

ONKWE'TÀ:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 15 Issue 2

FREE

Enniska/February 2026

IN THIS ISSUE:

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS
ON AKWESASNE
ELECTION LAW
REFERENDUM

MCA GENERAL
MEETINGS NOW
HELD QUARTERLY

UPCOMING AMBE
COMMUNITY
CONSULTATION
SESSIONS

OVERDOSE
INFORMATION AND
RESOURCES

DCSS PROVIDING
SUPPORT FOR 2026
LITTLE NHL

NEW ACCEPTABLE
RECYCLING MATERIALS
LIST



LAND-BASED HEALING PROGRAM SHOW APPRECIATION WITH MOHAWK MITTS



The MCA Department of Health's Land-Based Healing Program showed appreciation to MCA's frontline staff by delivering Mohawk Mitts. Created by Kendall Horn from Kahnawà:ke, Mohawk Mitts combine the toughness of modern workwear with Mohawk tradition. Thank you to all staff for your dedication and efforts. Read more on page 17.

UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

MCA FOCUS MEETING

Topic: Department of Health Sectors

February 26, 2026 · 6:00 p.m.

Location TBD

All community members are encouraged to attend, participate, and share their input.
For questions, contact Mohawk Government at 613-575-2250.

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, Ahkwesahsne 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 A/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 MCA General Meetings will now be held quarterly, rotating between districts, in accordance with MCA Council Regulations. More details can be found on page 7.
- 2 Have a concern at your child's AMBE school? A step-by-step guide is available on page 12 to assist families in navigating who to contact.
- 3 Learn more about the services offered by MCA's Mental Health & Wellness Sector on page 19. From Walk-In Crisis Support to Youth Psychotherapy Services, our Mental Health team is here to provide support during difficult times. Service details and contact information can be found on page 19.
- 4 The Department of Health's Mental Health & Wellness Sector is sharing overdose information and resources with the community on page 22. In addition, the Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) Support Group will be holding free weekly meetings throughout February, every Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Akwesasne Homemakers (Tsi Snaihne).
- 5 Did you know MCA's curbside recycling program now accepts more items? Newly accepted materials include frozen juice and ice cream containers, black plastic food containers, and empty toothpaste tubes, to name a few. An extended list of eligible recyclable materials can be found on page 24.

NEWS

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS OF AKWESASNE ELECTION LAW REFERENDUM AEL# 2024-01, MCR 2024/2025 #101 SEC. 16.2 (A)

The Chief Referendum Officer (CRO) hereby notifies the community of the "unofficial" results of the Akwesasne Election Law Number 2024-01, MCR 2024/2025 -#101 Sec. 16.2 (a) referendum held on Saturday, January 31, 2026.

The 'unofficial' results are as follows:

| | TSI SNAIHNE | KANA:TAKON | KAWEHNO:KE | TOTAL: |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|--------|
| "Yes" Votes (in favor of proposed amendment) | 52 | 34 | 88 | 174 |
| "No" Votes (opposed to the proposed amendment) | 50 | 18 | 21 | 89 |

- "Yes" votes in favor of the proposed amendment: 174 votes.
- "No" votes opposed to the proposed amendments: 89 votes.

Please note that the deadline to file an appeal was Friday, February 6, 2026 no later than 5:00 pm. Appeals must be filed with the Akwesasne Mohawk Court, located at CIA Building #3 on Kawehno:ke.

Therefore, the Akwesasne Election Law Section 16.2 (a) is hereby declared to have passed.

Please note: This publication has been printed prior to the appeal deadline. Please visit the MCA website at www.akwesasne.ca for the official results.

The CRO would like to thank the Deputy Referendum Officers and Uniform Security Personnel Officers

STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH MCA

MCA E-NEWSLETTER

Stay up to date with our weekly e-newsletter delivered straight to your email inbox!

www.akwesasne.ca/signup

ONKWE'TA:KE NEWSLETTER

Scan QR code to view Onkwe'take online!

Connect with us social media!

MCA TEXT ALERTS

Stay in the loop with MCA by registering for mobile/text alerts!

www.akwesasne.ca/textalerts

NEWS

COMMUNITY UPDATE ON ICE-RELATED CONCERNS IN THE AREA

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) is aware of heightened concerns in our community following recent announcements and news related to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), including reports that St. Lawrence County has approved moving forward with a memorandum of agreement with ICE, as well as videos and information circulating on social media. Akwesasne is a sovereign territory with our own police services and law enforcement protocols. Our local authorities are committed to protecting the safety and rights of our people.

In response to these concerns, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS), along with the Grand Chief and Council of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, are coordinating with the Saint Regis Tribal Police to meet in the near future with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) leadership and the CBP Director to discuss issues and concerns being raised in the area. MCA and our police services are actively raising these concerns and working with partners to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community.

MCA's priority remains the safety, dignity, and wellbeing of our community members. We do not condone any actions that target, discriminate against, or disrespect Indigenous peoples or any community members.

To support personal safety and reduce stress during travel outside the community, we encourage all Akwesasró:non to:

- Carry valid identification, including Status or Tribal ID, which is a recognized form of identification and can help establish your identity if needed
- Store emergency contact numbers in your phone
- Avoid approaching or interfering with active enforcement situations
- Rely on information shared through official MCA channels

MCA also reminds the community to be cautious when reading information online. Misinformation can increase fear, create confusion, and place community members at risk. Please rely on official updates from MCA and trusted sources.

We will continue to work with our partners, address concerns as they arise, and provide updates to the community as more information becomes available.

Nia:wen for your cooperation and for looking out for one another.



Connect With Us on Social Media!

 facebook.com/akwesasne.ca

 [@MCAkwesasne](https://www.instagram.com/MCAkwesasne)

 [@MCAkwesasne](https://twitter.com/MCAkwesasne)

 youtube.com/MohawkCouncilofAkwesasne

 [@MCAkwesasne](https://www.snapchat.com/add/MCAkwesasne)

 [@MCAkwesasne](https://www.tiktok.com/@MCAkwesasne)

NEWS

JOINT STATEMENT FROM THE SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBAL COUNCIL AND MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE ON THE NYPA PROPOSED ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT POTENTIAL SITE

Tsiothohrhkó:wa/January 20, 2026 — The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne issue the following joint statement in response to RFQ Number Q25-7715JC, Community to Host NYPA's Advanced Nuclear Power Project:

"In the absence of support from our membership and community, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne will not provide support for the development of a nuclear power plant at any location near the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory," stated the Councils.

Historically, Akwesasne has not been adequately considered in industrial development projects. The failure to engage in this consultation has resulted in long-term environmental damage, health concerns, and a justified legacy of distrust. The Councils assert their inherent sovereignty and affirm that meaningful consultation must occur before any decisions or commitments are advanced. The protection of Akwesasne lands, waters, and people is non-negotiable, and these failures will not be repeated.

Given the close proximity of the proposed project to Akwesasne and Tribal lands, which includes the Massena Mile Square and Grasse River Meadows, and recognizing the potential impacts associated with nuclear development, the Councils have requested a formal consultation process directly with the New

York Power Authority (NYPA), separate from the public comment process.

"Direct consultation is necessary to ensure that all potential risks, benefits, and broader implications of the proposed project are fully evaluated and clearly understood by Akwesasro:non. It is essential for our community to make an informed decision rooted in transparency, respect, and meaningful engagement. We remain cautious regarding any new industrial development that may pose risks to the health, safety, and overall well-being of our people," the Councils stated.

The Councils are aware that individuals have proposed the former General Motors Superfund Site, now under the Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response (RACER) Trust, as a potential location. The Councils have received formal communication from RACER stating: "While the RACER Trust takes no position on nuclear energy generally, it is our position that a nuclear power plant should not be sited on the RACER property."

