

# ONKWE'TA:KE

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 Issue 7

FREE ISSUE

Ohiarikhó:wa/July 2020

## IN THIS ISSUE:

ZOOM MEETING FOR BUILDING DEMOLITION

AKWESASNE COURT UPDATE

MOHAWK GOVERNMENT OFFICE PANDEMIC PROTOCOLS

ACFS HOLDS TRADITIONAL THEMED CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

CHANGES TO MCA DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES



*Nia:wen for keeping Akwesasne Clean*



During the month of May and June, the Akwesasne Green Team hosted an Akwesasne Community Cleanup. There were over 35 entries from Akwesasronon that cleaned up yards and ditches within the community. Nia:wen to Akwesasne Child & Family Services, Northern Landscapes for donating prizes, and to the community members that did their part to keep Akwesasne clean!

## UPCOMING MCA MEETINGS & SPECIAL DATES:

### District and General Meetings

Please be advised that all District and General Meetings for the month of July are cancelled.



# MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE 2018-2021

## **Grand Chief**

Abram Benedict

## **Kana:takon District**

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

## **Kawehno:ke District**

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

## **Tsi Snaihne District**

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

## **Administration**

Heather Phillips  
Executive Director

Daryl Seymour  
A/Director,  
Department of Infrastructure &  
Housing

Joyce King  
Director,  
Akwasasne Justice Department

Heather Phillips  
A/Director,  
Department of  
Community and Social Services

Keith Leclair  
Director,  
Department of Health

Donna Lahache  
Director,  
Ahkwesahsne 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@akwesasne.ca](mailto:communications@akwesasne.ca).

## FIVE THINGS

OUR MONTHLY LIST OF FACTS, REMINDERS &  
IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- 1 The Mohawk Council of Akwasasne has amended the community curfew to 11 p.m.-5 a.m. At this time, it is the only change made to the Akwasasne Emergency Curfew Law. To read more go to page 6.
- 2 Proactive measurements have been put in place for community businesses to ensure the safety of all staff and customers. Safety measures put in place ensure physical distancing, implement hygiene/disinfection procedures and other measures. Read more on page 7.
- 3 For up-to-date information from the Mohawk Council of Akwasasne, please visit the MCA website [akwesasne.ca](http://akwesasne.ca) or visit our social media sites, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for daily posts.
- 4 Tssionkwanonhso:te and Iakhihsohtha have resumed community visits by appointment only. There are guidelines implemented to ensure the safety of our residents. Please read more on page 19 to find out how to have a safe yet enjoyable visit.
- 5 The Department of Technical Services is now known as the Department of Infrastructure and Housing. With these changes, the former DTS is combining with the Department of Housing and Environment Program. To read more about these changes, go to page 26.

# NEWS

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING SCHEDULED ON ZOOM FOR DEMOLITION OF OLD ADMIN 2 BUILDING

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Infrastructure and Housing (DIH) along with Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) will be hosting a public consultation Zoom meeting to inform and engage the community on the upcoming demolition of the former Administration 2 building at 92 Third Street, Kana:takon (St. Regis).

The building was the former location of Mohawk Government and offices of the chiefs. It was vacated in 2014 due to poor air quality and building conditions.

On behalf of Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), PWGSC is procuring the service required for abatement and demolition.

The scope of services includes:

- Complete demolition and disposal of the Admin 2 Building, including foundations.
- Removal and lawful disposal of hazardous materials and designated substances identified in the Designated Substances Survey.
- Related locating, identification, disconnection and seal or cap off of utilities serving the building being demolished.
- Site restoration including uniformly site grading of demolished

construction to a smooth surface, rough grading of below grade areas and ensuring smooth transitioning between existing grading and proposed grade.

The tendering process is currently being finalized with the abatement and demolition of the building expected to take place this summer and fall of 2020.

The community is invited to attend a video or audio Zoom meeting to receive information about the overall demolition and present any questions live to staff from MCA and PWGSC.

The Public Consultation Zoom Meeting for the Demolition of Admin 2 will take place on July 9, 2020 from 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Participants will need to preregister in order to receive the meeting invitation. Please submit your request for the Zoom meeting invitation to:

[communications@akwesasne.ca](mailto:communications@akwesasne.ca)

Please note: You will need to download the Zoom application and we strongly advise testing your audio or video equipment prior to the meeting's start time.

Please submit any questions related to the demolition to [daryl.seymour@akwesasne.ca](mailto:daryl.seymour@akwesasne.ca), Acting Director of the Department of Infrastructure and Housing. Or, add your questions to our Facebook posts.

The meeting will be saved and shared after it has concluded for those unable to attend/participate.



*The former Administration 2 building will be soon be demolished.*



# NEWS

## AKWESASNE CONTINUES PRECAUTIONS DURING TIME OF MOURNING

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) express our deepest condolences to all community members affected by the loss of a loved one. The ongoing global pandemic makes it difficult to be able to express our heartfelt sympathies and console our fellow community members as we normally would.

The MCA and the SRMT is reminding our community that physical distancing and the gathering of large groups are restrictions that continue to apply, even in times of grieving. The recommended precautions are safeguards to limit your individual risk and exposure and ultimately the community at large against the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Funeral homes that service the Akwesasne community are governed by their respective licensing authorities and those authorities have instructed the funeral homes to follow strict guidelines to protect the families they serve and the staff of the funeral homes. We have informed local funeral homes that wake services in homes and elsewhere within the community are not allowed at this time. We respectfully request that the community of Akwesasne continue to support and adhere to the guidelines and restrictions in place.

“The funeral homes have an understanding of our community’s customs and are doing their very best to accommodate our community members wishes during the pan-

demic however, large gatherings have made evident the need for additional protective measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Akwesasne. We ask that everyone continue to follow all prescribed guidelines to help keep the grieving family members and each other safe during their time of mourning,” shared the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council.

The rapidly changing global pandemic has altered all of our lives and forced us to make unprecedented changes. We encourage our community to utilize the options offered by local funeral homes for live-stream viewing and providing online messages of condolences, as a way to express condolences to the grieving family.

## STAY UPDATED ON ALL THINGS AKWESASNE



# NEWS

## MOHAWK GOVERNMENT OFFICE — PANDEMIC PROTOCOLS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Mohawk Government office would like to inform the community of their COVID-19 protocols that are in place for the health and safety of Akwesasronon.

In this unprecedented time, we are here to help you. Council and Mohawk Government staff have implemented a combination of working from home and in-office availability in an effort to maintain services for community members.

Below is everything you need to know about your visit to Mohawk Government:

### CALL — WE ARE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU

- To ensure both the health & safety of you and our staff, please call ahead of time to allow us to assist you over the phone while we practice social distancing.
- Please contact Mohawk Government at 613-575-2348 or 613-575-2250 and your call will be directed.

### PREP — OUR MAIN PRIORITY IS SAFETY

- Please wear a face mask upon your arrival. Hand sanitizer is available for your use. Please sanitize your hands prior to entering the building.
- Self-health check: monitor your health at home prior

to leaving your home to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- If your request can be completed over the phone, we are more than happy to help.

### SEND — SEND US AN EMAIL OR STOP BY TO DELIVER DOCUMENTS

- In order to maintain social distancing protocols and ensure a safe working environment for our staff, please send us your documents via email. If you're unable to send electronically, materials can also be dropped off in the envelopes and/or box provided at our office (labeled DROP-OFF).
- To avoid contamination, please use the envelope moistener that is provided to seal your documents safely inside.
- If you are picking up a document, please see the bin labeled PICK-UP.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Nia:wen for your patience and understanding. Stay safe, stay healthy, stay home.



Council and Mohawk Government staff have implemented a combination of working from home and in-office availability in an effort to maintain services for community members.

*Below is everything you need to know about your visit to Mohawk Government:*



### CALL

Please call ahead of time to allow us to assist you over the phone while we practice social distancing.

Contact Mohawk Government at 613-575-2348 or 613-575-2250 and your call will be directed.



