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Onkwe'tà:ke lakotokénhstha PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Tekakwitha Island and Bay Restoration Project Update

(Kahnawake - 22, Ohiarí:ha/June 2020)

The Kahnawake Environment Protection Office (KEPO) would like to provide an update on the progress of the Tekakwitha Island and Bay Restoration project. Over the last two weeks, our contractor, Rice Mohawk Landscaping (RML), has been installing fencing to secure different work sites on the island and exclude wildlife. The removal of invasive plants on the Island has also begun with Wild Chervil, Phragmites, and Japanese Knotweed being excavated. Over the next two to three weeks, KEPO staff will be relocating snakes within two of the work zones destined to become new natural zones prior to the start of heavy excavation.

Meanwhile, RML will begin work on the new beach feature, located at the start of the island. In addition to the beach, two boat launches will be improved, and the parking area graded. The work at this location will be done in two phases to ensure that access to at least one boat ramp will be maintained throughout the work. The work in this area will last approximately one month.

Construction fencing will be installed around the work area for the safety of the community. KEPO appreciates the patience and cooperation of the community during this time.

More information on the project can be found at <u>www.kahnawakeenvironment.com</u> or <u>facebook.com/kahnawakeenvironment</u>. Questions or concerns can be directed to <u>bayproject@mck.ca</u> or **450-635-0600**.