

STRENGTH

PEACE

UNITY

Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

P.O. Box 720
Kahnawake Mohawk Territory J0L 1B0



Tel.: (450)632-7500

Fax: (450)638-5958

Website: www.kahnawake.com

4 Seskehkó:wa/September 2014

Open Letter to non-Indigenous persons residing in the Mohawk Territory of Kahnawà:ke

Wa'tkwanonhwera:ton (Greetings),

As you are aware, the *Kahnawà:ke Membership Law* ("Law") has legal authority within the Mohawk Territory of Kahnawà:ke and was the result of a lengthy period of discussion and consultation within our community. The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke is a strong supporter of this Law, which is another link in the unbroken chain of our historic struggle to survive as Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke.

According to section 22.1 of the Law, those persons not listed on the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry as either a member or non-member resident and who reside within the Territory commit an offence. Chief & Council, as part of the Declaration of Office (agreed to through MCED No. 45/2012-2013), is responsible for the administration and management of the Territory through the promotion of, amongst others things, Mohawk laws and legislation. As such, Chief & Council supports and shall uphold the Law and its principles.

As such, all non-Indigenous persons residing in the Mohawk Territory of Kahnawà:ke who are not listed as non-member residents pursuant to the Law are hereby put on notice that they are violating the Law and disrespecting the customs and will of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke.

We invite all people to visit our community and encourage everyone to learn about our culture and traditions. However, that invitation does not extend to illegally residing within the Territory.

Sken:nen (In Peace and Friendship),

**ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS
MOHAWK COUNCIL OF KAHNAWÀ:KE**