### PREP

Please wear a face mask and utilize the hand sanitizer we have provided at our office entrance.

Monitor your health prior to leaving your home to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We encourage community members to complete requests over the phone if possible.



### SEND

Community members are encouraged to send any documents via email. Materials can also be dropped off in the envelopes and/or box provided at our office (labeled DROP-OFF). If you are picking up a document, please see the bin labeled PICK-UP.

*Please use the envelope moistener that is provided to seal your documents safely inside.*

613-575-2348 • mohawkgovernment@akwesasne.ca • 613-575-2250

# NEWS

## MCA AMENDS COMMUNITY CURFEW TO 11 P.M. – 5 A.M.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne would like to announce that the community curfew has been amended to decrease the hours to 11 p.m. – 5 a.m. throughout its jurisdiction.

On April 13, 2020, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne passed MCR 2020/21 – #003 to enact the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law. The Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law was enacted as a health and safety measure in our fight against the spread of COVID-19 and serves to provide clear directives to our community members on the following emergency measures which are in place:

1. All residents of Akwesasne shall remain at their place of residence between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Only essential service workers will be exempted from this restriction.
2. Activities at all other times are limited to essential activities.
3. When engaged in essential activities in public, best efforts must be made to maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from any other individual.
4. Social gatherings are to be avoided.
5. Residents who are returning to Akwesasne from any location outside the 50-mile radius, who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms, must self-isolate for at least 14 days.
6. Residents who are returning to Akwesasne from

any location outside the 50-mile radius, who have no COVID-19 symptoms, must self-quarantine for at least 14 days and monitor for symptoms.

7. For monitoring and tracking purposes, residents returning to Akwesasne from outside the 50-mile radius must inform the MCA Department of Health of their circumstances, as to whether they are isolating or quarantining.

Please note that the only revision to the Akwesasne Emergency Curfew Law is the amended time. Council has determined that with regions in reopening stages we need to continue to err on the side of caution to ensure our community remains safe. Montreal and Ottawa continue to see an increase in positive cases of COVID-19.

We will continue to monitor the situation and reassess our measures when possible.

We strongly urge Akwesasne residents to take precautions to avoid the spread of the virus within our community. While we receive direction and guidance from health authorities such as the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, Akwesasne has maintained restrictions above and beyond those recommendations for the health and safety of our community, especially our most vulnerable.

Nia:wen for your cooperation in keeping Akwesasne safe.

# COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATES



Subscribe to our e-newsletter to receive updates, announcements and resources twice a week from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

Visit [akwesasne.ca/signup](http://akwesasne.ca/signup).

SUBSCRIBE



# NEWS

## PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY BUSINESSES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is thankful to community businesses that continue to operate to provide goods and services to community members. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses and community members must be willing to alter their “normal” behavior to best protect employees and customers.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is informing all business owners that they must take the following protective measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure the health and safety of all.

### 1. Ensure Physical Distancing:

- Use colorful tape to mark 6-foot spacing on the floor. Advise customers that they are required to maintain this distance throughout the business and especially at the checkout.
- Stagger the number of people entering the premises at the same time, in order to respect physical distancing requirements.

### 2. Implement Hygiene/Disinfection Procedures:

- Provide a plexiglass divider at the check-out and any other area that requires an employee to be close to a customer.
- Provide hand sanitizer or hand

washing stations for employees’ use.

- Disinfect high traffic areas such as door handles, phones, switches, etc., often.

### 3. Implement Other Measures:

- Provide signage at the entrance and throughout the business to remind customers of the importance of physical distancing.
- Have loose items at takeout con-

cessions, such as stir sticks, straws, and napkins, only dispensed by food handlers.

We are asking that businesses and community members comply with these requirements to ensure the ongoing health and safety of our community members, especially our most vulnerable. Your understanding and cooperation are appreciated, especially at this time.

## We continue to serve.

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne’s Office of Vital Statistics continues to offer laminate status cards. Please note the following changes:

- Laminated status cards can be issued by appointment only.
- We request that all efforts be made to be on time for your appointment. If you are late we may have to reschedule.
- NO WALK-INS WILL BE ACCEPTED.
- We are practicing social distancing measures due to Covid-19. Status cards are being issued by way of curbside pickup only. Please park by the Home Care/Home Support entrance, stay in your vehicle and staff will assist you.
- When possible, we request that applicants obtain a status card application and submit a photo beforehand by way of email.
- If you would like to make an appointment, please contact the OVS office at (613) 575-2250 ext. 1013 or by email at [ovsclerk@akwesane.ca](mailto:ovsclerk@akwesane.ca).

### MCA Office of Vital Statistics

#### Office Hours:

Monday through Friday

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



# NEWS

## **CORNWALL ELECTRIC RATES INCREASE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020 (RELEASE FROM CORNWALL ELECTRIC—JUNE 17, 2020)**

Cornwall Electric rates will increase 2.95% July 1, 2020. This will equate to an increase of \$3.95 per month for a residential customer using 1000 kWh monthly.

Like all utilities in Ontario, the wholesale cost of electricity is passed through to customers. This cost represents near 80% of a customer's total bill. Jackie Baird, Regional Manager of Cornwall Electric says, "The long term contract in place with Hydro Quebec is a wholesale contract and it has and continues to allow Cornwall Electric rates to be one of the lowest in surrounding electrical utilities and will continue to provide rate stability of energy prices and reliable electricity well into the future for their customers."

The remaining 20% of the customer's bill represents the distribution charges. These charges pay for operating expenses, system maintenance and equipment replacements to the Cornwall Electric electrical system to deliver safe and reliable supply of power to customers.

Cornwall Electric promotes energy conservation. By conserving energy, customers can manage their monthly electricity costs and at the same time be a part of reducing the impact on the environment. One way to do this is to take advantage of the Affordability Fund Trust (AFT) Program. The program funded by the government of Ontario provides households with access to energy saving measures to help reduce their energy bills, free of charge. For more information on the AFT please visit [www.affordabilityfund.org](http://www.affordabilityfund.org). A typical electrical bill has its ups and downs as the seasons change. We encourage our customers to consider equal payment plan (EPP) if making the same payment over the full year for each bill is easier for a customer's budget.

"Over the last number of years, Cornwall Electric has

maintained fair and reasonable rates pursuant to the terms of its franchise and rate adjustments have been in line with inflation. During the pandemic, Cornwall Electric is committed to supporting its customers while at the same time addressing the need for the utility to remain financially healthy," Baird said. "And Cornwall Electric remains focused on making decisions in the best interest of the customers." She said, "Under the franchise, the Company is allowed to adjust rates for 2020-2021 (by a 4.62% increase). Since the current economic climate is not conducive to implementing the allowed increase at this time, Cornwall Electric is implementing a 2.95% rate increase effective July 1 and will collect the balance of the rate adjustment in 2021 as part of the rate adjustment for that year." Cornwall Electric recognizes its role in working through COVID-19 with its customers and has taken other steps in order to provide relief during this difficult time.

Cornwall Electric supplies electricity to approximately 24,800 customers in the City of Cornwall, South Glengarry, South Stormont and the Ontario portion of the Mohawk Territory of Akwesasne. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of FortisOntario headquartered in Fort Erie with operations in distribution and transmission serving approximately 66,000 customers in Fort Erie, Port Colborne, Cornwall, Gananoque and the Algoma District of Ontario. FortisOntario is 100% owned by Fortis Inc. of St. John's, Newfoundland. For more information on FortisOntario, please visit the corporate website at [www.fortisontario.com](http://www.fortisontario.com).





# NEWS

## GARBAGE CONTAINERS AT MCA FACILITIES NOT FOR PUBLIC USE

Please be reminded that the large garbage containers located at the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Facilities are not available for public use. These bins are meant to service the facilities only.

For community members that reside in the northern portion of Akwesasne, garbage pickup is available on the following days:

- Tsi Snaihne | Thursday
- Kawehno:ke | Friday
- Kana:takon | Saturday
- Recycling | Tuesdays for all Districts

This service is for districts residents only.

