

STRENGTH
PEACE
UNITY

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Tioweró:ton



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Tioweró:ton Strategic Planning Stakeholder Session & Focus Group Report

The purpose of the Strategic Planning Sessions was to create a Three Year Strategic Plan with a 20 year vision for the Tioweró:ton Territory and to ensure that the plan is aligned with the desired future direction of the Tioweró:ton Territory. It was also decided to revisit the existing Committee Structure. The Strategic Planning was inclusive of Kahnawá:ke and Kanehsatá:ke. This report does not reflect the feedback from Kanehsatá:ke's Community Consultation.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Tioweró:ton Committee participated in a Strategic Planning Process in order to identify existing issues and challenges and to develop strategies and options to assist in the effective administration of the Territory. The process was also used to identify the future aspirations for the Territory. Through this process the Committee revisited the vision and mission statements and developed the following:

Vision Statement

Tioweró:ton shall exist in a protected state for future generations, as embodied in the Kaianere'ko:wa and Ohen:ton Kariwatehkwa, which requires that we conduct ourselves in ways that respect, defend and preserve our land.

Mission Statement

We are mindful individuals with a common goal who recognizes the need to protect and preserve our gifts from the Creator for the faces yet to come.

Goal Statements were developed for each priority issue that was identified. They are as follows;

Governance

In order to preserve our gifts from the Creator, a governance structure will be developed that provides the authority to oversee the Tioweró:ton Territory. The goal is to define, attain and exercise the scope of authority and to develop the required partnerships to address issues with services outside of our mandate.

Forest Management

The goal is to obtain political support from Kanehsatá:ke and Kahnawá:ke to secure funding in order to develop and implement a forest management plan

Residential Area

To develop and begin to implement a sustainable residential plan that deals with the conduct of residents, future expansion and development areas, maintenance of roads and commonly used areas.

Sustainable Development

The goal for Tioweró:ton is to ensure that our natural resources benefit the Territory and provide sustainable development for the future generations.

Hunting, Fishing and Gathering

The goal is to protect the integrity of the hunting, fishing and gathering through education, management, monitoring and enforcement activities.

Keepers of the Land

To reinforce the fact that the land is held in common, we will carry out educational awareness to promote respect for the environment and our responsibilities as Keepers of the Land. “We do not inherit the land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.”

The Tioweró:ton Committee identified stakeholders and held focus groups with the following;

- Community Members
- Conservation
- Peace Keepers
- Caretakers

A Community Survey was also developed in order to give Community Members who were not available to attend the stakeholder sessions the opportunity to provide their input. The Survey was developed with the list of questions that were discussed in the focus groups.

PROPOSED GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Kahnawá:ke

- 1 Portfolio Chief
- 1 Appointed Representative
- 2 Community Members

Kanehsatá:ke

- 1 Portfolio Chief
- 1 Appointed Representative
- 2 Community Members

- All voting seats
- Meeting Quorum is 5.
- Rotating Chair

The Terms of Reference, mandate, roles and responsibilities will need to be developed and approved, should it be decided to move forward with the proposed structure.

CONSERVATION SESSION

A focus group session was held with Conservation Officers on February 21, 2011 in the Conservation Board Room with four (4) Conservation Officers in attendance.

Governance

The draft proposed governance structure was presented to the Conservation Officers for their feedback. It was noted that the Governance Structure was accepted by all in attendance. However, there was much concern in regards to accountability and participation. It was suggested that a terms of reference be developed to address these issues.

Territory Planning

The Conservation Officers were questioned on how they would like to see Tioweró:ton in the future. It was noted that they would like to see Tioweró:ton in a natural state with controlled development. It was suggested that an education component be developed in order to help protect the natural environment. There was concern in regards to cabin size and over clearing of cabin construction sites.

It was suggested that Laws be implement in order to address current non-compliances and that names of individuals who are in contravention of the Policy be publicized. It was suggested that a curfew be implement for generator use.

Commercial Ventures / Small Businesses

The Conservation Officers were questioned on what they thought about small business operation in the Territory. It was noted that there is not a problem with businesses in Tioweró:ton and that most would rather hire a native business. However, the business should not be based in Tioweró:ton. It was suggested that regulations be developed in order to control the types of business that are operating in the Territory.

