

Poll: Olympic Torch Relay

Are you in favor of having the Olympic Torch Relay pass through Kahnawake?

Survey Method	Yes	No	% in Favor
Kahnawake.com (Onkwehón:we)	56	40	58.3
Kahnawake.com (non-Onkwehón:we)	5	15	25
Community Email List	71	17	81
MCK Grapevine	68	7	91
Kahnawà:ke Services Complex (in person)	203	19	91
Overall results	403	98	80.4
<p>Further breakdown: Of those we know for sure are from Kahnawà:ke, the results are 342-43 (88.4%) excluding 'MCK Grapevine', the results are 274-36 (88.4%)</p>			

We have the distinction of having a few Kahnawakeronon take part in past olympics and we should honor their contributions to sports.

Why would the MCK even bother asking the community. As far as I can see this is an honor that they have included Kahnawake in the plans for the relay and we should just accept humbly. What reasoning is behind asking the community?

The people chosen to carry the torch, should be youth in Kahnawake Winter Sports: ie: hockey players, figure skaters, etc.....

It is more important to support the Secwempemc tribe and other First Nations in their battle for land and rights, rather than trying to make town "famous" to a country that would rather have us assimilated and pay tax like everyone else.

How would we feel if the Olympics started tearing apart and building on Kahnawake land without our permission? To build highway expansions, tourist attractions and golf courses over areas where we live and need?

The Secwempemc has protested, been arrested, and authorities have undermined them in getting media attention. They're obviously upset and we need to stand by them as First Nations, not stand by Canada as it destroys more communities.

I am voting no to an olympic tradition because it is hurting our native brothers and sisters in British Columbia. The MCK should add to the description of this survey the reality of the situation - not just the gloss that makes it seem like an honour.

<http://www.dominionpaper.ca/articles/1738>

If the olympic committee was taking our land to build new highways and grounds for sporting events, would you support them by allowing the torch relay to pass through Kahnawake? let's support our brothers in BC by not allowing them through.

Do not make everything so political

www.no2010.com

why not it came threw before , good for the youth of this town

We need to support other Onkwehon:we people, the Olympics in Vancouver are taking land away from the Secwepemc and Ktunaxa people. It's disrespectful and I choose not to support the 2010 Olympics, Kahnawake should do the same thing.

i really don't appreciate this at all

I strongly believe that my paternal grandfather paid the ultimate price when he had to choose between the European woman he loved and his people in the mid 1800's. I often wonder what my life would have been like if the british had have left his people alone and he did not have to move so far away from his family, his friends and his culture ! I truly believe that one day the First Nations People of North America will rise up and take control of their lands again. It is about Damn time that the british include us -- After all they stole our lands, denied us our culture, our

pride, our sense and our way of life. Oh but they did introduce liquor! which destroyed many lives. Yes my paternal grand father gave up so much for the woman he loved and their children---Our people too belong in the olympic more so than the Whites! May the Creator bless you!

we have to support our fellow first nations in vancouver who had their land taken.

It is a good statement of who we are as Kahnawakeronon in the International light. As well as a community we can make a statement regarding the protest on behalf of our brothers & sisters in BC. There has to be a way do both in the same event!!!!

The land (B.C) is Native land which is in dispute, we should be morally inclined to dis-agree with the torch to pass through our community, in support of our brothers and sisters to the west. It would be another story if us onkwehonwe were to be represented in the games. Why is it that we as onkwehon:we have to give our identity away and represent "canada". Our efforts should not represent "canada", especially if "canada" refuses to recognize our human rights. Why should we represent "canada" if they refuse to even acknowledge us as onkwehon:we. "canada" with the help from the councils on the reserves across this continent have spent years to fabricate Onkwehon:we people into canadian society, its called extinction through assimilation. Is that something your for? If so, then bring the torch through, don't you dare come anywhere near my land, for my land is Onkwehon:we land.

We have the indigenous games

I do not live in Kahnawake, and I am not Mohawk, but I would like to support all First Nations peoples in their fight with the federal government for recognition, sovereignty and land rights.

The Torch Relay is a great photo-op that will do nothing to improve the rights of the First Nations people in Canada.

it's a great idea! i would participate!

It is something to be proud of - especially since we have had former olympians from Kahnawake...

Solidarity against the colonial and imperialist land/cash grab that is the Olympics from occupied Coast Salish Territories - which is 'hosting' the Games' massive environmental, economic, and human damage.