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne will continue to prioritize the health, safety, and sovereignty of the Akwesasne community and will provide updates as additional information becomes available.

MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

COMMUNITY PORTAL

[MCA Website](https://www.akwesasne.ca)
WWW.AKWESASNE.CA

[Community Portal](https://my.akwesasne.ca)
MY.AKWESASNE.CA

Sign up today!





COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL WEEKLY MEETING REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: GRAND CHIEF LEONARD LAZORE



December 15, 2025

- The Executive Director provided administrative update on the organization.
- The Grand Chief provided an update on the Rotary Club event that was held on December 13, 2025. Conversations with the Mayor and MPP were held and meetings will be scheduled for January 2026.
- Nation Building Portfolio Chiefs provided an update to Council on the year end review of the work done by Nation Building including the Youth and Elders advisors, the surveys and education materials.

Discussion Items:

- Discussion was held regarding the sale of alcohol at business on Kawehno:ke and the next steps to take.
- A discussion was provided regarding the upcoming Bill Quebec Constitution and Infringement of Indigenous Rights and the stand Akwesasne has on it.
- Council briefly discussed funding for the

church renovations, an MCR will be forthcoming for financial support.

- Council discussed the recent meeting they had regarding Strategic Planning and suggested holding another meeting in the new year.

Presentation:

- A presentation was provided to Council from representatives from Eska, regarding Real Estate and Infrastructure.

MCRs: A2Z Strategic Plan Implementation with the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Services; FNIPP - Bilateral-Border Enforcement Support; To approve all Addendums to Leases for 2026; To approve all Addendums to Leases for 2026; To approve all leases for 2026

January 12, 2026

- The Executive Director provided administrative update on the organization.
- Grand Chief provided an update on his meeting with CIBC, Iroquois Caucus, Chiefs of Ontario Leadership Council, and Alto about the proposed High-Speed Rail.
- Justice Portfolio provided an update to Council on the work being done.

Discussion Items:

- Council discussed community questions regarding support services for students.
- Council discussed the potential for creating a Memorandum of Understanding between MCA and the OSPCA.
- Council discussed the Department of Health's request to create a community

survey regarding Medical Assistance In Dying (MAID).

- A discussion was had on approving a Telus Online Adjudication for the Department of Health, further information will be sought.
- Council discussed a proposed pilot project for Elders.
- There was a discussion over giving a donation on behalf of MCA for a community round dance that is supported by SRMT and Salmon River.
- Council discussed the upcoming General Meeting location and set the agenda for the meeting.
- There was a discussion about the update of winter operations at the Great Lakes- St. Lawrence Seaway System.

Presentation:

- Cheyenne Lazore from Akwesasne Rights and Research Office and Frank Holleman provided a presentation to Council about issues and concerns about FASFA and Akwesasne students attending schools in New York State. A further presentation will be held.

MCRs: MCA Donations – January 2026 Budget Increase; Permit; Akwesasne Representative & Advocacy Program – Winter Clothing Initiative; Salary Funds for Participation in Nutrient Monitoring Activities; Salary Funds for Participation in Various River Institute Initiatives; MOU between MCA and Queens University; Contribution Agreement MCA-Bilateral Agreement Border Enforcement Support; Council Meeting Minutes – November 3, 2025; Council Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2025

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

MCA GENERAL MEETING NOW HELD QUARTERLY

Please be advised that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne General Meetings will be moving from a monthly schedule to a quarterly schedule, effective January 2026. This update was first shared with the community during the October District meetings, along with the January District Meetings.

The first quarterly General Meeting was held on Thursday, January 29, 2026 at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center. Following this meeting, MCA General Meetings will continue on a regular quarterly basis between districts, in accordance with MCA Council Regulations.

This change is intended to allow for more meaningful and comprehensive updates to be shared with the community, improve attendance and participa-

tion, while still maintaining transparency and accountability.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is also exploring hosting at least one General Meeting on a Saturday each year to better accommodate a variety of community schedules.

Please note that:

- Additional Focus Meetings will be held throughout the year on specific topics or priorities, and
- District Meetings will continue to be held monthly in each district.

For more information, please contact the Mohawk Government Offices at 613-575-2250.

Contact Us!



MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

To reach a member of Council, call the Mohawk Government Office:
613-575-2250

Or, find phone numbers and email addresses for all Council members online:

akwesasne.ca/meet-the-chiefs

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

MCA GENERAL MEETING NOW HELD QUARTERLY

Please be advised that the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne General Meetings will be moving from a monthly schedule to a quarterly schedule, effective January 2026. This update was first shared with the community during the October District meetings, along with the January District Meetings.

The first quarterly General Meeting was held on Thursday, January 29, 2026 at the Tsi Snaihne Recreation Center. Following this meeting, MCA General Meetings will continue on a regular quarterly basis between districts, in accordance with MCA Council Regulations.

This change is intended to allow for more meaningful and comprehensive updates to be shared with the community, improve attendance and participa-

tion, while still maintaining transparency and accountability.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is also exploring hosting at least one General Meeting on a Saturday each year to better accommodate a variety of community schedules.

Please note that:

- Additional Focus Meetings will be held throughout the year on specific topics or priorities, and
- District Meetings will continue to be held monthly in each district.

For more information, please contact the Mohawk Government Offices at 613-575-2250.

Tom Thomas



Lisa Francis-Benedict



Lacey Pierce



Vince Thompson



KAWEHNO:KE DISTRICT CHIEFS WEEKLY CONSTITUENCY HOURS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Kawehno:ke District Chiefs will hold weekly constituency hours to connect directly with community members.

These sessions are held **every other Friday** from **1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the **CIA #3 Boardroom**. See the dates below.

FEBRUARY

13, 27

APRIL

10, 24

JUNE

5, 19

MARCH

13, 27

MAY

8, 22

Disclaimer:

Constituency hours will be scheduled according to the District Chiefs' availability to ensure consistent leadership presence. We recognize the importance of community access and remain committed to balancing this with operational responsibilities. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility.

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

GRAND CHIEF LEONARD LAZORE UPDATES



NOTABLE MEETINGS & EVENTS

November 4, 2025 – Ontario Fire Management Update

November 5, 2025 – Housing Authority Board

November 5, 2025 – Entewatathá:wi Nation Building Meeting

November 18-19, 2025 – Chiefs of Ontario Fall Chiefs Assembly

November 20-21, 2025 – IESO First Nations Energy Symposium

November 24-26, 2025 AFNQL Chiefs Assembly

November 30, 2025 – Iroquois Caucus Meeting

December, 2025 1-4 Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly

December 3, 2025 Chiefs of Ontario Caucus

December 8, 10, 15, 2025 MCA Community Holiday Dinners

December 9, 2025 Meeting with the Cornwall City Council

December 11, 2025 Council Internal Strategic Planning

December 12, 2025 Iakhihsotha Lodge 35th Anniversary Celebration

December 13, 2025 Rotary Club Gala

December 19, 2025 Swearing-In Ceremony for Newly Elected MCA District Chiefs

January 6, 2026 Council Internal Strategic Planning

January 8, 2026 Chiefs of Ontario Leadership Council Meeting

January 9, 2026 DCSS Portfolio

January 14, 2026 CKON Tetewatharen: Federal Political Agreement

January 16, 2026 Meeting with Chief Verreault-Paul

January 20, 2026 Entewatathá:wi Self-Governance Agreement Negotiations

NOVEMBER GRAND CHIEF UPDATES

Border Partners Meeting

- New Liaison: A new liaison from Tribal PD will be appointed for the Massena Port of Entry, with contact information to be shared via email, and in-person introductions are planned.
- Biometric Collection Delayed: The December 26 biometric collection for the land border at Massena is anticipated to be delayed for "a couple of years," but the community stressed the need for full consultation before any future rollout.
- CBSA Communications & Recruitment: CBSA is working to improve real-time communication during border delays and have hosted a local recruitment event on November 24-25, 2025, with a recommendation for local hires.

