



Kahnawà:ke Ratitsénhaiens

Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

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Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

Date announced to begin discussions on Kahnawà:ke law to counter Federal S-2

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 18, Ohiaríhkó:wa/July 2012) The Kahnawà:ke Legislative Coordinating Commission wishes to inform the community that Wednesday, September 25, 2013 has been set to begin discussions with the community to create a Kahnawà:ke law to counter the Federal *Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act (S-2)*.

The Federal S-2 legislation received Royal Assent on 19, Ohiarí:ha/June 2013 and the new regime will come into force one year from the date that will be established by an Order-in-Council to be passed by Canada.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke began distribution of information to the community in early July with a pamphlet illustrating some of the main concerns over S-2. This is to be followed by a more detailed document later this month. Surveys and in-person kiosks are planned for August.

“The community needs to be aware of the dangers of this legislation,” said Chief Clinton Phillips. “There are some fairly significant problems that will no doubt arise and that is why we need to take action now.”

Community members will have the opportunity to give their direct input on the Law and its development within the Community Decision Making Process.

The meeting will take place at the Karonhianónhna School gymnasium from 6pm – 8:30pm.

“We want people to come to the meeting with the information in hand so that we can move forward with the confidence to make the right decision,” said Chief Lloyd Phillips. “People can expect an intensive information campaign throughout the summer.”

The S-2 law would allow non-Native persons who are spouses/partners with a Native person certain rights on-reserve in the event of the marriage/partnership dissolving, as well as other effects on the community at large.

For information on the proposed Kahnawà:ke law please contact Project Leader Paul Nicholas at 450-632-7500.

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