



Kahnawà:ke Ratitsénhaiens

Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

P.O. Box 720 Kahnawà:ke Mohawk Territory JOL 1B0

Phone: (450) 632-7500 Fax: (450) 638-5958

Web Site: www.Kahnawake.com E-mail: communications@mck.ca

Enhsakotò:kénhte Nitiotié:ren Tsi Ietsenhaiéntákhwa

Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

No Referendum to be held on Residency issue

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 12, Seskéha/August 2015) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) wishes to advise the community that it has decided against continuing with plans to hold a referendum to gauge community support for the principle of non-Native residency contained within the *Kahnawà:ke Membership Law*.

The decision was formally announced at last night's Summer Community Meeting.

"We met as Chief & Council on this issue and came to the clear conclusion that a referendum wasn't necessary," said Membership Portfolio Chief Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer. "The most recent independent and MCK-sponsored surveys showed clear support for the law. Last year we completed eighteen (18) meetings using the Community Decision Making Process in which no one proposed weakening or liberalizing the law. And last fall's special meeting on Membership also indicated clear and strong support."

"Holding a referendum is an expensive process and we feel it is an unnecessary to use it to prove a point," she added. "The community is still firm in its position and the MCK will continue to support the law."

The MCK wishes to advise Kahnawà:kehrónon that the remainder of the earlier-announced plan to address the on-going issues remains in place.

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For further information, please contact:
Joe Delaronde, Political Press Attaché
Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke
450-632-7500, joe.delaronde@mck.ca