Transport Canada Meeting

- The meeting focused on the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's interest in acquiring surplus lands from Transport Canada, primarily for housing development. Further meetings are to be held, along with community consultation before actions are taken towards this project.

Ontario Fire Management Update Meeting

- The 2025 fire season was one of the worst in recent history, characterized by an early start in April, extensive drought conditions, and an almost 200,000-hectare record-breaking single fire (Red 12). Resource availability was a significant challenge due to simultaneous fires across Western Canada.
- There's a growing focus on improving fire management agreements with First Nations, developing Indigenous Community Liaison training, and fostering cultural fire discussions. The Ministry

of Emergency Preparedness and Response (MEPR) is actively supporting Indigenous-led emergency management through training, partnerships, and a recent Flood and Wildland Fire Symposium focused on mental health and resilience.

DIHE Housing Sector Updates

- Housing Authority Composition Changes: District Chiefs to attend meetings in individual status, not board members.
- Grand Chief's Role: Confirmed ex-officio, can attend all meetings.
- Executive Director's Role: Executive Director to attend meetings.
- Voting Rights Discussion: Chiefs and staff should not have voting rights; technicians and community members can.
- Chairperson as Tie-Breaker proposed for voting disputes.
- Chiefs' Sponsorship Role: Chiefs should sponsor MCRs and answer questions without technical staff.
- Section 95 Issues: Discussed concerns about subletting, non-original tenants, and lack of enforcement.
- Good Standing Policy Flaw: Discussed the Good Standing Policy; not catching issues such as unpaid water bills from MCR-non-affiliated departments.

Cornwall Lands Purchase

- Mohawk Council of Akwesasne aims to purchase Cornwall lands. Mediation and remediation assessment studies conclude by March 2026.
- The letter of intent to purchase will be presented to Canada on November 13, 2025.
- Extensive community engagement is planned before major decisions, potentially including a referendum.
- Exploration of partnership models with

COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

GRAND CHIEF LEONARD LAZORE UPDATES

Lands Canada for quicker land transfer and development, with a meeting scheduled for December 1, 2025.

- Remediation Concerns: Only a small portion (10-20 acres) of the 150-acre property is expected to require remediation.
- Local Expertise: Preference for local consultants and engineering firms in Cornwall for development projects.
- Financial Strategy: Focus on securing external funding (foundations, government programs, conventional banks) before using community dollars.

Implementation of Council Internal Strategic Planning Sessions

- Council met together to discuss in detail the plans to address the needs of the community and strategize best efforts to address those needs in an open discussion. These meeting will be held regularly in addition to Council Meetings held every Monday.

MCA Community Holiday Dinners

- The Mohawk Government office put together three Holiday Dinners for the community in each district where all of Council attended, served, and engaged with the community over good food and warm treats.



Introductory Meeting with Cornwall City Council and Mayor Townsdale

- Attended an introductory meeting with full council to meet with Cornwall City Council and Cornwall Mayor Justin Townsdale, with the intention to meet quarterly. There were discussions about collaborative efforts with the

Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the City of Cornwall on economic, health, housing and social services.

Iroquois Caucus Meeting (Virtual)

- The Iroquois Caucus is undergoing a structural "leveling up" to transition from a discussion-based forum to an action-oriented political entity.

GRAND CHIEF TRAVEL

Chiefs of Ontario Quarterly Meeting | Toronto, ON

- Day 1: Attended information sessions regarding resolutions covering First Nations off-reserve housing, Indian Act Discrimination and reform efforts, new policies for Indian gaming, drug toxicity crisis and Indian Welfare Agreement, and Chiefs of Ontario AFN participation.
- Day 2: Attended information sessions on the First Nations Clean Water Act Advocacy, Justice Sector Update, and the Ontario Final Agreement.

IESO First Nations Energy Symposium | Toronto, ON

- Attended sessions and discussion panels regarding creating and sustaining Indigenous Energy Projects, the impact of fast-tracked legislation, and Indigenous Partnerships and Project Development.

Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) | Toronto, ON

- Met with other AFNQL members and attended sessions and discussions on the evolution of First Nations policing and public safety strategies within Quebec, current bills relevant to Indigenous communities, the Quebec Constitution, National Children's Chief Commission final settlement agreement.

Iroquois Caucus | Ottawa, ON

- Met with the Iroquois Caucus to dis-

cuss issues such as treaty reform and trade rights, like the Marshall Decision, ahead of the Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly.

Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly | Ottawa, ON

- Attended plenary sessions and voted on resolutions regarding Bill S-2, Long Term reform of First Nations Child and Family Services and Jordan's Principle, Major Projects Office, Infrastructure and First Nations Bank of Canada.

Chiefs of Ontario Quebec Caucus | Ottawa, ON

- Met with other First Nations leadership throughout Ontario and discussed the Canadian federal government's recent announcement by the Prime Minister. The meeting also highlighted the imminent return of 61 artifacts from the Vatican to Montreal and expressed significant leadership frustration regarding federal budget cuts and the Prime Minister's perceived lack of respect toward regional Chiefs.

Chiefs of Ontario Leadership Council Meeting | Toronto, ON

- Attended sessions and engaged with presentations from the Ontario Ombudsman Paul Dube, ALTO on the proposed High Speed Rail and C.E.C. Innovations and Whirlwind Enterprises.



Tsi Snaihne District Chief Scott Peters, Grand Chief Leonard Lazore, and Entewatathá:wi Project Manager Rachel Lazore shared Political Protocol Agreement updates with the community on CKON's Tetewatharen Talk Show.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION



FACEBOOK STATS

Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in January

- 1. Community Update on ICE-Related Concerns in the Area
- 2. Department of Health Extends Congratulations to Jennifer David on her Retirement
- 3. Grinches, Quilts & Totas: Tsiionkwanonhso:te Sleighs the Holidays
- 4. Joint Statement from the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne on the NYPA Proposed Advanced Nuclear Power Project Potential Site
- 5. Rebecca Boyer, NP, Now Accepting Patients in the Akwesasne Medical Clinic and Tsi Snaihne Medical Clinic

Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in January

- 1. Community Update on ICE-Related Concerns in the Area — 75,202 Reached
- 2. Joint Statement from the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council and Mohawk Council of Akwesasne on the NYPA Proposed Advanced Nuclear Power Project Potential Site — 26,668
- 3. Rebecca Boyer, NP, Now Accepting Patients in the Akwesasne Medical Clinic and Tsi Snaihne Medical Clinic — 15,070
- 4. Department of Health Extends Congratulations to Jennifer David on her Retirement — 14,157
- 5. Winter Storm Precautions: Weather Alert — 13,265 Reached



X STATS

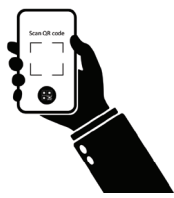
Top Post in January



YOUTUBE STATS

Highest Viewed Video on the MCA YouTube Channel for January

2025 Deer Herd Reduction Program



Scan QR Code to view video!

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

CHILDREN'S PAGE

START
LOVE

#

WRITE THREE THINGS YOU LOVE ABOUT YOURSELF!