For those that reside in the southern portion of Akwesasne, garbage pickup is available through the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe's Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) program, better known as the "Blue Bag Program." Residents can pre-purchase 30-gallon bags and then place the bags out to the curb on Tuesdays for the SRMT weekly pickup by Tribal staff who gather the bags with their collection vehicle.

# REMINDER

The large garbage containers located at Mohawk Council of Akwesasne facilities are **not** available for public use — these bins service the facilities **only**.

**NIA:WEN FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING**



# NEWS

## ACCESSING STUDENT FINANCIAL BENEFITS AND SUPPORT DURING COVID-19

Indigenous post-secondary students have access to all of the comprehensive support for students and new grads affected by COVID-19.

### Support for students and recent graduates

#### Canada Emergency Student Benefit

- The Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) provides financial support to post-secondary students, and recent post-secondary and high school graduates who are unable to find work due to COVID-19 or are currently working, but making less than \$1,000 before taxes during the 4-week period applied for.
- It provides \$1,250 every four weeks for eligible students or \$2,000 every four weeks for eligible students with disabilities or those with children under 12 or other dependents.
- It is available from May 10 until August 29, 2020. Applications will be accepted until September 30, 2020.

*It is available to:*

- Students enrolled in post-secondary education program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate between December 1, 2019-August 31, 2020
- Students who completed or entered their post-secondary students in December 2019 or later.
- Students who graduated or are expected to graduate from secondary school in 2020.

Visit [canada.ca/coronavirus](https://canada.ca/coronavirus) for more information.

#### Post-Secondary Education for First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation students

- Canada is allocating \$75.2M to Post-Secondary Student Support Program for First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation students pursuing post-secondary education.

- To determine eligibility, contact the band office or the organization that administers the Post-Secondary Student Support Program.

#### Youth Employment and Skills Strategy Program

- Additional investments in this program will increase employment opportunities and supports for youth across the country impacted by the pandemic by:
  - funding employers and non-profit organizations to create additional youth employment
  - creating training opportunities
  - providing other relevant supports, such as mentorship opportunities, access to computers, access to mental health and emergency supports.
- The YESS program is available to youth aged 15-30.
- Visit the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy web page for updates.

**Within the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy, Indigenous Services Canada supports the First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (FNIYES) that includes two program streams specifically to provide First Nations and Inuit youth with opportunities to develop skills, gain employment and build careers.**

#### First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program

- This program supports First Nations and Inuit youth to gain work experience, develop important skills and earn income to support their post-secondary education.

#### First Nations and Inuit Skills Link Program

- The First Nations and Inuit Skills Link Program is another program aimed to help First Nations and Inuit youth acquire essential employability and job-related skills, learn about job and career options, and prepare for employment and career development.



# ENTEWATATHÁ:WI - "WE WILL GOVERN"

## ENTEWATATHÁ:WI UPDATE

Entewatathá:wi employees have been working from home for the past several weeks due to safety regulations regarding the Pandemic.

We are currently active on working on the Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement (ESGA). We have had Internal Legal Technical Review (ITLR) sessions each week as prep sessions for Legal Technical Review (LTR) with Canada.

The work of making grammatical corrections and formatting of the agreement bringing the two agreements titled "Governance and Relationship Agreement in Principle" and "Land and Estates Sectoral Agreement in Principle" into the "Entewatathá:wi Self Government Agreement".

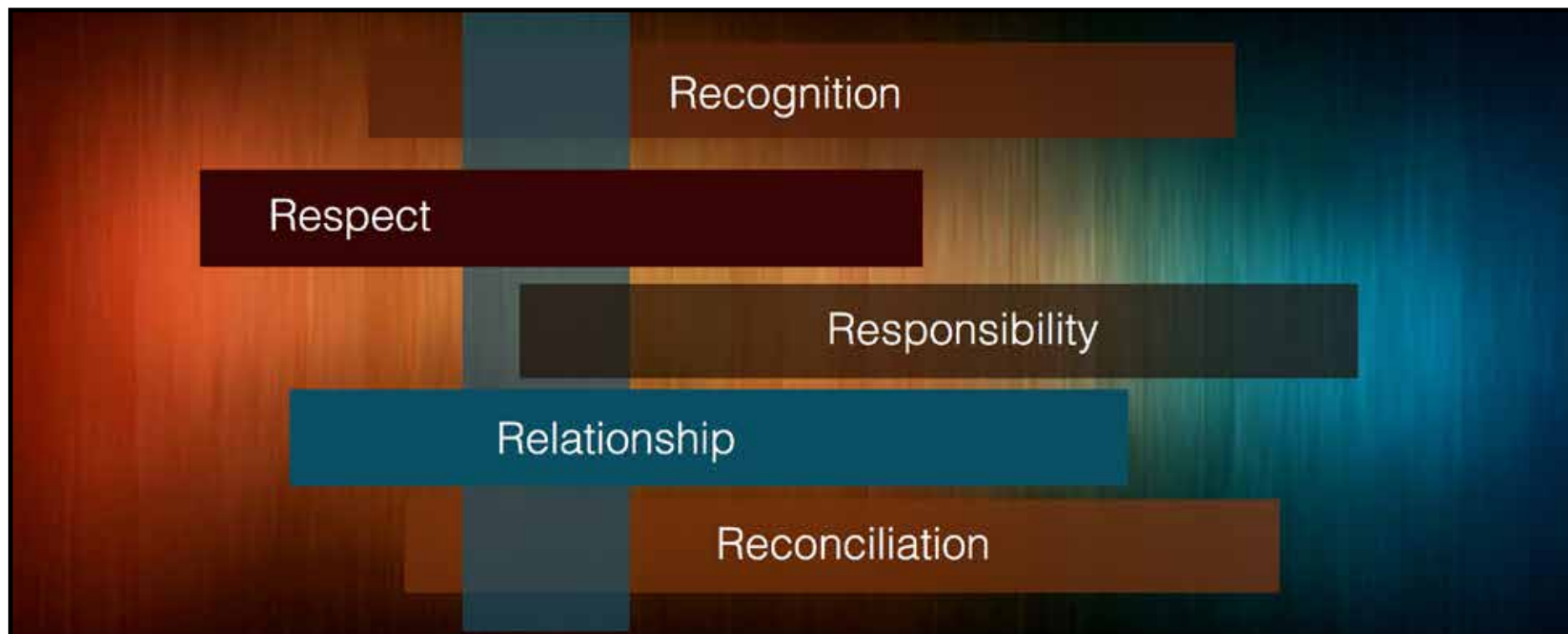
No decisions were made on substantive areas within the agreement which will require internal meetings with Portfolio Chiefs and Council as a whole. Briefing notes on substantive areas are being updated and will be for-

warded to Portfolio Chiefs for discussion and clarification of Akwesasne's position for political direction.

The Communication Strategy and Research on plain language documents for educating the community on ESGA is ongoing as Chapters in the ESGA receive review.

Currently, we are in the resumption of work phase at our office. This is a gradual return to our office moving towards full in office operations.

If you have any questions, please call 613-575-2341 extension 3194.



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES



**Portfolio:** Justice, Public Safety, Executive Services

**Month:** April & May 2020

**Committee:** Finance, Governance, Cannabis Working Task Group

As the coronavirus (COVID-19) began and continued to take hold of the world, Akwesne's response mechanism went into effect. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated which remains operational today. A huge niawenhko:wa goes out to each and every one of you that has played a role in the EOC: Council, Executive Director, Acting Emergency Management Officer, the staff and to our Department of Health. To all the staff that were and are deemed "essential personnel," I commend your commitment to the community of Akwesasne; the role you all played was enormous in keeping our community safe and healthy. I thank you and appreciate each and every one of you, we could not have done this without you.

All Meetings Listed are thru the "Zoom" technology.

