits will be limited to 30 minutes, once per week.
- Failure to comply with the Ministry of Health's guidelines can and will result in cancellation of that particular persons visiting privilege.

As the Ministry of Health continues to progress and provide updates to LTC visitations, Tsiionkwanonhso:te LTC will continue to keep our residents' families and the community updated.

Should you have any questions regarding the visitation procedure being implemented, please call 613-932-1409.

TSIIONKWANONHSO:TE LTC VISITATION PROCEDURES UPDATE



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

KATELYN FEDORAK, NP OUT OF OFFICE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's MCA Wholistic Health & Wellness Program is informing the community that Nurse Practitioner Katelyn Fedorak is out of the office, with her return date to be announced.

Any health-related questions or inquiries can be directed to the Wholistic Health & Wellness Team at 613-575-2341 ext. 3215. Nia:wen.

WHEN SHOULD I GET A COVID-19 TEST AFTER EXPOSURE?



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

DAY OF EXPOSURE

If you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, begin your 14-day quarantine.

Schedule your COVID-19 test through MCA Community Health at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.

TESTING PERIOD

Most accurate testing window. This is the ideal time to take your COVID-19 test.

RECEIVE TEST RESULTS

If you receive a negative test result, on day 14 you can end your quarantine. If you are positive, you must follow advice from your health care provider.

QUARANTINE PERIOD

You must quarantine for full 14 days even if you receive a negative COVID-19 test.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ONTARIO STAY-AT-HOME ORDER ENDS, PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES REMAIN IN PLACE (JUNE 4)

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health (DOH) is informing the community that Ontario's imposed Stay-At-Home order, or "Emergency Brake," has been lifted as of June 2, 2021. While the Stay-At-Home order has ended, all other public health and workplace measures remain in place province-wide until the first phase of Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen is enacted.

Current restrictions include limiting indoor gatherings to households only and outdoor gatherings to up to five people, subject to limited exceptions, maintaining a cap of 25 percent capacity for essential retail where only certain goods are permitted to be sold, restricting non-essential retail to curbside pickup and delivery only. For a full summary of restrictions, please visit the "Reopening Ontario" website at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario#section-5>.

Should the 60% threshold be met, the number of active COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and people in ICU due to COVID-19 will also be taken into consideration. The Province will remain in Phase One for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on public health and Ontario health systems. If at the end of 21 days the trends remain positive, Ontario will then move to the next phase in the rollout plan.

With the current trend in public health, and the health-care systems, Ontario is on track to begin the rollout of Phase One on June 14, 2021. Ontario will confirm closer to the expected start date of Step One.

For more information on Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen, or any of the public health measures still in place, please contact the Department of Health at 613-575-2341.

STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



@MCAKWESASNE



MOHAWK COUNCIL
OF AKWESASNE



@MCAKWESASNE



MOHAWK COUNCIL
OF AKWESASNE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19. WHAT DO I DO?

If you were notified of an exposure by a public health authority, call the MCA Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 for screening and advisement of your isolation period.

It is recommended to self-isolate for 14 days or until cleared or resolved by your health care provider.



STAY AT HOME

DO NOT go out for groceries or other items. Have a designated person to do your essential shopping. Stay in a designated room away from your immediate family and use a separate toilet/bathroom if possible. Continue to wash your hands frequently and sanitize your home.

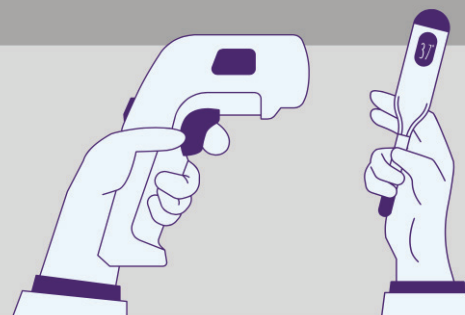


GET TESTED

Call ahead to make an appointment (do NOT just show up) through the MCA Department of Health. The COVID-19 testing site has recently been relocated to Third Street in Kana:takon. Please note that this should be the ONLY time you leave your home during self-quarantine. If you need immediate medical care, call Central Dispatch at 613-575-2000.

MONITOR YOUR SYMPTOMS

Make sure that you take your temperature regularly (high fever is anything over 100°F), and monitor COVID-19 symptoms, which include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and fatigue. If symptoms worsen, call your medical health provider.



KEEP A LOG

Make a list of those that you have been around recently in the case you are positive. It is helpful to keep a daily log and keep of list of people and locations you were around if needed by any public health authority.



AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education has requested that an Election be held for the following seats:

District of Kana:takon
One 3-year term

District of Kawehno:ke
One 3-year term

Nominations will be held on Saturday, July 10, 2021 from the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the following locations:

District of Kana:takon
St. Regis Recreation Center

District of Kawehno:ke
Cornwall Island Recreation Center

Election if needed will be held on Saturday, August 14, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the following locations:
District of Kana:takon
St. Regis Recreation Center

District of Kawehno:ke
Cornwall Island Recreation Center

Advance Polls will be held on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 by appointment only.

Any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call Leona Benedict at 613-551-1622 or 613-575-2250 ext. 2406.

Please take all COVID-19 precautions before coming to nominate or vote.

-Leona Benedict/Chief Electoral Officer



CONTACT US!