LOVE YOU

WORD SCRAMBLE

VOLE
RATHE
TEESW
IPUDC
SSIK
BERA

CUPID HEART
BEAR LOVE
KISS SWEET

I Spy Valentine's Day

COLOR THE VALENTINE PANDA!



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

What did one volcano say to the other on Valentine's Day?
I lava you!

What's Cupid's favorite band?
Kiss!

What did the cucumber say to the pickle?
You mean a great dill to me!

AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

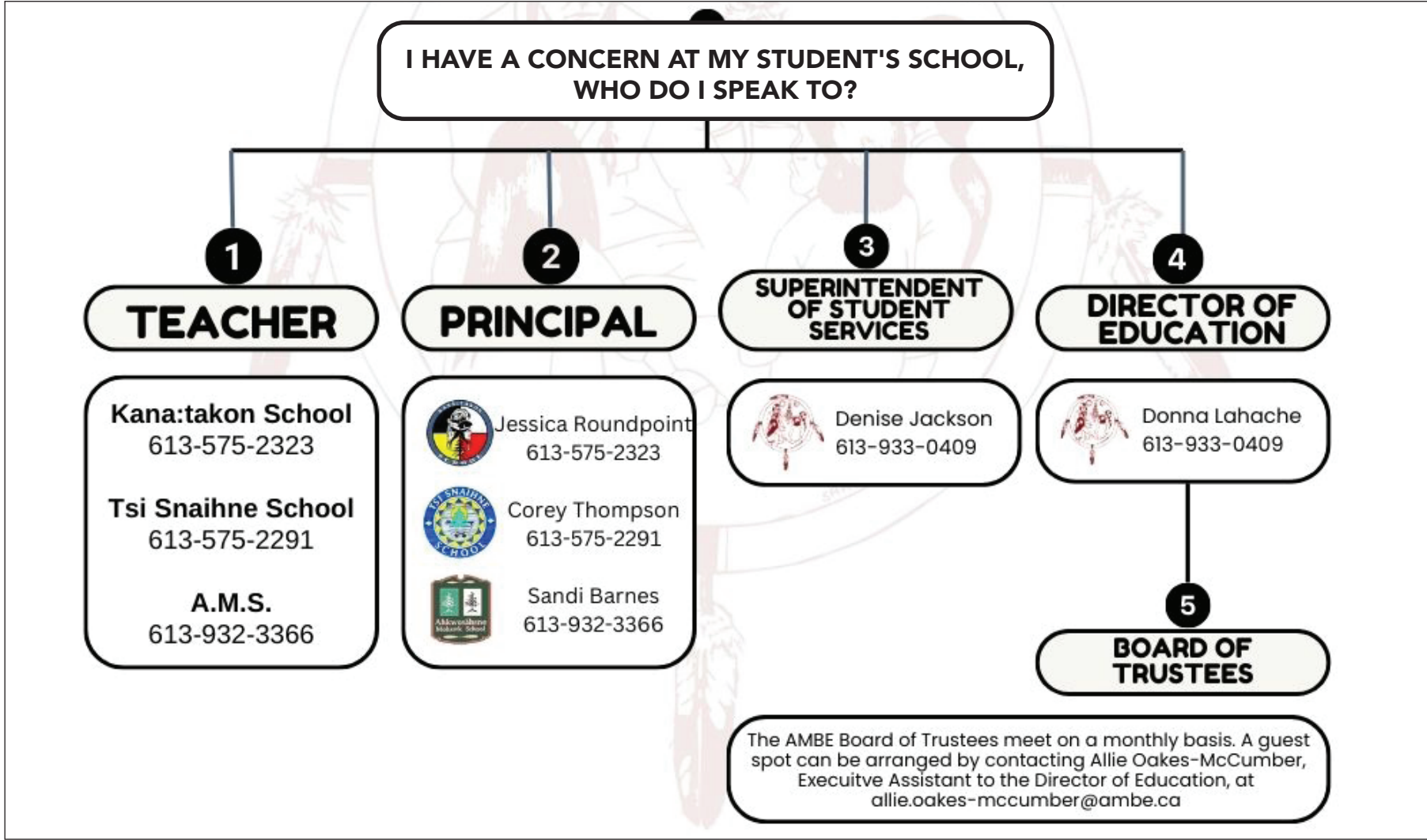
HAVE A CONCERN AT YOUR STUDENTS AMBE SCHOOL?

Here is a step-by-step guide on who to contact to help resolve a concern.

1. Speak to your students teacher. AMBE educators are the first step in assisting in any concerns regarding your student, they are in the classroom and see your student daily.
2. Have further questions? No problem, reach out to your students school principal.
3. Looking for a bit more? Reach out to Denise Jackson, Superintendent of Student Services. Mrs. Jackson has been an educator and principal

within AMBE for many years prior to her position as Superintendent of Student Services.

4. Donna Lachache, Director of Education, (Allie Oakes-McCumber, Executive Assistant to the Director of Education, can help here also, prior to reaching out for a meeting with the Board of Trustees).
5. With Allie, you can set up a meeting with the AMBE Board Of Trustees. In your request, please outline the situation of concern, the steps you've followed to reach this point and your contact information.



AHKWESAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

NON-CONSENT FORMS REMINDER

The Ahkwesahne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) is reminding parents and guardians to please return Photo/Media Non-Consent forms as soon as possible.

Families who have indicated NO on the form will have their child excluded from all photos and videos used by AMBE.

If a form has not been returned, AMBE must assume the response is NO. As a result, your child's photo will not appear on AMBE social media platforms or in other public communications.

If you require a new form, please contact Communications & Quality Assurance Officer Lacey Thompson at lacey.thompson@ambe.ca.

Photo & Video Disclaimer

AMBE will make every effort to ensure students listed as non-consent are not featured in photos or videos. If a student is accidentally included — for example, in the background of a group photo — please contact Lacey Thompson at lacey.thompson@ambe.ca or send a direct message through the social media platform where the image was posted. The image will be promptly removed or edited as needed.

Please note that videos can be more difficult to edit; however, AMBE will do its best to respect family preferences and protect student privacy.

Nia:wen of helping us keep our community safe, respectful, and informed.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF AMBE — UPCOMING COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

We need your voice to shape the future of AMBE!

The next five years are critical for our students, and we can't build the roadmap without you. The Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) has prepared the Draft Strategic Plan 2026-2031, and we want to know what you think.

We are hosting three Community Consultations — one in each district — to share the draft, answer your questions, and gather your suggestions before the final version is implemented.

What to Expect:

- Pick up a hard copy of the Draft Plan
- Share your ideas on curriculum, culture, and student success

- Chat with board members and administration.

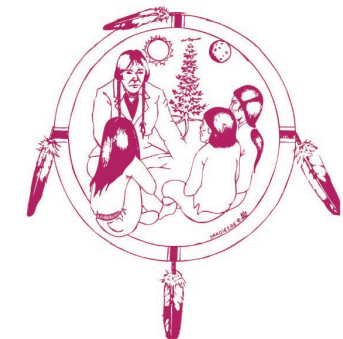
Join us from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at the session nearest you:

Tsi Snaihne: Tuesday, February 10 | Iohahi:io

Kana:takon: Wednesday, February 11 | Kana:takon School

Kawehno:ke: Thursday, February 12 | AMBE Building Blocks

Your input isn't just welcome — it's essential. Let's build the next 5 years together!



OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Registration under the Indian Act and applying for a status card, what's the difference?