### April 2020:

Throughout the month of April Council operated thru technology utilizing "Zoom" software for our meetings. Our meetings consisted of COVID Updates three times a week. Border Update Meetings were held weekly. I attended the Emergency Operations Center each Thursday from 9-6pm.

Unexpectedly, it was necessary for me to utilize Bereavement Leave during this month.

The focus was COVID-19 and remains as such.

### May 2020:

We continue our COVID-19 Update meetings, as well as, the Border Update meetings and my schedule at the EOC for May.

As the month progressed, Council started to participate in additional sessions:

- Special Council Meetings that were normally held every Monday resumed this month. Meetings were held on May 4th, 11th, and 25th. Resolutions passed included: Financial Agreements, Garden Initiative, Akwesasne Community Trust Settlement

Trust, CMHC Renewal of Agreement, Elders Council, Purchase Requisition Increase. No Presentations were made. Discussion was held on various topics: Doctors Contracts, Sunshine List, Lands, Bell Canada Service, RCMP/AMPS Protocol, COVID19 Update Schedule, Congratulatory Message, Masks, Roads, MOU/RCMP, Night Fishing.

- I participated in a Survey for the AFNQL with regards to COVID-19 and government services/relationship.
- Meeting with SRMT/MCA to provide updates to each on the COVID-19 processes and collaborative needs of the community.
- Meeting with AMPS/Police Commission Chair and Public Safety Portfolio to discuss RCMP presence in community.
- Cannabis WTG began meeting again this month (May 21st) and have coordinated weekly meetings, second meeting was held May 29th.
- The Governance Committee also began meeting this month (May 19th and May 27th). We are working on follow-up to existing projects.
- I participated in an interview with Carleton University as part of their Indigenous Policy & Administration Course. Questions revolved around my experience

*continued on page 13*



# COUNCIL AND MOHAWK GOVERNMENT

## TSI SNAIHNE DISTRICT CHIEF CONNIE LAZORE UPDATES

continued from page 12

as a former student to elected official.

- I had some discussions with community members with reference to their concerns and did follow up. Had discussion with the AFNQL Regional Chief on my participation on Chiefs Committee with the AFN, I advised the Regional chief that I am no longer allowed to participate. I generated several emails on items such as: Land/Membership, a request to Justice to set up portfolio meetings again, customs matter, confirm participation of the AFNQL Chiefs meeting to be held in June.

### Work in Progress:

1. Recreational Cannabis Working Task Group Meetings continue. Meetings were not held in February due to scheduling conflicts.

### Collaborative Opportunities:

1. Assembly of First Nations Quebec & Labrador (AFNQL)
2. Assembly of First Nations (AFN)
3. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)
4. Crown & Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs (CIRNA)
5. Department of Justice
6. Public Safety Canada
7. CBSA
8. Transport Canada
9. Canadian Coast Guard

### Financial Status/Lobbying Progress

1. Member of the Finance Committee
2. Member of the Benefits Committee
3. Member of the Governance Committee
4. Member of the Working Task Group on Cannabis
5. Member of AFNQL Ad Hoc Committee – Charter Review
6. Member of the MCA Leadership Committee re: CBSA

## ENSURING SERVICE & SOCIAL DISTANCING

MCA chiefs have been utilizing video-conferences to stay both safe and up-to-date!

Stay safe & socially distant.



# SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTION

## FACEBOOK STATS



### Facebook Posts with the Most Likes in June

1. Mohawk Council of Akwesasne: Congratulations to the Class of 2020 (Video)
2. AMPS Appreciation for Youth Who Responded During an Emergency (Photo)
3. Nia:wen for Keeping Akwesasne Clean (Photo)
4. Akwesasne Mohawk Police Seize 150lbs of Cannabis (Media Release)
5. Summer Students Roadside Cleanup (Photos)

### Facebook Posts with the Highest Reach in June

1. Police Launch Two New Boats to Assist in River Patrols and Safety Enforcement — 9,139 reached
2. The Point Closed Until Further Notice — 6,107 reached
3. Mohawk Council of Akwesasne: Congratulations to the Class of 2020 — 5,177 reached
4. Advisement of Unrestricted Use of Fireworks — 4,227 reached
5. Visits to Long-Term Care Facilities to Slowly Resume with Precautionary Measures — 3,527 reached

---

## TWITTER STATS

### Top Tweet in June



Mohawk Council of Akwesasne  
@MCAkwesasne

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe emphasize the importance of continued precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. See our joint notice at the link below:

[akwesasne.ca/akwesasne-cont...](https://akwesasne.ca/akwesasne-cont...)

---

## YOUTUBE STATS



### Highest Viewed Videos on the MCA Youtube Channel for June

1. Congratulations Class of 2020
2. Nursing Spotlight: Community Health Program and Contact Tracing
3. CKON Community Update with Grand Chief — June 16, 2020



# EXECUTIVE SERVICES

## COMPLIMENTS & APPRECIATIONS

Niawenhko:wa to all the essential workers for assisting and coming together to assist each other during this time.

Niawenhko:wa to the Community Health Program team members for providing an on-going quality service at the COVID-19 assessment and testing site throughout this pandemic. All your hard work is greatly appreciated.

The Community Health Program would like to thank the following programs for sharing their work spaces and to those employees that supported our efforts to offer community services:

- Housing

- Snye Childcare Centre
- Whoville House - Family Wellness Program
- Thanks to Charmaine Caldwell, Steve Jock and Nancy Lazore for helping us sort out the logistics of accessing the spaces.

Niawenhko:wa to Jennifer David, Shea Gibson and Tina Mitchell for ensuring workplace safety by screening all individuals that enter Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io, much appreciated!

Nia:wen to the maintenance staff at Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io for their continued support and hard work during the pandemic from the Akwesasne Non-Insured Health Benefits staff.



# Niawenhkó:wa Akwesasne Community Trust



From AMBE Mohawk Language & Culture Department & students  
For making our Culture & language Summer of 2019 camp  
and Totas in the classrooms possible.