Kwe Yes I definitely feel that we should have the Olympic Torch Relay pass through town. I'm sure we can have good representation from some youth in Kahnawake to participate.

This Would be great because history would be passing through town

we should support our brothers and sisters regardless of 'how cool' it may seem to have the Torch Caravan pass through our community...

While it would be an honor, in solidarity with BC nations - we should respectfully decline as a strong statement.

I think it will actually be good for those who want it and those who wish to protest with signs. Everyone wins!

We have so many young athletics here in Kahnawake, that I think it would be great for them to see the olympic flame, something they might never get to see. I remember the last time it passed through here in Kahnawake, the turn out was great. It has nothing to do with politics or the Canadian Government, but the olympics, brings the whole world together.

Why, alot of you folks dont consider yourselves Canadiens eh?

go kahnawake

we don't live in B.C. this is an historic even that should not be passed up. Screw the bitching, we don't know when the Olympics will be back in canada again

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We must stand beside our brothers and sisters who have asked for our support in their struggles against the Olympic Committee and the developers who are taking advantage of the circumstances to encroach on the traditional homelands of the original people of the area.

It's a good opportunity to have our youth participate in the excitement of the Olympics. As we did with Alwyn and Waneek. It gives youth something to work towards. I understand the landclaim issue and if people wanted to show support to our brothers and sisters in BC messages of support can also be displayed along the route. As long as it is positive and non violent it may be a good forum to bring attention to the issue but in a positive way.

Nobody remembers why the woman from BC visited Kahnawake???

although supporting our brethren in B.C would be a great idea. Allowing ourselves to be bypassed when we have two olympic athletes would be a shame.

I believe that the torch shouldnt pass through town in order to stand by our cousins from BC because with the coming of the Olympics thousands of their hundreds year old trees has been cut down to widen the road up north. Just for the Olympics and thats all.

yes pass the torch

I understand that where they Olympic games are being held in Vancouver are on sacred Native land? Why is this not being made public or validated?

It should not be a political issue. Council should have just made the decision to do it. Now that others have voiced their negative position, community members 'for' it will be Reluctant to openly voice their opinions.

Good for all. Proud

Why not?

Yes, I would like to see the torch pass through our wonderful town. I investigated the Negative responses & have found no real issue for us (Kahnawake) to not have it here.

Why not honor our athletes. Athletes of all ages should be recognized regardless of our internal problems.

Why the hell not? Stop crying and making such a big deal about it!

I would love to see an elder walk with it for 5 steps & I'll do the rest.

Go for it!

Let it pass under protest, the whole town standing with signs.

But, anyone can protest along the route as long as they respect the Mohawk runners. All Runners should be Mohawk. This would accommodate both those who are for & against the torch coming through Kahnawake.

Why not?

Conditions: acknowledgment as Mohawk territory/nation. Use flag.

Why not?

Only if I can light a cigarette with it.

Why not?

They destroy the land.

Because they are taking the land of other aboriginals to accomplish these events and now they need the Mohawks of Kahnawake to finalize or justify their takings.

Ambivalent – not sure. Lots of controversy regarding 2010 Winter Games & Land that was expropriated from natives. I'm not in favor of that.

Can we be watching for what passes through our community, water, chemical, or_____.

We should accept the invitation to have Kahnawake take part.

yes and i want to be one of the runners to run with it!

Have a lottery to decide who carries it.

We have to support the natives in Vancouver.

This is a great opportunity for our own athletes to take part in an event that will be seen around the world.

yes of course. Native people needs to be represented by greater things than negative actions. And I agree. No doubt in my mind.

Absolutely

I think another part of history will be made and what a fortunate opportunity for Kahnawake. I definitely agree to have this event pass through the territory.

There should be absolutely no reason to reject this opportunity, it'll raise awareness yet again about the conduct of all Kahnawakehronon when they bring such a big event through our territory. We should be supportive as possible . Afterall, there are some native athletes that will be involved directly.

MKD

Absolutely, it will help showcase our community in a positive light, when too many times the Montreal news always shows the negative. We should also push to have Alwyn and Waneek be the starting and ending runners since they are our Olympians.

solidarity with our brothers in Vancouver, more land taken.