Registration under the Indian Act is not the same as applying for a status card. This infographic helps explain the differences.

| REGISTRATION | STATUS CARD |
|--|---|
| <div>?</div> <div>What is it?</div> <div>Your legal status as a person registered under the Indian Act.</div> | <div>?</div> <div>What is it?</div> <div>A government-issued identity document that confirms you are registered under the Indian Act.</div> |
| <div>🕒</div> <div>How long does it take?</div> <div>It usually takes less than 6 months to process a complete application for registration under the Indian Act. However, in some cases, it may take up to 2 years or more.</div> | <div>🕒</div> <div>How long does it take?</div> <div>Once you are registered under the Indian Act, a laminated status card can be prepared the same day as your appointment at the OVS office.</div> |
| <div>?</div> <div>How do you register?</div> <div>You can apply for registration by mail or in-person at any regional office, or through a trusted source, or your First Nations office if they offer registration services.</div> | <div>?</div> <div>How do you apply?</div> <div>You can make an appointment at the Office of Vital Statistics to apply for a laminated Certificate of Indian Status.</div> |
| <div>❌</div> <div>Does it need to be renewed?</div> <div>No. Registration doesn't need to be renewed.</div> | <div>✅</div> <div>Does it need to be renewed?</div> <div>A laminated status card needs to be renewed every 5 years for adults and dependent adults and every 3 years for children.</div> |
| <div>💰</div> <div>Is there a fee?</div> <div>There's no fee to apply for registration, but there may be a fee for some required documents, for example, a proof of birth document.</div> | <div>💰</div> <div>Is there a fee?</div> <div>There's a fee of \$5.00 for the status card which will be waived if you hand in your old status card, and a \$5.00 fee for a photo unless you provide your own printed photo. There are no fees for elders aged 60 or above.</div> |

EMERGENCY MEASURES PROGRAM



HAZARD HELP SHEET

WINTER DRIVING

WINTER DRIVING

Winter travel by automobile can be serious business. Be prepared. If you do a lot of winter driving in isolated regions, you might want to consider keeping your car radio tuned into a local weather channel. Along with colder temperatures, snow, and ice, winter also brings potentially dangerous driving conditions. Slippery roads and decreased visibility can make driving in Canadian winters a challenge. Winter driving calls for extra care, even in normal winter conditions. Snow and ice can reduce tire traction on roads and heavy or blowing snow can make visibility poor.

WINTER TIRES

If you haven't already, please take the time to get your winter tires on your vehicle. If your vehicle is registered in Quebec, it's the law.

STAY ON THE MAIN ROADS

If you must stop your vehicle, pull over at a rest/text stop. Use a bright distress flag or your hazard lights to draw attention to your vehicle.

KEEP CONTROL OF YOUR VEHICLE TO AVOID COLLISIONS

Winter collisions can occur when your vehicle skids. Remember that not all vehicles respond in the same way to icy, slippery roads. You must know how to handle your vehicle and how it responds in various weather conditions. Review your owner's manual and familiarize yourself with your vehicle's braking system and tire traction. You may also consider attending a safety driving course.

SLOW DOWN

Fog, black ice, slush or snow-covered roads can make driving dangerous. Drive slowly and leave plenty of distance between your vehicle and those vehicles in front of you. If the roads are icy, slushy or slippery, please avoid passing other vehicles.

AAA/CAA

If you are a member of AAA or CAA, you're in luck. These memberships have various benefits for helping their members when they are in most need and some costs are still reimbursable.

IF YOU ARE TRAPPED (IN A BLIZZARD)

Clear your tail pipe and run your engine and heater for ten (10) minutes every hour. Open your window slightly. However, **during night hours**, keep the dome light on in your car so rescue crews can see your vehicle.

SEE AND BE SEEN

Clear all snow from the hood, roof, windows and lights. Clear all windows of fog or ice. If visibility becomes poor, find a place to safely pull off the road as soon as possible.

EMERGENCIES

Should you find yourself in an emergency situation, call 9-1-1 and request emergency assistance.

!

AKWESASNE ICE BRIDGE

The 'ice bridge' that connects Kana'takon to Tsi Snaihne (and to Kawehno:ke) is **NEVER** the safest route. Though it may be convenient and time saving, please avoid using this model of travel. Keep your family safe and avoid using the ice bridge.

Brought to you by:
MCA's Emergency Measures Program

For more information, please visit:
www.GetPrepared.ca

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

JANET BRANT, NP TO OFFER MONDAY SAME DAY APPOINTMENT CLINICS AT KAWEHNO:KE MEDICAL CLINIC



The Department of Health's Clinical Care Services (CCS) is notifying the community that Janet Brant, NP, will be offering same-day clinic appointments on Mondays. The hours for same day appointments will be from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- One issue per appointment will be addressed; a second issue will be encouraged to schedule another appointment.
- No prescription renewals, forms, or chronic issues (dealing with health issue for longer than three (3) months) will be addressed for same-day appointments.
- Patients who are more than 15 minutes late (which includes your 10 minute pre-appointment time) will forfeit your appointment and will be offered a next available appointment slot.

The following criteria will be followed for the Monday same-day appointments with Janet Brant, NP:

- Appointments will be scheduled between 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Appointments will last approximately 20 minutes; patients are required to arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled appointment (specifically for urgent care issues).

Please be sure to cancel appointments if they are no longer needed or you are unable to make your scheduled appointment time.

To schedule a Monday same-day appointment with Janet Brant, NP, or for more information, please contact the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic at 613-932-5808.



TETEWATSKA:HON GREEN FOOD BAG SCHEDULE

ORDER DEADLINE:

PICK UP DATE:

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|
| February 6, 2026 | May 8, 2026 | February 18, 2026 | May 20, 2026 |
| March 6, 2026 | June 5, 2026 | March 18, 2026 | June 17, 2026 |
| April 3, 2026 | | April 15, 2026 | |

\$20 per bag, due at the time of order! Cash or e-transfer accepted (etransfer@akwesasne.ca).
In the Message section, please include: "Green Food Bag" and the month along with your name and phone number.
For more information, contact Community Health Services at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220

LIMIT OF 2 BAGS PER PERSON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

LAND-BASED HEALING PROGRAM GIVES BACK TO MCA STAFF

The Department of Health's Land-Based Healing Program (LBH) provided a show of appreciation to MCA's hard working and dedicated front-line staff by purchasing and delivering Mohawk Mitts to front-line staff throughout the organization.

It represents the early mornings, late nights, the sore back, and long hours away from home by combining the toughness of modern workwear with the strength of Mohawk tradition.



Mohawk Mitts is owned by Kendall Horn from the Kahnawá:ke Mohawk Territory. Kendall created Mohawk Mitts for those who've built the iconic city skylines and the beautiful homes in our communities.

To everyone who puts in the work, be it on the job site, in the shop, in the field, or at home, we appreciate all your hard work and dedication.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Akwesasne 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

Akwesasne 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

Iakhihsohtha Lodge:

613-575-2507

Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care:

613-932-1409



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

LAND-BASED HEALING HOSTS WINTER BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The MCA Department of Health's Land-Based Healing Program (LBH) recently hosted an indoor basketball tournament which took place at the Kana:takon School.

The tournament brought together six (6) teams - The Lions, Little Men, Buns Squad, Thunder, Grey Wolf, and the SRC Shamrocks - for a fun and competitive event. Each game was played with lots of energy, good sportsmanship, and a lively crowd that cheered throughout the tournament.

The Lions took home the championship after a close win over the Little Men, while Grey Wolf won in a thriller to secure 3rd place.

The top three teams received their choice of a prize:

- Akwesasne Thunder season pass
- 3-month membership to Heart to Heart Fitness

- NBA Basketball

While the games were competitive, it was important to note all participants had a great time, sharing plenty of laughs, and brought life and energy to the tournament.

