



Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

PRESS RELEASE

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MTQ to conduct geotechnical studies under Mercier Bridge

For Immediate Release

(Kahnawake – 25, Ohiarikhó:wa/July 2019) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke would like to advise the community that it will be working with the Ministère des Transport du Québec (MTQ) on an upcoming study for the new Mercier Bridge Project.

On Tuesday, July 30th, crews will begin borehole drilling in the area of the Mercier Bridge on the North Shore (Lasalle) and work their way across the river to the North Wall of the St. Lawrence Seaway, as preliminary studies continue for the replacement of the Quebec portion of the southbound span of the Mercier bridge. Two teams will be working full-time to complete the work by late September.

The Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office (KEPO) had expressed concerns about potential environmental impacts of the drilling and insisted on a study to assess the fish habitat and sturgeon spawning ground adjacent to the bridge. The fieldwork for this study took place in the spring. KEPO's role in this project is to ensure that all aspects of our community's environmental concerns are protected throughout this project and KEPO will have a presence on the barge at all times to monitor the study/drilling.

Chief and Council would also like to reassure the community that it is working with all parties involved in this project to protect our land, rights, and interests.

If you would like more information, please contact Ietsénhaiensh Rhonda Kirby at **450-632-7500**.

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