STRENGTH
PEACE
UNITY

## Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

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Tsi Ietsenhaientáhkhwa " OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS "



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23, Seskéha/August 2011

National Democratic Party of Canada 300 – 279 Laurier West Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J9

She:kon (Greetings)

On behalf of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, I wish to offer sincerest condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of NDP Leader Jack Layton. Mr. Layton was a truly unique individual, one whose manner touched people from across Canada, whether or not they shared his political ideals. The outpouring of sadness and grief we are witnessing is unprecedented.

First Nations people have lost a friend, one who clearly understood the need to address the social problems and injustices that affect many of our people. In an era of cutbacks, he remained a strong advocate for Native education. In his great moment of triumph at the conclusion of the most recent Federal Election, Mr. Layton made clear reference to the priority he had placed on Native issues. It was a great speech, one that brought a sense of hope for the future. Because the words came from him, there was never any doubt that he spoke the truth, straight from the heart.

His passing marks a huge loss for everyone who shares the country we call Canada. I am certain that his influence is such that others will be inspired to carry on the work that he had begun.

In Peace and Friendship,

ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS MOHAWK COUNCIL OF KAHNAWÁ:KE

Grand Chief Michael Ahrihron Delisle Jr.

Md/jd/08232011/JLayton

CC: Chief and Council

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