Thank you to the Land-Based Healing team (Brandon David, Ashley Martin, Toya Rourke, DJ Danforth, Tehokwirathe Barreiro, and Mary Terrance) for organizing an exceptional event.

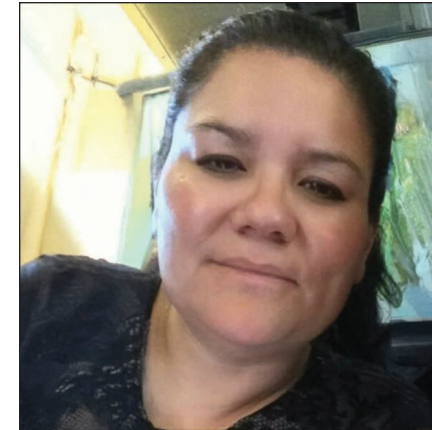
A special nia:wen goes out to our volunteers who helped score keep and referee the games, as well as the Kana:takon School for allowing the event to take place.

Stay tuned for more events from the Land-Based Healing team!



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CLINICAL CARE SERVICES WELCOMES NEW NURSE PRACTITIONER, KAREN ANDERSON



Long-Term Care satellite clinic office.

Karen Anderson is a Haudenosaunee Kaion'keháka (Cayuga), Wolf Clan from Six Nations of the Grand River. She has been a Nurse Practitioner for the past 18 years, bringing with her a wealth of knowledge and experience in various healthcare settings, such as long-term care, emergency room departments, walk-in clinics, private medical practices, and has worked in many provincial and Indigenous territories. She recently developed the first Indigenous Medical Team within CAS, which won her the recognition as a "Nominated Nurse" in July 2020 through the

The Department of Health's Clinical Care Services (CCS) would like to extend a warm welcome to its new Nurse Practitioner, Karen Anderson. Karen joins the Primary Care team as a full-time Nurse Practitioner and will be seeing patients in the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic and the Tsiionkwanonhso:te

Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association (CINA) for all her accomplishments, contributions, dedication, and professionalism in the field of nursing.

Karen has acquired numerous certifications in healthcare throughout her illustrious career, such as Certified Specimen Collector: Drug Screener, Victimology, Indigenous End of Life Care, Child Psychology, Mental Health and Addictions.

Karen has also trained many NP students through McMaster University.

When Karen is not at work, she spends her time with her husband of 40 years and her three children. She's also an avid gamer, with a passion for Mario Kart 8, and is obsessed with the Legend of Zelda series. She is also a dog breeder, breeding mini-dachshunds and also has a yellow lab.

Karen will begin seeing clients in the first week of February 2026.

Please join us in welcoming Karen to the Clinical Care Services - Primary Care team!

ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS WITH MCA

The MCA Department of Health's Mental Health & Wellness Sector would like to remind the community that the following supports are available:

Walk-In Crisis Support

Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Individual & Group Debriefing

Available by appointment.

Youth Psychotherapy Services

We offer specialized support for children and youth through trauma-informed, culturally grounded, and strength-based approaches. Services include individual and family psychotherapy, crisis intervention, and support for emotional regulation, anxiety, grief, identity, and school-related concerns. Our therapeutic approaches

incorporate play-based and expressive therapies, cognitive-behavioral tools, mind-body regulation, and narrative approaches, with an emphasis on holistic healing and resilience.

Our team works closely with families, caregivers, schools, and community partners to ensure coordinated and responsive care — especially during times of heightened need.

You are not alone. If you or someone you care about needs support, please reach out to MCA Mental Health & Wellness at 613-575-2341 ext. 3115 or stop by our office located at Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EXTENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO JENNIFER DAVID ON HER RETIREMENT



The MCA Department of Health would like to congratulate our long-time receptionist, Jennifer David, on her retirement.

Jennifer has served our community with dedication and care for 28 years, and her presence at the reception desk has

been a constant source of warmth and welcome. As a fluent Kanien'kehá speaker, she carried our language proudly and shared it generously with staff and community members, helping to keep our culture alive in everyday moments.

Jennifer started her career with MCA as a Receptionist/Switch Board Operator with the Operations Unit in March of 1998. She served as a receptionist and Administrative Assistant for various programs within MCA, where she served as the face and voice of Kanonhkwa'stheri:io Heath Facility for the past 21 years.

Jennifer was truly treasured by the staff at Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io and by every community mem-

ber she greeted as they walked through our doors. She was known not only for her professionalism, but for her kindness, compassion, and genuine care for the health and wellbeing of our people. Her nurturing spirit was evident in all that she did, from offering supportive words to ensuring the facility was smudged each morning. She ensured there was always a good and caring intention set for the day ahead.

Jennifer's passion for community health went far beyond her role; it was reflected in the way she treated everyone with respect, patience, and heart. Her legacy will continue to be felt in the relationships she built and the welcoming environment she helped create.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Jennifer for her many years of service and commitment. We wish her a joyful and fulfilling retirement, and hope she enjoys this next chapter filled with the many things she loves to do, time with family and friends, and well-deserved rest.

Niawenhkó:wa, Jennifer, for your many years of dedicated service to the community. Best wishes on the next chapter, and we wish you many fun adventures!

REBECCA BOYER, NP, NOW ACCEPTING PATIENTS IN THE AKWESASNE MEDICAL CLINIC AND TSI SNAIHNE MEDICAL CLINIC



The Department of Health's Clinical Care Services (CCS) is informing the community that Rebecca Boyer, NP, is now accepting patients at the Akwesasne Medical Clinic (AMC) and the

Tsi Snaihne Medical Clinic (TMC).

Potential clients of Rebecca Boyer must have a valid RAMQ card, and their pharmacy must be located in Quebec.

To schedule an appointment with Rebecca Boyer, NP, please contact the Akwesasne Medical Clinic at 613-575-2341 ext. 3215.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CLINICAL CARE SERVICES WELCOMES NEW NURSE PRACTITIONER, ISABELLE HUBERT



The MCA Department of Health's Clinical Care Services (CCS) would like to extend a warm welcome to its new Nurse Practitioner, Isabelle Hubert. Isabelle will be seeing clients in the Akwesasne Medical Clinic (AMC) and the Tsi Snaihne Medical Clinic on Fridays providing elder care clinics and offer assistance with end-of-life care. She will

be providing same-day and booked appointments, and will begin seeing clients in February 2026. Appointments will be booked through the Akwesasne Medical Clinic.

Isabelle has been a Nurse Practitioner for over 15 years, having graduated from McGill University in Primary Care Nurse Practitioner. She has worked exclusively for the past 10 years in geriatrics (health and care of the elderly), which she feels

working with elders is a passion and a privilege.

She has a wide range of medical setting experience, including Suroit Hospital, long-term care facilities, home care and palliative care. She has also been a consultant for the McGill Nurse Practitioner Admission Program and supervised NP students in the geriatric setting.

Isabelle is also certified in the following areas: Canadian Association of MAID Assessors and Providers (CAMAP) and LEAP-Core, which is an inter professional facilitated learning program which focuses on the essential competencies to provide a palliative care approach.

Her work and experience have led to nominations for the Individual Inspiration Award by CISSSMO in 2024 and for the AIPSQ (Quebec Nurse Practitioner Association) Distinction Award in 2025.

Please join us in giving Isabelle a warm welcome to the Clinical Care Sector Primary Care Team!

STAY WELL THIS SEASON: RESPIRATORY ILLNESS AWARENESS

Respiratory viruses such as COVID-19, influenza (flu), and RSV tend to circulate most heavily between November and April. These illnesses can lead to serious health complications and even hospitalizations — especially for young children, older adults, and those who are immunocompromised.

These viruses affect the lungs and throat, and they spread easily through coughs, sneezes, or close contact with an infected person.