Onchiota

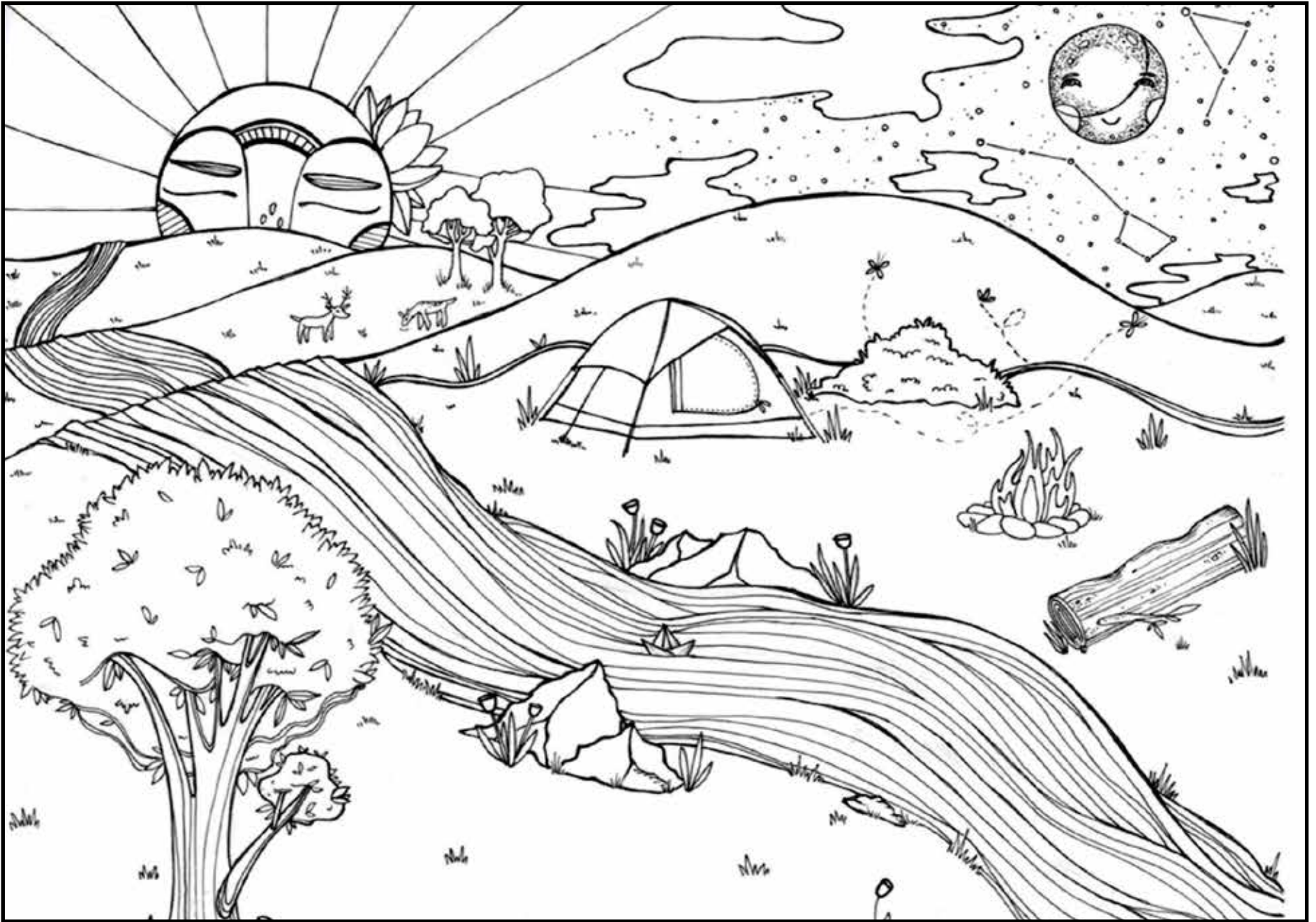


Strawberry Drink



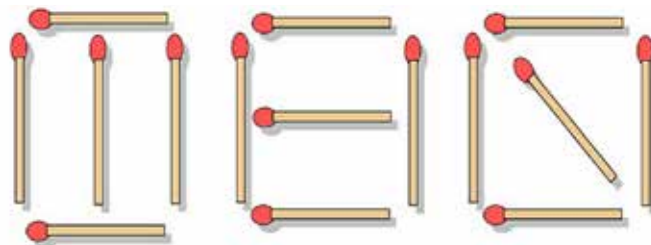
# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## COLOUR ME!



## RIDDLE ME THIS

Remove six matches to make 10 (answer on page 17).



# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## 31 DAYS OF FAMILY FUN CALENDAR

Check out these fun activities that you can do for the month to keep busy and to have fun.

 Baking	Gardening	STORY TIME	 Board games	Craft day	Pizza night	PILLOW FORT
Movie Marathon	LEARN SIGN LANGUAGE	FILM FOR A DAY 	DANCE PARTY	Yoga/Pilates	 PICNIC	Make cards or write letters
FASHION SHOW	Write a story 	TIE DYE	Learn to sew	Build Models	FAMILY VIDEO GAMES	Old photo albums
 SCRAP BOOK	Life sized drawings	KARAOKE 	Look for Four Leaf Clovers	MAKE A CRITTER HOUSE	ONLINE TUTORIAL	 Play In the Rain
SCAVENGER HUNT	Paint Rocks	QUIET TIME				

### YOU GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

What dinosaur loves to sleep?

A stega-snore-us!

Where do hamburgers go to dance?

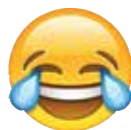
They go to the meat-ball!

How does the ocean say hello?

It waves!

When has the moon had enough to eat?

When its full!



### SIMPLY A-AMAZE-ING!

Find the way out of the sand bucket.



### RIDDLE ME THIS ANSWER

TEN



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## HOME CARE/HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM UPDATE (JUNE 4, 2020)

The Home Care/Home Support Program is an essential service within the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health. Home Care/Home Support is a nursing program that provides in-home nursing services that are ordered by a primary care provider and provides for clients who require continued care when released from the hospital. Personal Support Workers provide support services for personal care as recommended by their primary care provider.

We have scaled our services back due to the COVID – 19 pandemic. Knowing this, we are looking at starting our services back up for our clients. In preparation for resuming services our staff and program will be taking precautions.

These include the following:

- Staff are required to document their temperature daily, and answer screening questions to confirm they are not exhibiting any symptoms related to COVID-19.
- Staff will be calling clients with screening questions prior to visiting.

The Home Care /Home Support Program follows the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care COVID-19: Home & Community Care Providers Directives. The directives are to ensure the safety of the community members as well as staff while limiting the risk of exposure to COVID-19. The Home Care Nurses/Home Support Personal Support Workers, Home Maintenance, and Social Worker are required to wear full personal protective equipment when they meet with clients. The personal protective equipment worn by the Home Care/Home support staff includes gown, gloves, surgical masks and face shield. All clients will be contacted by phone prior to their appointment to review the health and safety protocols for the visit.

The Home Care/Home Support Program is working on a plan to gradually increase Personal Support Worker services beyond personal care and palliative care. In the event of a multi-family dwelling the client is placed in a private room away from other family members to obtain personal nursing care. The Home Care Nurses follow the physical distancing recommendations of remaining 6-feet apart when working with a client. Client isolation is required when newly released from a hospital, or return from an area outside of a 50-mile radius from Akwesasne, or if they are suspected to have come into contact with an individual exposed to COVID-19.

If you have questions for the Home Care/Home Support Program team please call 613-575-2341 ext. 1064.

### COVID-19 CASES RISING AMONGST YOUNG ADULTS ACROSS ONTARIO

Across Ontario, a new trend is occurring: while cases of COVID-19 overall are lowering, there is an increase of cases in young adults aged 18-34.

Please be mindful that although the weather is nice, individuals must maintain social distancing even when outside with others. It is recommended that you do not gather with more than 10 individuals and to maintain physical distance (2 metres or 6 feet away) from others. It is also recommended to wear a facial covering whenever possible, to protect yourself and others.

Whenever you are in groups, please consider the health of our community members, particularly the vulnerable and elderly. Although individuals can be asymptomatic, the virus can be passed on to others and could cause a spread within the community.

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## VISITS TO LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES TO SLOWLY RESUME WITH PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne's Department of Health is informing the community that visits to its long-term care homes – Tsiionkwanonhso:te and lakhihsohtha – will be resuming on June 18, 2020, with guidelines in place to protect the health of our residents from the spread of COVID-19.

The following are guidelines being implemented for the resumption of visits:

1. All visitors must undergo a screening process before visiting.
2. All visits must be booked by appointment.
3. Visits will take place in outdoor tents, and social distancing must be adhered to.
4. Visits will resume in phases per guidelines of the Ministry of Long-term Care. Phase 1 permits one visit per resident per week. Visits will gradually increase.

5. Families or power of attorneys must coordinate independently to determine who in the family will visit per week.

6. Visits in Phase 1 will be 40 minutes long. Please do not arrive more than 5 minutes early for your visit time, to prevent interaction with other visitors.

Additional protocols are being implemented to ensure a safe yet enjoyable visit. We wish to assure the community that restrictions are in place for the protection of your family members, our residents, who we all care deeply for. We look forward to your visit.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Tsiionkwanonhso:te Activity Director Teresa David: 613-932-1409 ext. 3.
- lakhihsohtha Activity Supervisor Sue Smoke: 613-575-2507 ext. 3.

## BLOOD WORK APPOINTMENTS AT THE KAWEHNO:KE MEDICAL CLINIC

Beginning on June 24, Katelyn Fedorak, NP and Janet Brant, NP will provide blood work for community members each Wednesday at the Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic. To book an appointment for blood work, please call 613-932-5808.

