



Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

PRESS RELEASE

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MCK supports KGC decision to revoke key person license

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 8, Kenténha/October 2023) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) is informing the community of its full support for the Kahnawà:ke Gaming Commission (KGC) decision to revoke a Key Person license from a licensed gaming establishment, Magic Palace.

Kahnawà:ke has always maintained its jurisdiction over its territories, rights, and governing bodies. As the mandated authority over gaming within the Territory, the KGC received an investigative report prepared by a third-party agent in May 2023 after regular due diligence findings raised concerns about the suitability of a person holding a key person license within the establishment. This report prompted the KGC to undertake additional due diligence.

Upon receiving the summary of the investigation report, the KGC determined that while the license would be revoked, there were considerations outside of the scope of authority that need to be addressed before it can continue exercising further due diligence with the owners of the establishment (as operators).

“We recognize that there were allegations announced in the news that have created uncertainty for the safety and security of community members,” said Lead Ratsénhaienhs on the Regulatory Boards, Commissions and Labor Portfolio, Ryan Montour. “We, as a Council, are committed to ensuring safety remains a priority for our community while creating the space for our governing bodies, like the KGC, to continue operating and regulating within their authority.”

At this time, the MCK has contacted the owners of the gaming establishment, urging cooperation and compliance with further investigative and due diligence activities.

In 2018, the MCK gave the green light for an electronic gaming devices pilot project, later leading to an agreement to secure royalties for the community with the operator. Since there have been concerns brought forth by KGC’s investigation and by community members concerned with the safety and security of the community, the MCK is taking mitigating steps towards finding a solution that serves the best interests of the community, with safety and security as its highest priority.

The MCK is making it clear that all efforts will be made towards maintaining and protecting the integrity of our jurisdiction from any endangerment to its governing and regulatory bodies.

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