The Conservation Officers were then questioned on what they thought of Commercial Ventures that would benefit the entire Territory. It was noted that all were in agreement to a commercial venture however, felt that environmental restrictions should be identified.

Enforcement

The Conservation Officers were questioned on what their thoughts were on developing a Tioweró:ton Law. It was noted that all were in agreement. It was noted that there is no Conservation Law in place at this time and it was suggested that all Kahnawá:ke Laws be implemented in Tioweró:ton.

The Conservation Officers were then questioned on how current non-compliances could be addressed. It was noted that a Law will need to be developed and it was suggested that names of offenders be publicized.

Hunting, Fishing and Gathering

The Conservation Officers were questioned how we can find balance in preserving our rights. It was noted that a Conservation Law will need to be implemented. Conservation currently does not have a law.

Miscellaneous

The Conservation Officers were questioned whether there were any other issues that they would like to discuss or that they felt needs to be addressed. It was suggested that a survey be circulated within the Community similar to the one that they conducted. The Tioweró:ton Committee has not been provided with the content so it is unclear as to what Conservation would like addressed.

COMMUNITY SESSION

A Public Service Announcement was aired on K103 in order to inform Community Members of the session date and to remind Community Members who were interested in participating and had submitted their names at the Annual Community Meeting held in 2010. A Community stakeholder session was held on February 22, 2011 in the Lands Unit Conference Room with eight (8) Community Members in attendance.

Governance

A draft proposed governance structure was presented to the Community for their feedback. It was noted that the Governance Structure was acceptable to most Community Members in attendance with the exception of one Community Member. There was a lot of discussion on the accountability of Kanehsatá:ke Committee members, as their participation in the past has been sporadic. It was also noted that Committee Member and Appointed Representatives should have a vested interest in the Territory in order to eligible to be a Committee Member.

Territory Planning

The Community was questioned on how they would like to see Tioweró:ton in the future. It was noted that they would like Tioweró:ton to remain in a natural state, with very little future development. There was much discussion on the promotion of renewable energy.

Regarding the protection of the natural environment, it was noted that regulations should be developed and implemented to address all the non-compliances and abuses of the Territory. It was suggested that the regulations include solutions to address the issues that disturb Community Members; such as curfews for generator.

Commercial Ventures / Small Businesses

The Community was questioned on what they thought about small businesses operating in the Territory. The Community did not have any concerns in regards to businesses operating in Tioweró:ton and felt that it was an asset to have businesses there, however, felt that the businesses should be contributing a portion of their profits to the Territory. It was also noted that the types of businesses operating should be controlled with regulations.

The community was then questioned on what they thought about commercial ventures that would benefit the entire Territory. All were in agreement that this would be acceptable. Suggestions of different types of business were provided, including, Selective Cutting, Maple Syrup and a Community Convenience Store.

Enforcement

The Community was questioned on what their thoughts were on developing a Tioweró:ton Law. It was noted that Community Members felt that there is a need for a Tioweró:ton Law. It was suggested that Conservation patrol in Tioweró:ton on a regular basis and implement a Conservation Law.

The Community was then questioned how current non-compliances should be addressed. It was noted that most Community Members felt that an educational awareness component should be developed and implemented.

Hunting, Fishing and Gathering

The Community was questioned how to find balance in preserving our rights while preserving the flora and fauna. There was a heavy emphasis on developing and implementing an education awareness component and that Conservation Officers be present to enforce conservation practices/laws.

Miscellaneous

The Community was questioned on whether there were any other issues that they would like to discuss or that they felt needs to be addressed. It was suggested that more Community Meeting be held similar to the Annual Community Meeting held in August. It was noted that they do not want the roads to be plowed in the winter and that Community Members would like access to radio frequencies used by the Caretakers.

CARETAKERS SESSION

A focus group session was held with the Caretaker on February 21, 2011 in Tioweró:ton. There were two (2) Caretakers in attendance.

Governance

The draft proposed governance structure was presented to the Caretakers for their feedback. It was noted that the Governance Structure was accepted by all in attendance. However, there was much concern in regards to accountability and participation of Kanehsatá:ke Committee members, as their participation in the past has been sporadic.. It was also noted the Community Representatives should frequent the Territory, listen to issues and bring the issues back to the Committee.