Please be advised that patients will be required to:

- Arrive at their designated time. Patients that arrive late may not be able to be accommodated.
- Call the KMC and notify them of their arrival. Patients are asked to remain in their vehicle until a staff member informs them and allows entry into the clinic.
- Be screened for COVID-19 upon entrance. A positive screening will result in a referral to Community Health for testing and blood work will not be able to be completed.

- Bring their lab slips.
- Wear a mask. If a patient does not have one, a mask will be provided.

These measures have been implemented to ensure the health & safety of staff and community members.

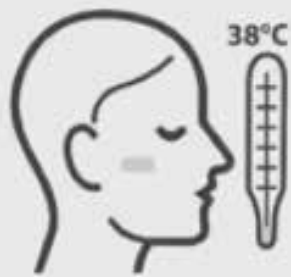


# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## HOW TO SELF-MONITOR

Follow the advice that you have received from your health care provider. If you have questions, or you start to feel worse, contact your health care provider, Telehealth (1-866-797-000) or your public health unit.

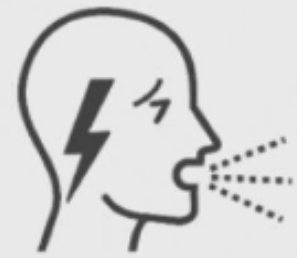
### Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure



**FEVER**



**COUGH**



**DIFFICULTY BREATHING**

### Avoid public spaces

Avoid crowded public spaces and places where you cannot easily separate yourself from others if you become ill.

### What to do if you develop these or any other symptoms

Self-isolate immediately and contact your public health unit and your health care provider.

To self isolate, you will need:

instructions on how to self isolate

supply of procedure/surgical masks (enough for 14 days)

soap, water and/or alcohol-based hand sanitizer to clean your hands

When you visit your health care provider, avoid using public transportation such as subways, taxis and shared rides. If unavoidable, wear a mask and sit in the back seat.



## ACFS HOLDS TRADITIONAL—THEMED CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

During the month of June, the Akwesasne Child & Family Services Program hosted a traditional—themed cardboard challenge. Over twenty submissions were submitted from Akwesasronon displaying their creations that ranged from kastowas and crowns, to moccasins and rattles to drums and jewelry. All those that submitted were entered to win some great prizes, all from local artists and vendors.

One of the organizers noted that with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, they wanted to give families some fun activities to participate in. In addition, many people are utilizing online purchasing and have a lot of extra cardboard around.

Nia:wen to all that participated in the family fun event that showed off your creative side!



*A family with their cardboard mocassins.*



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## ACFS HOLDS TRADITIONAL—THEMED CARDBOARD CHALLENGE



Here three youth show off their cardboard crowns and kastowa.



A family showing off their cardboard rattles.



Here a family creates a turtle out of cardboard.



A third-generation basket-masker displays her cardboard creation.



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## ACFS HOLDS TRADITIONAL—THEMED CARDBOARD CHALLENGE



*A cardboard crown and feather.*



*Cardboard cradleboard.*



*Proud of her cardboard fan!*



*A cardboard kastowa and rattle.*



*Sisters with their cardboard shawls.*



# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES

## WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

The Akwesasne Child & Family Services Program and the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Services hosted an event on World Elder Abuse. In an effort to raise awareness on elder abuse, participants were asked to wear purple and to post pictures with stickers from Tim Hortons on Kawehnoke or Three Feathers Cafe in Hoganansburg. All those that participated included

the hashtag #WEAADakwesasne when posting.

Each participant was entered into a draw to win some great prizes. Nia:wen to all that wore purple and helped to raise awareness on this important cause.

Below are images of some that participated in event.



# AKWESASNE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

## AKWESASNE COURT UPDATE — PANDEMIC CLOSURE & FINE PAYMENTS

Based on the guidelines established for prevention measures and to maintain the health and safety of our community and staff, it was determined that the Akwesasne Court would postpone all matters until September 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Anyone who has received a Uniform Traffic Ticket and the ticket indicates a "set fine," you may pay the fine any time before the September court date. There are several options available to you which practices physical distancing.

### Fine payments are accepted during this time through the following processes:

1. Over the phone, by credit card. Call the MCA Finance Department at 613-575-2250 ext. 2168.
2. Sending a check or money order to the Akwesasne Court, Attention: Akwesasne Court Clerk, CIA#3, Tewaesateni Road, Akwesasne, ON K6H 0G5 (Canadian Ad-

dress).

3. Sending a check or money order to the Akwesasne Court, Attention: Akwesasne Court Clerk, PO Box 489 Akwesasne, NY 13655 (American Address).

If your ticket has "NSF" written on the fine amount, you can call the Court Clerk at 613-575-2250 ext. 1026 or Duty Counsel. Duty Counsel would work with the Prosecutor to offer an Early Resolution on your infraction. In order to reach the Duty Counsel, you will still call the Court Clerk at 613-575-2250 ext. 1026.

When the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne allows the public back into the buildings, the Akwesasne Court will communicate where in-person payments can be made.

Niawenhko:wa for your patience during this unprecedented time.

## FINE PAYMENTS

Fine payments are accepted during this time through the following processes:



### PHONE

Over the phone, by credit card. Call the MCA Finance Department at 613-575-2250 ext. 2168.



### CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

Please send check or money orders to the Akwesasne Court, Attention: Akwesasne Court Clerk, CIA #3 Tewaesateni Road Akwesasne, ON k6H 0G5



### CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

Sending a check or money order to the Akwesasne Court, Attention: Akwesasne Court Clerk PO BOX 489 Akwesasne, NY 13655

613-575-2250 ext. 1026

### CONTACT US!

Akwesasne Justice Department  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2400

Akwesasne Mohawk Court  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1026

Conservation / Animal Control  
and Compliance  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2415



# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## CHANGES TO MCA DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

As of April 1, 2020, the department is now known as the 'Department of Infrastructure and Housing'. Through MCR 2019/2020#249, Council approved the MCA Organizational Chart and the Workplace Health and Community Focused Action Plan. With that, there are a number of department changes made which include both Housing and Environment programs aligning under the umbrella of this department. The physical location changes have the Housing programs relocating from Kaná:takon to the CIA#3 Building on Kawehnó:ke. All services provided by each of the program areas will remain the same. Contact information for Housing is being established and will be made available through the MCA general directory of services on the Akwesasne.ca website. We welcome these changes, and we welcome

the good people working for all of these programs to the CIA#3 site, and we look forward to providing the best services to our community Members.

### **The Department of Infrastructure and housing provides the following update for on-going projects** **Substantially Completed & Completed Projects**

- DCSS Outreach Program Building, Whoville (Snye): 95% completed. Additional work added to project
- The AMPS Boathouse: multi- project stages 85% completed. Additional work added to project
- Kaná:takon Health Facility Renovations: Completed – Certificate of Completion
- Tsi Snáihne Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrades Substantial Completion, grounds work & minor deficiencies remain to be corrected
- Iakhihsóhtha Fire Alarm Upgrades: Completed – Certificate of Completion done
- DCSS Family Wellness Centre Project: 95% completed. Additional work added to project
- 2019 / 2020 Enhanced Asset Condition Reporting System ACRS Report Program Completed

### **Projects Pending Due to Funding Need 2019/2020:** **Park Street & Hilltop Drive Reconstruction Project:**

The work plan includes sanitary sewer replacement, installation of proposed storm sewer, & complete road reconstruction. MCR 2020/2021#014 approved DIH to apply for funding through Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) Capital Projects. The Project Approval Request form has been submitted, and results could be known by July 2020.

### **Current Projects Updates 2019/2020**

#### **Tsi Snaihne School:**

The Department of Infrastructure and Housing applied to the 'Mohawks of Akwesasne Community Settlement Trust' and was approved funding to explore project de-

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING MOVES TO KAWEHNO:KE

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is informing community members that the Department of Housing has changed locations from Administrative Building #4 in Kana:takon to CIA Building #3 on Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island).