Symptoms of COVID-19, flu, and RSV can be very similar, it may be difficult to tell them apart. Common symptoms may include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Runny nose or nasal congestion
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle aches or joint pain
- Stomach issues (vomiting or diarrhea)

Symptoms can range from mild to severe. If you're feeling unwell, stay home and consider reaching out to your healthcare provider if necessary.

To protect yourself and others this respiratory illness season, use multiple layers of protection. Staying up to date with recommended vaccinations, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette are some of the most effective ways to keep you and your community safe and healthy.

Please contact MCA Community Health Services at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220 for any questions or information.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SECTOR PROVIDES OVERDOSE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The Department of Health's Mental Health & Wellness (MHW) Sector is providing the community with overdose information and resources, due to a dramatic increase in opioid poisonings in the community.

In an effort to avoid further incidences of poisonings, Mental Health & Wellness Addictions Services is providing the following information:

Signs and Symptoms of Overdose

- Difficulty walking, talking, or staying awake
- Blue, purple or grey lips or nails
- Very small pupils
- Cold and clammy skin
- Dizziness and confusion
- Extreme drowsiness
- Choking, gurgling, or snoring sounds
- Slow, weak, or no breathing
- Unresponsive (unable to wake up, even when shaken or shouted at)

What to do if Someone is Overdosing

- Shake them, shout their name, and rub their sternum with your knuckles

- Call Central Dispatch at 613-575-2000 or 9-1-1
- Give naloxone if available
- Perform rescue breathing or chest compressions
- Stay with them and do not leave until emergency paramedics have arrived

Where Can I Obtain Narcan Kits?

- Mental Health & Wellness Addictions Services
- The Sahatihahará:ne Detox Center

Safety Precautions for Opioid Users

- Do not use alone
- Carry Naloxone and keep it on hand when using
- Start with a small amount to test potency and go slowly
- Avoid mixing of substances, such as alcohol or prescription drugs; combining substances increases the risk of overdose
- Plan ahead and ensure you have all the necessary supplies and a clean, safe, well-lit space

For more information, please contact the Mental Health & Wellness Addictions Services office at 613-575-2341 ext. 3115.

PARENTS OF ADDICTED LOVED ONES

Support Group

A support group for the parents, grandparents, & spouses of anyone with a substance use disorder. Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) provides hope through education & support. Must be 18 or older to attend.

Join us for free weekly meetings!

When: Every Wednesday
Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Location: Akwesasne Homemakers (Snye)

CONTACT ADDICTION SERVICES: 613-575-2341 EXT. 3115

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

AFWP FAMILY LONGHOUSE BASKET GIVEAWAY FOR MIDWINTER CEREMONIES

As the community prepared for the Midwinter Ceremonies, the Akwesasne Family Wellness Program (AFWP) was honored to provide longhouse baskets to families.

Recipients were selected through a random draw to ensure equal opportunity for all applicants. Each Longhouse Basket included a variety of items sup-

porting families as they prepare to participate in the ceremonies.

We sincerely appreciate the overwhelming interest and applications from the community, and we congratulate all of the selected families.

Nia:wen to all of the vendors and artists who contributed to this initiative!



LITTLE NATIVE HOCKEY LEAGUE (LNHL) TOURNAMENT SUPPORT

The MCA Department of Community & Social Services (DCSS) will be providing financial assistance to help with some of the costs for children from Akwesasne attending the Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) tournament in Markham over March Break 2026.

As rosters are still being finalized, the exact number of participants is not yet confirmed. DCSS is working with the Akwesasne Minor Hockey Association (AMHA) to finalize arrangements and will share details as soon as they are available.

For children who will not be attending the LNHL tournament, Akwesasne Child & Family Services (ACFS) is developing a calendar of community-based events and activities during March Break, which will be shared once finalized.

DCSS PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR LITTLE NHL 2026

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES ISSUES CALLOUT FOR
SPECIAL NEEDS PARENT COMMITTEE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne’s Special Needs Program is seeking seven (7) community representatives to sit on the Special Needs Parent Committee for the Special Needs Program for a 3 year Term; two (2) members from the District of Kana:takon, two (2) members from the District of Kawehno:ke, two (2) members from the District of Tsi Snaihne, and one (1) Elder (any district).

Purpose
The purpose of the Special Needs Parent Advisory Committee Members is to:

Provide parent and caregiver perspectives to strengthen the planning and delivery of the Special Needs Program;

Ensure services and supports reflect the needs, priorities, and cultural values of the Akwesasne community;

Promote safe, inclusive, and culturally appropriate supports for individuals with special needs and their families.

- Eligibility of Committee Members**
- Be a registered member of Akwesasne or immediately eligible to be registered as a member under the Akwesasne Membership code (does not include probationary members)
 - Have knowledge of Mohawk cultures and traditions

- Have good character, credibility and reputation in the Akwesasne community
- Not be convicted of an indictable offense in Canada or a Felony in the United States within 5 years prior to their appointment
- Reside in the District for which they were appointed, unless otherwise approved by the Board
- Have a strong understanding in Special Needs, along with safety and care
- Willingness to participate in workshops, training sessions, webinars, etc.
- Willingness to participate in quarterly board meetings.
- Must be a Special Needs Parent(s) and/or Caregiver.

Interested applicants must submit an application form, along with a letter of interest outlining how they meet the criteria, and a current resume, to the Special Needs Program located at the Kanonhkwa’tsheri:io Health Facility. Applications can also be emailed to the Special Needs Program at specialneeds@akwesasne.ca

DEADLINE: March 6, 2026 @ 4:00 p.m.

Applications can be found on the MCA website: www.akwesasne.ca.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

Akwesasne Family Wellness Program: 613-937-4322

DCSS Administration: 613-575-2341 ext. 3305

Community Support Program: 613-575-2341 ext. 3262

Akwesasne Child and Family Services: 613-575-2341 ext. 3139

NEW YEAR, NEW RECYCLABLES

As of January 1, 2026, MCA’s curbside recycling collection is accepting even more items! Make your recycling count by including:

- Frozen juice & ice cream containers
 - Black plastic food containers
 - Empty toothpaste tubes
- Empty roll-on deodorant bottles
 - Coffee cups

Just make sure all containers are empty and free of leftover residue before tossing them in your recycling bin. Check out the list of eligible items below!

| PAPER | WHAT TO KNOW |
|---|--|
| Cardboard Boxes Pizza boxes, direct mail boxes, moving boxes, shoe boxes. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flatten. No larger than 60 x 60 cm. |
| Boxboard Cereal boxes, tissue boxes, egg cartons, rolls from toilet paper and paper towel. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flatten. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empty. |
| Paper Any colour, including flour bags, prescription bags, paper produce bags. Notepads, white or coloured loose paper, file folders, other printed materials. Community newspapers, flyers, brochures and magazines. Greeting cards and envelopes, gift boxes. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flatten. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Place shredded paper in a tied clear plastic bag. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate from plastic bags used to cover items, remove elastic bands <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remove rope handle from bags. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not include soft or hard covered books/novels. |
| Paper Laminate Packaging Pet food bags, food service paper bags, and plates. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empty and free from food residue. |

| CARTONS | WHAT TO KNOW |
|---|---|
| Paper Laminate Containers Spiral cans, cookie dough package, ice cream containers, and hot and cold beverage cups. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empty and free from residue. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remove lids. |
| Cartons Beverage cartons, juice and milk cartons, coffee creamers, and sugar cartons, soup and sauce cartons. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empty and free from food residue. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lids on. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not include alcoholic beverage containers. |

| PLASTIC | WHAT TO KNOW |
|---|---|
| Plastic Containers Laundry detergent and household cleaner jugs, shampoo, body wash, salad dressing, condiment, dish soap, mouth wash bottles, plastic beverage bottles. Food trays, salad, yogurt, peanut butter, bakery and egg containers, plastic cups, plastic tubs and lids. Toothpaste tubes, deodorant, hand cream tubes. Small item packaging, hand sanitizer bottles, plant pots. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empty and free from food residue. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lids on. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not include alcoholic beverage containers. |
| Flexible Plastic Packagine Bags used for dry cleaning, bread, newspapers and flyers. Overwrap (paper towel & toilet paper, beverage containers). Coffee bags or deli pouches, chip bags, bubble wrap, snack wrappers, cereal liner bags, plastic gift bags. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empty and free from food residue. |