Territory Planning

The Caretakers were questioned on how they would like to see Tioweró:ton in the future. It was noted that they would like Tioweró:ton to remain in a natural state with very little development. Should expansion be necessary, it was suggested that Range 7 area and Eagle Lake be considered. It was also suggested that a promotion on renewable energy be developed. It was suggested that Laws be developed in order to address current non-compliances and that an educational component be developed and implemented.

Commercial Ventures / Small Businesses

The Caretakers were questioned on what they thought about small businesses operating in the Territory. It was noted that Laws should be developed to regulate types of businesses operating within the Territory.

The Caretakers were then questioned on what they thought about commercial ventures that would benefit the entire Territory. All were in agreement to a commercial venture that would benefit the entire Territory. It was noted that many Community Members would like to have a Convenience Store.

Enforcement

The Caretakers were questioned on what their thoughts were on developing a Tioweró:ton Law. All were in agreement that Laws are needed and it was noted that Peace Keeper authority needs to be defined.

The Caretakers were then questioned on how current non-compliances could be addressed. It was suggested that names of offenders be publicized and that an educational awareness component be developed and implemented.

Hunting, Fishing and Gathering

The Caretakers were questioned on how to find balance in preserving our rights while preserving the flora and fauna. There was a heavy emphasis on developing and

implementing an education component. It was also noted that Conservation should play an active role in addressing non-compliances.

Miscellaneous

The Caretakers were questioned on whether there were any other issues that they would like to discuss or that they felt needs to be addressed. It was suggested that more Community meeting be held similar to the Annual Community Meeting in August and that the roads not be plowed in the winter.

PEACE KEEPER SESSION

A focus group session was held with the Peace Keepers on March 30, 2011 at the Peace Keeper session.

Governance

The draft proposed governance structure was presented to the Peace Keepers for their feedback. It was noted that the Governance Structure was accepted by all in attendance. It was noted that representatives should have a vested interest in the Territory.

Territory Planning

The Peace Keepers were questioned on how they would like to see Tioweró:ton in the future. It was noted that they would like to see some Community Planning and designated areas. It was suggested that Laws be developed in order to address current non-compliances and that an educational component be developed and implemented.

Commercial Ventures / Small Businesses

The Peace Keepers were questioned on what they thought about small businesses operating in the Territory. It was noted that there is no problem with business operating in the Territory, however, they should not be based in the Territory..

The Peace Keepers were then questioned what they thought about commercial ventures that would benefit the entire Territory. All were in agreement to a commercial venture that would benefit the entire Territory.

Enforcement

The Peace Keepers were questioned on what their thoughts were on developing a Tioweró:ton Law. All were in agreement that Laws are needed and it was noted that Peace Keeper authority and jurisdiction needs to be established.

The Peace Keepers were then questioned how current non-compliances could be addressed. It was suggested that names of individuals be publicized and that an educational awareness component be developed and implemented.

Hunting, Fishing and Gathering

The Peace Keepers were questioned how to find balance in preserving our rights while preserving the flora and fauna. There was a heavy emphasis on developing and implementing an education awareness component. It was also suggested that names of individuals in non compliance be publicized.

SURVEY

QUESTION	YES	NO	Unknown	Comments
Governance				
1. Proposed Governance Model	70%	15%	15%	-Outstanding Bill Settled First -More Community Representation
Residential Planning				
2. Where / should development take place	70%	30%		-Eagle Lake -Border Lake -Along Highway -General Area
3. Is Cabin Size a Concern / what size	75%	25%		-average of 30 X 30
4. Should other things be included such as a campground	35%	20%	45%	-pic nic table, benches, bike paths, hiking trails
5. How would you like to see Tioweró:ton in the future	80% Natural State		20%	-no development -no atv's -Self sufficient
6. How could we protect Tioweró:ton				40% - controlling / Laws 25% - no development 20% - education 15% - establish standards
7. How can we address disturbances				75% - Laws 25% - education
8. Small businesses	60%	30%	10%	Not based in Tioweró:ton

QUESTIONS	YES	NO	Unknown	Comments
9. Commercial Ventures	60%	20%	20%	Selective Cutting Maple Syrup Convenience Store Gas Station
Enforcement				
10. Developing Laws	80%	10%	10%	
Hunting /Fishing				
11. How do we address non compliances				50% - Banishment 20% - fines 30% - unknown
12. How do we find balance				Education
13. How do we address abuse				30% - banishment 40% - Laws 15% - Public release of Names 15% - Unknown

RECOMMENDATIONS

Governance

The general consensus at all the Stakeholder sessions and according to the survey that was conducted on April 19, 2011 the majority of Community Members who participated are in agreement to the proposed Governance Structure. Although most are in agreement to the proposed structure, there was concern in regards to participation of both Communities at a Committee level.