If you need to immediately speak with someone in the Department of Housing, please contact:

- Charmaine Caldwell, Associate Director at 613-551-4241 or [charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca](mailto:charmaine.caldwell@akwesasne.ca)
- Ben Benedict, Tenant Maintenance Manager at 613-551-5608 or [ben.benedict@akwesasne.ca](mailto:ben.benedict@akwesasne.ca)
- Gina Jones-Thompson, Housing Services Manager at [gina.thompson@akwesasne.ca](mailto:gina.thompson@akwesasne.ca)

Nia:wen for your patience and we apologize for any inconvenience during this transition.



# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## CHANGES TO MCA DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

velopment for a new Snye School. A request for proposal (RFP)/ tender call for consultant services is being completed by DTS. The goal of the RFP is for the consultant to develop a feasibility study to build a new Snye School that is both modernized and sustainable to current climate action standards while maintaining community cultural values and need. The information feasibility report, is an investment, that will assist in finding detailed design and construction funding. The



*Electrical Room SCADA Panel Controllers*

Department of Infrastructure and Housing thanks the MACST ('Trust') for making this work possible.

**Water and Waste Water Treatment Upgrades: SCADA** Consultants 'Jp2g' are overseeing the engineering support to upgrade / replace MCA's 'Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition' (SCADA) system for two of MCA's facilities: The Kawehno:ke Water Treatment Plant and the Kana:takon Sewage Treatment Plant. 'Capital Controls' was selected as Contractor for the work through MCA Tender Process. The SCADA is 50% completed as of June 2, 2020.

**Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) replacement at the St. Regis Water Treatment Plant:**

EVB Engineering Consultants are overseeing the work to replace and commission two GAC Media at the St. Regis Village Wastewater Treatment Plant. The suppli-

er Tender was awarded to 'Napier Reid'. The GAC filter number one has been running, and the second filter is almost complete. The systems are being monitored for any variance.

**Vertical Turbine Pump Repair:**

Through the MCA Tender process, 'International Water Supply Ltd.' was awarded a contract to do the inspection and repair of the Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island) Water Treatment Plant Vertical Turbine Pumps. The turbines have recently been delivered, and the MCA Water and Roads Sectors are working collaboratively with International Water Supply to lift the vertical turbines into place.

**Snye School Window Replacement Project: on-going**

A phased work arrangement is on-going with Cornwall Glass. Material manufacturers were shut down due to COVID-19 Directives. Once they re-open the materials required to complete the project can occur.

**Snye School HVAC/Boiler Systems Control Replacement Design:**

'Jp2g Consultants Inc.' are at 60% completion of Design for the Project. The target dates for completion are delayed due to restrictions placed for the COVID-19 directives. A new time line for the project will be re-established when full operations are restored.

**Wade Lafrance Memorial Road Reconstruction Project:** The 'St. Lawrence Testing and Inspection Co. Ltd.' Provided a Geotechnical Subsurface Investigation Report in July of 2019. The MCA Environmental Assessment Report was completed in December of 2019. The Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS) results have been filed with Canada in December 2019 and Revisions in March 2020. Through MCA Tender Process, the Consultant Design Services was awarded to 'Jp2g Consultants' in April, 2020. The MCA Department of

# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## CHANGES TO MCA DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

Infrastructure & Housing has submitted a Minor Capital funding application for Design Services, and will continue to apply for funding to support the construction of this project. The existing condition of the road has worsened, despite several intermittent repairs, and the road degradation has gone beyond general repair services. The road is in need of a full reconstruction.

The process to secure funding takes time, and is now further delayed due to recent COVID -19 restrictions. The MCA and Department of Infrastructure will work with Jp2g about options of providing temporary solutions that will harmonize with the final design drawings to make best use of existing funds while meeting the community need for a functioning road. A phase 1 design approach has been initiated with focus on providing a high-level design option for the rehabilitation of approx. 600m of road repair to the worst section of the roadway limits as a temporary measure. Proposed work includes pulverizing and compacting the existing asphalt material and raising the surface approx. 150mm. Detail design at 60%. Project will be tendered.

### **Tsiionkwanóhso:te Fire Alarm Upgrades, Magnetic Door Lock Systems, and Roof Replacement: on-going**

The mandate is to repair and replace identified Life Safety deficiencies. Detailed Design must be done. Funding for this project is not yet identified.

### **Hamilton Island Bridge Repair:**

The load posting for the bridge in its current condition after structural repairs was increased to 15 tonnes for one year. It is recommended by Keystone Consultants for full bridge replacement. DTS will continue supporting Council's lobby for funding. Request for Proposals is being completed by DTS in search for design consultants.

### **New Projects**

MCA Administration Building II, Kana:takon: The building located at Third Street in Kaná:takon, also known as the "three-storey" building is planned to be demolished this summer (2020). The Council have approved access to territory by way of MCR 2020/2021#017 to allow Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Health Canada, Public Works Government Services Canada (PWGSC), Cleland Jardine Consultants and WSP for the abatement procedure and demolition of the Admin 2 building. Required health and safety protocol measures will be strictly followed for abatement procedures for the protection of the community and surrounding areas.

The Canada group is working collaboratively with the MCA Department of Infrastructure & Housing (DIH—Formerly DTS) The Abatement Tender package is near completed for phase 1. MCA Communication has been contacted and a notice will be issued to the community within two weeks providing details on the project overview. There will be a question and answer session through media sources where the community can connect to obtain further information and submit questions in advance. The format of the public inquiry will



*Nathan Seymour is the new Geographic Information Services Technician.*

# DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING

## CHANGES TO MCA DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

be laid out in the notices.

### DIH Personnel

#### Introductions:

The Department of Infrastructure & Housing is pleased to introduce the new Geographic Information Services (GIS) Technician. His name is Nathan (Nate) Seymour, and he started with the department on June 15th and is located at the DIH Administration office at CIA#3.

Nate's responsibilities include maintaining and expanding geographical information within Akwesasne using specialized software and technology. He has extensive computer programming, digital art creation skills and experience building personal computers. He is originally from Cornwall Island but currently lives in Cornwall.

Nate is a graduate from Massena Central High School and attended Clarkson University, Digital Arts & Sciences program. In his spare time, he enjoys watching hockey, playing video games, and traveling to live music festivals.

You can contact Nate via email at: [nathan.seymour@akwesasne.ca](mailto:nathan.seymour@akwesasne.ca) or by telephone at extension 1001.

#### Retirement:

The Department Staff of Infrastructure and Housing congratulate Francis "Bucky" Lafrance on the time of his retirement starting the end of June 2020. Bucky started working with the department in September of 2009 in the building maintenance sector at the A'nowarako:wa Arena, and then later moved to maintenance sector at the Iakhihsótha Home for the Elderly.

Over the years, Bucky has provided us with a wealth of knowledge and support. We wish him well in his plans for the future, and we appreciate everything he has done for the Staff of Iakhihsótha and the Elders of our community.

The Department Staff gifted Bucky a beautiful medalion that represents Bear clan.



### CONTACT US!

Administration  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1003

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

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

Water / Wastewater Infrastructure  
Emergency (613) 575-2000

After Hours Pager (518)404-3352  
Office Hours Mon – Fri. 8AM-4PM (613) 933-4924  
Solid Waste Management (Garbage and Recycling)  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1022

Housing  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 2300

Environment  
(613) 575-2250 ext. 1038



# ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

## “PUTTING THE ‘WE’ BACK IN ‘WETLANDS’”: AKWESASNE WETLANDS PROJECT

Akwesasne is a unique community with a complex history and biocultural connection. The great St. Lawrence River and its tributaries, along with our wetlands and forests, provide vital ecosystem services that are essential to the continuity and integrity of our culture and traditions. The various ecosystems, habitats and wildlife species found on our territory continue to support these necessary resources.

Unfortunately, as part of our past and current history, there have been many changes to the landscape due to human activities, which have introduced numerous negative impacts on our environment and community. Despite decades of effort and research, there are enormous data deficiencies and knowledge gaps about our environment.

This is especially true for our wetlands, as we know very little about their biodiversity, health, expanse, and many other factors.