To view the full list, please visit the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne website at: www.akwesasne.ca/news/posts/2026-recyclable-items-update/

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

AMPS ENCOURAGES SAFE PRACTICES FOR ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) is reminding community members about the importance of safe and responsible All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) use. While ATVs are a popular way to enjoy the outdoors, unsafe operation can pose serious risks for riders, passengers, and the community.

Over the past weeks, AMPS has received complaints related to unsafe ATV operation, including excessive speed, noise, operating on private property, and riding in unsafe areas. These activities not only endanger riders but also compromise community safety and quality of life.

When actions put oneself or others at risk, enforcement measures will be taken.

ATV Safety Reminders for Akwesasne to remain compliant with the Community ATV By-law #1993-1994-01

- NO operation of an ATV between the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- Only a valid licensed driver with insurance may operate an ATV on a roadway.
- Youth riders should be supervised and only operate ATVs suited to their age and size.
- The driver MUST drive half the posted speed limit. Failure to do so will result in a speeding fine.

- All occupants MUST wear a helmet. Failure to do so will result in a fine of \$75.00 for "inadequate head protection".
- When operating on the roadway, the ATV MUST be registered and insured.
- Failing to stop for police may result in a criminal code charge.
- A registration form for the ATV must be completed and can be obtained from the Akwesasne Justice Department

Administration Office (45 Johnson Road, Kana:takon). License plates are also available at this location.

Restorative justice practices will be implemented, however repeat or dangerous violations, will result in fines or enforcement actions. Together, we can ensure ATV riding remains lawful, safe, and respectful in Akwesasne.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service remains committed to focusing its efforts on fostering positive relationships with our community members. We encourage community support and involvement to report any suspected criminal activities. Anyone with information that would assist in any type of investigation can call Central Dispatch at 613-575-2000.

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

- Non-Emergency Phone: **613-575-2250**
- Emergency Phone: **613-575-2000**
- Email: info.amps@akwesasne.ca

AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

FACTS FIRST: MISINFORMATION & COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS), in collaboration with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Department (SRMTPD), would like to remind the community of the importance of sharing verified information.

We understand that members of our community act out of concern for one another. At the same time, it is critical that speculation or unverified claims do not override facts. Sharing information that is not confirmed can create unnecessary fear, confusion, and disruption in the community.

To help maintain safety and trust, we ask that everyone:

- Rely on official statements from Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, or other verified sources.

- Avoid sharing or repeating unverified claims, especially on social media.

- Consider the impact of unverified information on individuals, families, and the broader community.

- Recognize the role each of us plays in ensuring the physical, emotional, and reputational well-being of those around us.

We appreciate the vigilance and care of the public. We are working diligently together to share accurate and timely information when possible. Your support in reporting accurate, fact-based information helps us keep the community safe and united. Together, we can ensure that our responses are guided by facts, not fear.

FIRE PROTECTION STRATEGY WORK UNDERWAY

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Emergency Measures Program is beginning work on the Fire Protection Strategy, a community safety initiative focused on reducing fire risks across the territory.

What Is the Fire Protection Strategy?

The MCA Fire Protection Strategy is a preventative safety project that involves identifying abandoned or vacant structures that may pose a fire risk. The goal is to reduce the potential spread of fire and improve overall community safety.

What Residents May Notice

As part of this work, officers from the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) may be in the community taking photographs of structures that appear abandoned or vacant.

Please be assured that this activity is for safety and planning purposes only, there is no cause for concern or alarm. The photographs are strictly being used to support fire prevention planning and future safety measures.

Working Together for Community Safety

Emergency Measures is partnering with AMPS to carry out this project in the community, with the shared goal of protecting homes, families, and Akwesasne as a whole.

We appreciate the community's understanding and cooperation as we work to strengthen fire prevention and emergency preparedness for everyone.

If you have questions or would like more information about the Fire Protection Strategy, please contact the MCA Emergency Measures Program at 613-575-5005.

YOUR CAREER STARTS HERE!



Click. Apply. Join MCA Today.

Explore opportunities and apply with ease using the **MCA Career Centre** through ADP.



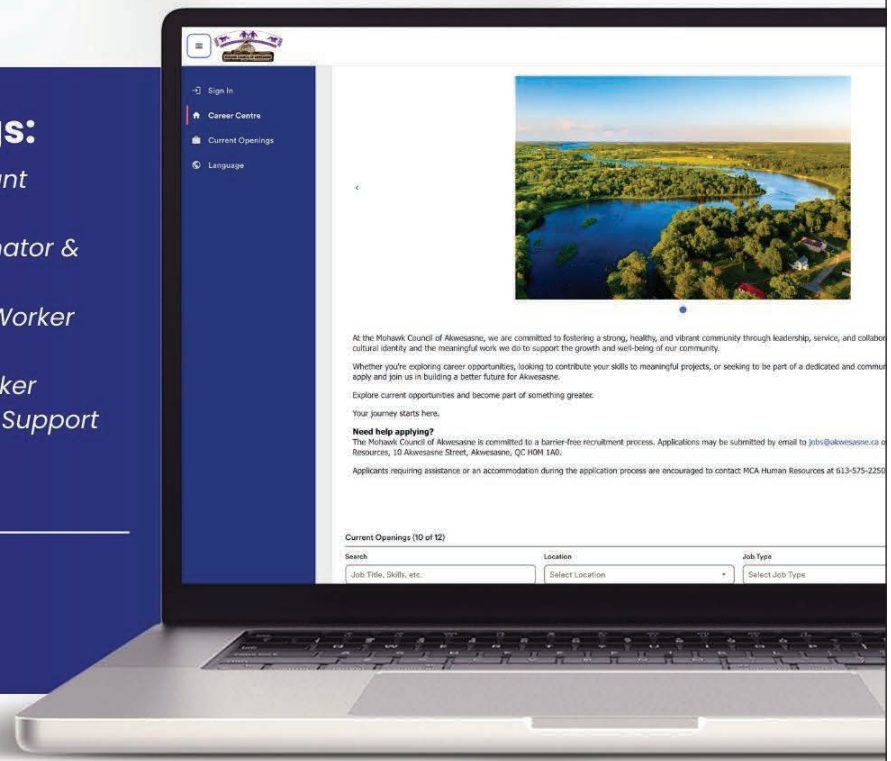
Scan QR code to visit the website!

Current Postings:

- Administrative Assistant
- Case Aide
- Client Service Coordinator & Supervisor
- Community Support Worker
- Dietary Aide
- Indigenous Court Worker
- Mohawk Government Support Manager
- PSW Supervisor

Need help applying?

✉ jobs@akwesasne.ca
☎ 613-575-2250



MCA MOBILE ALERTS

Always stay in the loop with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne by registering to receive mobile/text alerts!

Learn more and register for free mobile/text alerts from MCA by visiting

www.akwesasne.ca/textalerts