It is recommended that should it be decided to move forward with the proposed structure, that a Memorandum of Agreement be entered into in order to hold both Kahnawá:ke and Kanehsatá:ke accountable in regards to participation.

Territory Planning

In regards to residential planning, there were several areas of discussion that took place. It should be noted that the majority of Community Members felt that Tioweró:ton should remain in a natural state with the least amount of development possible. Although we would like to see Tioweró:ton remain in a natural state, development is a reality and needs to be controlled. Stakeholders were questioned on whether the cabin construction should remain in the general area or be expanded into other areas within the Territory. There were mixed feelings on where exactly the expansion should be. Another area of discussion

was cabin size. It was clear that most Community Members felt that cabin size is a concern. It was also suggested by every group that a promotion on renewable energy should be developed and implemented.

It is recommended that a “residential” plan be developed, taking into consideration all the environmental studies that have been conducted and that construction standards be developed and implemented. It is also recommended that an education campaign on renewable energy be developed and implemented.

Commercial Ventures/Small Business

This topic was divided into two separated topics in order to get a good understanding of how the Community felt in regards to commercial ventures and small businesses operating within the Territory.

In regards to commercial ventures, the majority of Stakeholders were in agreement to having a commercial venture that would benefit the Territory. Although most were in agreement to a commercial venture, there was concern in regards to whether or not the revenues generated from a business would be used for Tioweró:ton or go back into the general fund. Many suggestions for such ventures were provided, however, a maple syrup operation was the business venture which most Community Members were suggesting.

It is recommended that the feasibility study that was conducted in regards to a maple syrup operation be revisited and a business plan be developed and presented to Chief and Council for approval.

In regards to small businesses, the majority of Stakeholders do not have a problem with businesses operating within the Territory. However, most do not feel that these businesses should be operating out of Tioweró:ton. It was also noted that should business be operating within the Territory, that the businesses be obligated to pay a fee for storing equipment within the Territory.

It is recommended that businesses be permitted to operate within the Territory. It is also recommended that the Tioweró:ton Committee make a decision on whether or not these businesses should be based within the Territory and whether they should be required to pay a “storage fee” for equipment within the Territory.

Enforcement

Stakeholders were questioned on what they thought about implementing a “Tioweró:ton Law”. It was clear that the majority felt the need to implement a Law in Tioweró:ton. It was noted that the common courtesy and respect that community members displayed for one another is almost non-existent in the present time. Furthermore, it was felt that Conservation should play a larger role in regards to the enforcement of environmental laws for the protection of the Territory. It was noted that the majority of stakeholders would

like to see a “Tioweró:ton Law” that would encompass a variety of issues that the Policy is not able to enforce.

It is recommended that a Tioweró:ton Law be developed and implemented.

Hunting, Fishing & Gathering

In regards to hunting, fishing & gathering, Stakeholders were questioned about finding a balance in preserving our rights. It was noted that most felt that Conservation should be more involved with Tioweró:ton. It was suggested that an educational campaign be developed and implemented.

It is recommended that an educational campaign be developed and implemented.

Miscellaneous

Stakeholders were given the opportunity to discuss any other issues that they felt needed to be addressed. Several issues were brought to the table and should be addressed.

Community Meetings; It was suggested that there be more than one Community Meeting in Tioweró:ton; that one be held at the beginning of the summer and then again towards the end of the summer.

In the past, the Tioweró:ton Committee would host several Community Meetings throughout the year, however, participation slowly dwindled and the meeting were non productive.

It is recommended that the Community Meeting remain on an annual basis and that perhaps a report on Tioweró:ton could be circulated to the Community. Additional Community Meeting would be held for emergency circumstances.

Snow Plowing; The issue of plowing the roads in the Winter was brought to the table for discussion. It was noted that the majority of stakeholders do not want to have the roads plowed in the winter. It was also noted that the decision to plow the roads was made at a Community Meeting.

It is recommended that the roads continue to be plowed to in the winter for safety purposes.