Wetland ecosystems are among the most productive on Earth as they have high nutrient levels and other resources that support a large variety of plants and animals. Wetlands provide numerous beneficial ecological services, including natural filtering and improving water quality, providing wildlife habitats, storage of excess water during floods and maintaining surface water during dry periods. For humans, these services provide us with better water quality, protection from floods, shoreline erosion control, food, medicines and recreation. Despite their importance, wetlands are one of our most vulnerable



*In 2020, biosurveys continue being completed.*

# ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

## “PUTTING THE ‘WE’ BACK IN ‘WETLANDS’”: AKWESASNE WETLANDS PROJECT

ecosystems because of the common misconception that they are wastelands.

To address the need for more scientific research, the MCA - Environment program began the Akwesasne Wetlands Project (funded/sponsored by Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement) in September 2019. By building this foundation, we can develop proper long-term monitoring and management of our wetlands. In addition, we are working toward integrating our traditional knowledge and educating our community about the importance of wetlands and the environment as a whole.

Since the beginning of the project, we have accomplished many tasks. Field work included an autumn biosurvey to identify the plants and animals in our wetlands, as well as an aerial survey via drone to map the wetland area and determine vegetation types and patterns. We reached out to our community through our annual World Wetlands Day event on February 2nd, and through youth education with a school presentation on wetlands at CCVS. The project

has also allowed us to collaborate and strengthen our connections with our partner organizations, such as SRMT Environment, St. Lawrence River Institute, South Nation Conservation Authority, Raisin Region Conservation Authority and Parks Canada (Thousand Islands National Park).

Moving forward in 2020, we are continuing our research with more biosurveys and aerial mapping surveys throughout the summer and autumn. We will begin our field season at the end of June with an aerial survey to map the summer vegetation types and patterns, as well as fish surveys to identify species. A more extensive summer biosurvey to identify plant and animal species will be done in late July to early August. In addition, we will be engaging the youth and community through our outreach and education efforts, including an upcoming “virtual” bioblitz event where people will be able to do their own species surveys at home. This event will provide an opportunity to learn more about scientific research, species identification and nature journaling.



*Field Technician Jacey Hall looks out into the Akwesasne Wetlands.*



# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## POLICE LAUNCH TWO NEW BOATS TO ASSIST IN RIVER PATROLS AND SAFETY ENFORCEMENT

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service is launching two new Rigid-Hull Inflatable Boats (RHIBS) this summer to improve their capacity to keep the rivers safe and secure. Both boats received by AMPS have been officially launched.

Both boats will provide the police service with an improved mode of transportation to quickly navigate to areas on the river where they're needed.

Akwesasne has an abundance of water, which the community actively uses for fishing, recreation and leisure throughout the summer months.

The boats provide police with an increase in capacity to assist in keeping these waters safe and enjoyable, free from hazards and crime.



*The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service launched two Rigid-Hull Inflatable Board this summer to help keep rivers safe and secure.*

# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## 12 YEAR OLD STAYS CALM ON SCENE

On June 3, 2020, Akwesasne Central Dispatch received a call from a 12-year-old female who reported an incident that required police and ambulance to provide medical assistance to another person.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, Central Dispatch, and the Mohawk Council Ambulance Unit would like to thank this young person for calling police and remaining calm until first responders arrived on scene.



*A 12 year old called in an incident that required police and ambulance assistance and remained calm until first responders arrived.*

## ADVISEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED USE OF FIREWORKS

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service is advising the community that excessive lighting of fireworks has been creating undue stress on community members.

Fireworks create a severe noise disturbance that is alarming and frightening to elders, pets, children, and anyone with disabilities such as autism. They should be used sparingly. MCA has received numerous complaints, and we request that community members be mindful and considerate of their neighbours. Lighting of fireworks excessively or in the middle of the night is discouraged.

According to the Akwesasne By-Law Respecting the Sale of Fireworks Within the Mohawk Territory of Akwesasne:

- Fireworks must be handled in a safe and prudent manner.
- Children under the age of sixteen (16) must be accompanied by an adult of 21 years of age in order to be in possession of fireworks.

Any person in violation of the By-Law is subjected to fines as well as confiscation of any explosives. Fines/penalties increase with each offence and could escalate to both a fine and imprisonment of 30 days. Criminal charges may also result, dependent on the circumstances.

We wish to ensure peace for all community members. Please maintain respect for one another and practice reasonable, safe and responsible fireworks use.



# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## FATHER'S DAY BARBEQUE



On the Friday before Fathers Day, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service teamed up with the Akwesasne Child and Family Services Program to provide fathers and their families a delicious barbeque. Nia:wen to all that made this event possible.

## AKWESASNE CLEANUP



The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service participated in the Akwesasne Community Cleanup. Nia:wen to all that did their part to keep Akwesasne clean!

## ATV SAFETY TIPS

1. Always wear your helmet
2. Always wear protective gear
3. Never ride on roads
4. Never carry a passenger on a single rider ATV.
5. Ride an ATV thats right for your age
6. Respect other peoples property
7. Never use Drugs or Alcohol
8. Always obey the rules





# AKWESASNE MOHAWK POLICE SERVICE

## APRIL 2020 STATISTICS

### March Total: 345

1	023 Break & Enter - Premises	2	1040 Traffic Complaint
1	024 Break & Enter - Residence	1	1041 Mental Health Act
1	025 Break & Enter - Other	1	1046 Crisis Intervention
1	037 Theft Under \$5000 - Bicycles	5	1050 Youth Complaint
3	040 Theft Under \$5000 - Other	2	1052 Shooting Complaint
2	041 Possession Stolen Property	6	1056 Hazardous Conditions
1	068 Obstruct Peace Officer	16	106 Provincial Statutes - Other
7	072 Mischief (Prop. Damage) Under \$5000	8	1063 Marine Patrol
3	073 Criminal Code - Other	1	1064 ATV Patrol
1	083 Other Drugs - Possession	2	107 Municipal By-Laws
1	087 Cannabis - Possession	3	205 Assault - Level 1
3	088 Cannabis - Trafficking	2	206 Assault Weapon/CBH - Level 2
5	100 Immigration Act	1	207 Aggravated Assault - Level 3
4	1000 Abandoned Vehicles	1	208 Bodily Harm
14	1001 Alarms	2	6666 Assist Other Departments - Fire
5	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Ambulance	6	705 Dangerous Operation MV
6	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Cornwall PS	4	711 Impaired Operation MV
9	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Other	1	713 Fail/ Refuse Breath Sample
6	1003 Assist Other Agencies - Tribal PD	5	715 Fail to Stop/Remain (CCC)
43	1004 Assist Public	1	717 Fail to Stop / Remain (HTA)
1	1007 Breach of Probation	2	718 Careless Driving (HTA)
10	1008 By-Law - Dogs	1	719 Drive Disqualified/Licence Suspended
6	1009 By-Law - Noise	5	721 Traffic - Provincial Statutes
11	1011 By-Law - Other	1	722 Traffic - Municipal By-Laws
9	1012 Civil Disputes	1	725 PI MVC (Personal Injury)
21	1013 Community Services		
20	1014 Crime Prevention		
4	1016 Domestic Dispute (Non-violent)		
3	1018 Escorts - Prisoner		
1	1024 Phone Calls		
3	1027 Property - Found		
12	1029 Suspicious Persons		
20	1030 Suspicious Vehicles		
18	1031 Suspicious Circumstances		
1	1034 Trespassing (Prov. Statute)		
4	1036 Warrant - Bench/First		
3	1038 Missing Persons		

**Average of 11.12 occurrence reports generated per day by officers.**







# AKWESASNE FARMER'S MARKET



## BUY LOCALLY

**Redeem your Farmer's Market  
Coupons here!**

**July 9th - October 3rd**

**Thursday's: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Saturday's: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Generations Park, 30 Margaret Terrance Highway  
Akwesasne, NY 13655**

**Health Promotion &  
Planning Program  
Collaboration**