



## **Mohawk Council Communiqué**

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**Monday, 1 Enniska/February 2021**

### **Meeting held via Video Conference**

**In:** Ratitsénhaienhs Tonya Perron (Chairperson), Rhonda Kirby, Lindsay LeBorgne, Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer, Mike Delisle Jr., Clinton Phillips, Harry Rice, Frankie McComber, Cody Diabo & Gina Deer

**Out:** Ratsénhaienhs Ross Montour (Wellness)

**Also Present:** Kiera Beauvais (Recorder), Winona Polson-Lahache (Chief Political Advisor), and Joe Delaronde (Public Relations)

### **House Keeping and Upcoming Meetings**

- Cheque signers: Nitsénhaiehns Rhonda Kirby & Lindsay LeBorgne
- Wednesday: COVID-19 Task Force Update
- Friday: Iroquois Caucus meeting on COVID-19
- **Tonya Perron:** Wednesday: Consultation, Administrative Tribunal Regulations Technical Drafting Committee, and Cannabis Control Board (tentative) meetings; Thursday: Transport Canada, and Consultation meetings; Friday: Governance and Administrative Affairs Portfolios joint priority meeting
- **Clinton Phillips:** Wednesday: COVID-19 Task Force meeting; Thursday: Asbestos Working Group meetings; Friday: Kahnawà:ke/Canada Relations (KCR) internal strategy meeting
- **Cody Diabo:** Thursday: Asbestos Working Group meeting; Friday: KCR internal strategy meeting
- **Frankie McComber:** Wednesday: Quebec Forestry & Wildlife, and COVID-19 Task Force meeting
- **Gina Deer:** Wednesday: Quebec/Kahnawà:ke Relations weekly update meeting; Thursday: Tawatohni'saktha quarterly reporting meeting
- **Harry Rice:** Thursday: Asbestos Working Group meeting; Recreation meeting (tentative)
- **Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer:** Friday: Governance and Administrative Affairs Portfolios joint priority meeting; Language & Culture, and Land Code meetings (dates to be confirmed)
- **Lindsay LeBorgne:** Wednesday: Capital Unit budget meeting; Thursday: internal Mercier Bridge/Transport, and Collective Impact meetings; Friday: Governance and Administrative Affairs Portfolios joint priority meeting
- **Mike Delisle, Jr.:** Tuesday: Kahnawà:ke Gaming Commissions (KGC) meeting; Wednesday: KGC weekly, and Tawatohni'saktha quarterly reporting meeting; Friday: KCR internal strategy and Governance and Administrative Affairs Portfolios joint priority meetings
- **Rhonda Kirby:** Wednesday: Kahnawà:ke Shakotiiia'takéhnhas Community Services Board meeting; Thursday: internal Mercier Bridge/Transport meeting; Friday: Governance and Administrative Affairs Portfolios joint priority meeting

### **Formal Agenda Items**

#### **Mohawk Council Executive Directive: Amendment to Regional Impact Assessment – St. Lawrence River Funding Application**

*Presence of Brittany Diabo. Lead Portfolio Chief: Tonya Perron.* Request to modify the above Application for Funding and Contribution Agreement to reflect increased amounts from original application and agreement. Dwaine White authorized to sign and administer on behalf of MCK. **Passed by Consensus**

#### **Client/Attorney Privileged Item**

*Presence of Mary Lee Armstrong (Director, MCK Legal Services).* Client/Attorney Privileged

#### **Mohawk Council Executive Directive: Approval of MCK's Finance Unit & Administration Unit Mandates**

*Presence of Erica Delisle.* Request to rescind and replace the Mandate for the Finance Unit and to approve the Mandate for the Administration Unit. These changes were requested to improve efficiency of MCK internal operations. **Passed by Consensus**

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### **Discussion: Mental Health Discussion with Kahnawà:ke Shakotia'takéhnhas Community Services (KSCS)**

*Presence of Derek Montour, LoAnna Zacharie & Rebecca D'Amico (KSCS). Lead Portfolio Chief: Frankie McComber.* Discussion on increasing and ongoing challenges in addressing mental health and wellness issues during COVID-19 pandemic. Lengthy discussions on the current situation. Suggestions from KSCS include developing more collaboration between organizations/stakeholders to advance a Covid-19 Mental Health Response Plan.

### **Council of Chiefs Updates**

- Update provided on impact of last week's press release disputing Joseph Facal's opinion piece published in the Journal de Montreal
- Harry Rice update on First Nations Education Council meeting, including FNEC meeting with Quebec Minister responsible for Education (Ratsénhaienhs Rice left the meeting at this point for a medical appointment)
- Clinton Phillips updated on matters relating to Kahnawà:ke/Canada Relations (KCR), including letter to Minister of Indigenous Affairs Carolyn Bennett
- Cody Diabo provided an update on the Asbestos file, and the Recreation Bay project funding (with input from Clinton Phillips)
- Frankie McComber updated on the matter of Mental Health; and Iroquois Caucus Harvesting Working Group (regarding issues with the Algonquin Land Claim)
- Gina Deer updated on Mohawk Online revenues; Quebec/Kahnawà:ke Relations priorities; changes to Kahnawà:ke Economic Relief Measures Fund eligibility (with input from Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer and Mike Delisle, Jr.); Collective Impact; Telecommunications Committee meeting, and Economic Development presentation at McGill University
- Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer updated on Jay Treaty Border Alliance meetings, including potential changes being sought by Indigenous groups from the United States to the Jay Treaty on quantum requirements, border crossing issues due to the pandemic, and other matters; meeting on potential alternative Housing proposals/initiatives; Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwén project
- Lindsay LeBorgne updated on progress of Collective Impact; Telecommunications Committee meeting, and the Hydro-Québec Line 2 Dismantlement project
- Mike Delisle, Jr. updated on the Labor file; KCR/Seigneurie; and Governance/Administrative Affairs Portfolios joint priority meetings
- Rhonda Kirby updated on developments in Indian Day School Settlement file and work planning for the QKR Health file.
- Tonya Perron updated on recent meeting with Caisse Populaire Kahnawà:ke regarding need for clarity for power of attorney/curatorship matters; discussion on response to Dave Fallon regarding recent request to implement Kanien'kehá:ka history curriculum at Millis High School, MA; the ongoing work on the Administrative Tribunal regulations; MCK Disciplinary Measures; work on proposed transitional process of appointment of justices/judges; and the posting of Feedback Report on the Draft Regulations for the *Kahnawà:ke Cannabis Control Law* and next steps
- Discussion took place on staff morale and ideas to improve the situation. Also, an internal informal information-sharing meeting for the Ratitsénhaienhs will be scheduled for Friday mornings
- Meeting ended at **3:40pm**