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

Ahkwesahsne Mohawk School
(613) 932-3366

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

Iohahio
(613) 575-2754 or
(613) 575-2250 ext. 4100

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

ACFS HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

The Akwesasne Child & Family Services Home Repair Project will be made available to community members with children under 18 years old living in their home, whom require repairs such as: mold remediation, roof repair, repair siding, adding insulation, furnace replacement, etc.

The Department of Infrastructure, Housing, & Environment's (DIHE) Housing Sector will administer this project for houses that require home repair, not cosmetic renovations. The maximum amount available is \$7,500 per civic address. The project will take place from June 2021 - March 2022.

Criteria:

- Applicant must be head of household
- Must be for primary residence
- Must be residing in MCA's jurisdiction (northern portion of Akwesasne)
- Pay any overages over the \$7,500 — 2 quotes, if possible

- Must be in good standing with the DIHE Housing Sector

The goal of the ACFS Home Repair Fund is to provide required repairs for our homes with children in an effort to provide a comfortable, safe living environment. Our aim is to also provide assistance for low-income families to ensure they have the necessities to live comfortable as well, like heat, electricity, water, and no mold issues. Priority will be given to those households that had applied in the past and did not receive any assistance. All applications will be approved by ACFS.

For more information or to apply, please email charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca or gina.thompson@akwesasne.ca. Feel free to contact Charmaine Caldwell, Associate Director, or Gina Jones-Thompson, Housing Services Manager, at 613-575-2250 ext. 1051.

UPDATED ACFS CONTACT INFORMATION

Akwesasne Child & Family Services would like to remind the community that they now have a new 1-800 number and direct line. To contact ACFS toll-free, please call 1-833-575-5020. For their direct line, please call 613-575-5020.

For after-hours, calls to this number will be transferred to ACFS's on-call cell phone. Nia:wen.



THOMPSON ISLAND PRACTICES SURVIVAL SKILLS

In June, Thompson Island staff and summer students practiced survival skills for an upcoming presentation they will be hosting. Individuals practiced fire prep - collecting kindling, fire making with ferro rods and dry grass, and cooking over the fire. They made eggs,

mush with bacon and strawberries, and hot raspberry tea in the Iroquois style pot.

Nia:wen to the amazing students who are genuinely interested in land based education.



Summer students practiced survival skills for an upcoming presentation.

DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

CONGRATULATIONS TO KEVIN BOOTS ON HIS RETIREMENT

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (DIHE) would like to congratulate Kevin Boots on his chosen retirement date of June 11, 2021, from the DIHE Building Maintenance Program. DIHE Director, Portfolio, Management and Staff appreciates his years of dedication and hard work.

Kevin was employed as a Head Caretaker at Tsiionkwanónhso:te (Adult Care) for 17 years. His high quality of work in Tsiionkwanónhso:te was to ensure the maintenance of the building met the service needs of where many of our elders are cared for. His work provided a safe and comfortable environment for the staff and residents.

Kevin was extremely valuable during the COVID-19

Pandemic. He was there through the entire year and a half of the pandemic as Essential Service, performing his work and going the extra mile. His loyalty to his service and daily work ethic was a positive influence on his co-workers. Kevin's cunning personality made him a joy to work with and be around. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of working with him. We are very thankful for his continuous hard work and leadership throughout his seventeen years. Congratulations Kevin, and enjoy your well-deserved retirement!

Effective June 14, 2021, Walter Peters will serve as acting Head Caretaker until the position is posted and filled. Should you need to contact Walter, he can be reached by calling 613-577-2063.



AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE WELCOME FOUR NEW CONSTABLES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service would like to congratulate four new police constables who successfully completed the Basic Constable Training course at the Ontario Police College in May 2021. The four officers continued their training and recently graduated from the Provincial Police Academy in Orillia, Ontario.

On June 14, 2021, a swearing in ceremony was held at the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, with Chief of Police Shawn Dulude and Deputy Chief of Police Lee Ann Obrien officiating. The newly sworn-in officers are:

- Amber Thomas
- Trent McDonald
- Norman King Jr.
- Aaron Simpson

"We are proud to welcome the four newest officers to the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service," said Chief of Police Dulude. "Today also marks a special occasion as we are seeing two generations of police officers com-

mitted to serving and protecting the community of Akwesasne."

Cst. Amber Thomas joins her mother Cst. Rachel Thomas, and Cst. Norman King Jr. joins his father, Cst. Norman King Sr. on the police force.

Congratulations to the new constables. Thank you for serving the community in this vital role.



Congratulations to newly sworn-in officers: Amber Thomas, Trent McDonald, Norman King Jr., and Aaron Simpson.



ACFS PRESENTS

POSITIVE SELF-TALK

JULY 14, 2021

6:00 PM
VIA ZOOM

WE WILL LEARN PRACTICAL INFORMATION AND
STRATEGIES TO BE AWARE OF CURRENT SELF-
TALK PRACTICES AND COMPLETE AN EXERCISE
TO APPLY POSITIVE SELF-TALK ACTION!

TO SIGN UP PLEASE CONTACT DORIAN.BENEDICT@AKWESASNE.CA,
BY FACEBOOK MESSENGER @ AKWESASNE CHILD AND FAMILY
SERVICES OR BY CALLING 613-575-5020.

10 SPOTS AVAILABLE

MUST HAVE A VALID EMAIL FOR ZOOM INVITATION