

STRENGTH

PEACE

UNITY

# Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

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OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS



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## MOHAWK COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE

DATE: 06 / 05 / 2021      MCED NO: # 42 / 2021 - 2022      No. of Pages: 3  
Month Day Year

**PROPOSED BY: Consensus Reached**

**SECONDED BY: Consensus Reached**

**WHEREAS** the Mohawk People (Kanien'kehá:ka Kahnawa'kehró:non), as part of the Mohawk Nation (Kanien'kehá:ka) and the Iroquois Confederacy (Rotinohsonnión:we) are, and have always been a sovereign people;

**WHEREAS** the Kanien'kehá:ka Kahnawa'kehró:non have consistently and historically declared their right to govern their own affairs;

**WHEREAS** the Kanien'kehá:ka Kahnawa'kehró:non have stated their intention to reinstate the structures, philosophies, concepts and principles of Mohawk Traditional Government as embodied by the Great Law of Peace (Kaianere'kó:wa);

**WHEREAS** the Kanien'kehá:ka Kahnawa'kehró:non abide by the principles of Skén:nen, Ka'nikonhri:io and Ka'shatsténhsera prescribed in and in accordance with the Kaianere'kó:wa;

**WHEREAS** these principles have governed, and continue to govern, the direction of the Mohawk Nation since time immemorial;

**WHEREAS** Elections were held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 in order to elect the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke in accordance with the *Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke Election Law*;

**WHEREAS** in accordance with the abovementioned Law, the Electoral Officer publicly announced the results of the Election;

**WHEREAS** the previous Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke's term of office concluded at the time the Electoral Officer publicly announced the results of the Election;

**WHEREAS** the present Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke's term of office commenced at the time the Electoral Officer publicly announced the results of the Election;

### **BE IT DIRECTED THAT:**

1. This document shall henceforth be known as the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke *Declaration of Oath of Office*.
2. We, as the present Council of Chiefs, do solemnly declare that we will at all times faithfully, conscientiously, honestly, loyally, industriously, and to the best of our knowledge, skill, ability, experience and talents, perform all of the duties and responsibilities required of the position, bearing in mind that our primary duty is to serve Kahnawa'kehró:non.

KSD	CKD	HSR	MDJ	RKM	LSL	TWP	JTL	RKM	BSG	AKB	AJAR












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3. We, as the present Council of Chiefs, collectively and individually agree to:
  - a) Contribute to the protection and advancement of Kanien'kehá:ka nationhood;
  - b) Protect the environment and territory of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke;
  - c) Revitalize Kanien'kéha and protect Kanien'kehá:ka culture and traditions;
  - d) Defend the principles of the Kahswéntha, the Two Row Wampum;
  - e) Assert and defend Kahnawà:ke's jurisdiction;
  - f) Strive for unifying Kahnawà:ke;
  - g) Foster economic self-sufficiency for Kahnawà:ke;
  - h) Foster social development and the well-being of all Kahnawa'kehró:non; and,
  - i) Ensure community development and the effective provision of community services.
  
4. We acknowledge, accept the applicability of, and agree to abide by all provisions of the policies and regulations governing our positions, including the *Terms of Reference for the Council of Chiefs*, the *Code of Conduct for the Council of Chiefs*, the *Regulations for the Operation of the Council of Chiefs*, the *Administrative Guidelines for the Council of Chiefs*.
  
5. We further agree to be answerable and accountable to Kahnawa'kehró:non, to every other Council Chief, and to the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke as an organization with respect to all matters for which we are responsible, and will serve them truthfully, honorably and to the best of our abilities.
  
6. We acknowledge that as members of the Council of Chiefs we may not agree on all issues and may publicly express our personal views. However, such public statements may not undermine other Council members or the position taken by consensus of the Council of Chiefs. Furthermore, while an issue is in the early stages of development and discussion or when the Council has not concluded its debate on the issue, or when the Council has not given approval to divulge the information, we will not make the matter public.
  
7. In no case will we divulge or use information that we have obtained in the course of executing our mandate for personal gain.
  
8. We agree that any and all items created or used by us or furnished by the Council of Chiefs and all documents or materials in any form are the exclusive property of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke. Upon expiration of our term of office we shall immediately return to the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, in good condition, all property that is in our possession or under our control.
  
9. We agree to immediately disclose all conflicts of interest and to remove ourselves promptly from any and all discussions regarding such interests. We also agree to refrain from taking any decisions or from voting in regard to the disclosed interest, whether it be personal, potential, direct or indirect conflict of interest. If disagreement arises with respect to whether a Council Chief is in a conflict of interest or not, we agree that the Chairperson of the meeting will call a vote (by secret ballot or show of hands at the Chairperson's discretion) in order to decide the matter. A quorum of Council Chiefs is required and if the majority decides that there is a fact a conflict of interest, then the Chief concerned will be disqualified from further consideration of the matter.
  
10. We agree to make ourselves available to testify as a witness in any legal proceedings initiated by or against the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke during or after our term of office.

KSD	CKD	HSR	MDJ	RKM	LSI	TWP	JTL	RKM	BSG	AKB	AJAR
											

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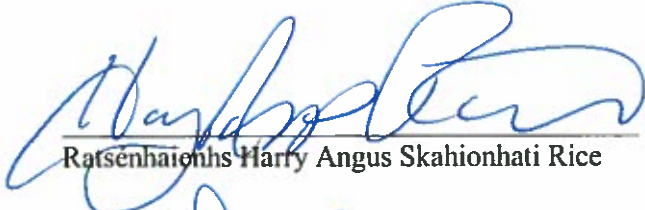
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11. We understand that if we undertake any liability on behalf of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke that we shall be indemnified and held harmless from and against all costs, charges, and expenses which we may sustain or incur in relations to any actions, suit, or legal proceedings which is brought, commenced or prosecuted against us the whole provided we were:
- i. Acting in good faith
  - ii. Acting within the scope of our authority
  - iii. Acting under the direction of Council and Committee
  - iv. Acting in the best interest of Council
  - v. Acting free of any conflict of interest
12. We further understand that for all personal legal matters we will be responsible for obtaining independent legal counsel unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke.
13. We agree that as an elected Council Chief and not a Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke employee, we will be subject to the actions and measures set forth in the *Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke Disciplinary Measures Regulations* [R.R.L. c. E-1 r.t] and the *Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke Complaints Policy*.

  
Ohén:ton Í:iente ne Ratitsénhaienhs Kahsennéhawe Sky-Deer

  
Ratsénhaienhs Harry Angus Skahionhati Rice

  
Ietsénhaienhs Tonya Wentanoron Perron

  
Ietsénhaienhs Jessica Tetotsistohkwáthe Lazare

  
Ratsénhaienhs Alan John Asenase Rice

  
Ratsénhaienhs Michael Ahrihrhon Delisle Jr.

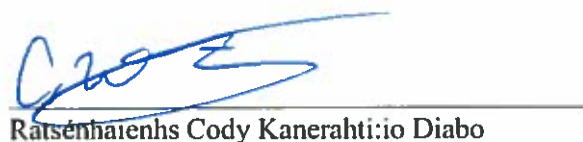
  
Ratsénhaienhs Barton Skaromati Goodleaf

  
Ratsénhaienhs Arnold Kenwenteson Boyer

  
Ratsénhaienhs Ryan Karoniarakwon Montour

  
Ratsénhaienhs Ross Kakwirakeron Montour

  
Ratsénhaienhs Lindsay Skaniatará:ti Leborgne

  
Ratsénhaienhs Cody Kanerahti:io Diabo