We should not be part of the Torch Relay with out checking with the Natives in B.C. who have a land claim regarding the Olympics. We should be supporting our fellow Natives in any land claims even if that means not allowing the Torch to pass through our community. If the Natives from B.C. don't have a problem with the Torch passing through our community only then should we allow it to happen.

we have to show Canada we will not sellout for some glitz. Show solidarity for your roots not your paycheque over there.

Definitely yes, perhaps there could be communication with the Olympic Committee to introduce La Crosse as an Olympic summer games. This is an on going issue that has been applied for with the United Nations. As a nation within nations we can carry our own flag in the parade of nations. Nadine Horne

Not after what they are doing to the indians in B.C

(name deleted) is an idiot!

No based upon support for the Native people of BC who are demonstrating against the olympics because of neglect of their land claims issues.

Although sports in general are a good thing, next year's Olympic's have already stepped all over the Native people in B.C. and some representatives have already been in our community peacefully and respectfully requesting our support for their victimization, insofar as their input, lands, etc. and as far as I can see, if Kahnawake were to allow any "TORCH Bearing" on Mohawk lands, including the "Seigneurie", it would be tantamount to outright betrayal of our brothers and sisters out west who have asked for the assistance of who "they think" are the "best, strongest and most intelligent Indigenous peoples on Turtle Island. They may well be in for a MEGA surprise!

WOULD BE GREAT TO SEE SINCE WE HAVE OUR OWN PEOPLE INVOLVED

I think it is terrific, I don't see why Kahnawake wouldn't allow the torch to pass through. It would be note worthy.

I think that the opportunity should go to the children who participate in winter sports. A suggestion could be have the child write in to state why they should be chosen.

It would be a wonderful opportunity for Kahnawake to participate.

We cannot support the 2010 Olympics. No 2010 Olympics on Stolen Native Land!

<http://www.no2010.com>

How would we feel if the next Olympics had an event on the Seigneurie Lands. We must support our brother and sister nations across Mother Earth!

Although I do not consider my self as a canadian, I believe that allowing the torch to go through our community is a good thing and further more i will be attending the event, rain or shine.

The Olympics has always stayed away from politics. Some of our own Kahnawa'kehró:non have taken part in past Olympic competitions, and we should honor them, as well as any future olympians to come.

It's a shame that individuals choose to continually make things into a political issue.

As is normally the case, those with the loudest voice are heard and listened to. Those who oppose them will shy away from taking an opposing stance in fear of some type of personal backlash. It's sad but true.

I attended it the last time it came, and enjoyed it.

I felt rather proud in 88 when it passed (even though I was only 8) and think it would be a great experience for everybody, especially the children of Kahnawake to be a part of history.

Why shouldn't it?

Waneek should carry the torch through Kahnawake

It can inspire our youth.

I would like to nominate Will Whyte to be a torch bearer

I think we should be respectful/considerate of our brother/sister nations in the west and what their political stance(s) is/are re: this matter.

Of Course !! Great stuff to get the kids involved in.

I think it would be a great idea - and give youth some sort of inspiration - and a chance to see a part of history. Although there are some Native communities in BC that are opposed to the Olympics and I understand that - the fact that our community has produced Olympians in the past makes me think that we should be involved in this initiative.

I think this should be a honour for our community and but can not understand why a survey had to be done for this. As in the Calgary Olympics the community embraced the games as well as local members were the torch carriers.

First of all we're not Canadians. There's also a lot of controversy and protests regarding this Olympic games. I think we should support the first nations people in BC.

Yes, definitely, lets take a part in history and show true Kahnwakeronon spirit!!!

native americans have the Indiginous games

We should have the Torch pass through Kahnawake, as Kahnawake has had members of our community who are Olympic Medalists.

This is a great opportunity. It's an honour that Kahnawake is asked to participate in such a big event. I say YES!!

Too much hub-bub to put up with, fundraising and volunteering is exhausting this town, need a little quiet once in a while.

Who wouldn't!

We have had our own Olympians participate. I don't believe it takes anything away from our Nation - especially since almost every Nation in the world participates.

Why is this even a question? This is a positive and good thing for our community. Any event that will inspire our youth and spark pride in our community shouldn't be questioned. Having the torch come through is a way to build bridges!

I think it is a sad when we have to take a poll for something like this..why because of a few radicals in town, if it does not come through town I for one will be ashamed to live here once again....

WE have two people who have participated in the Olympics. This is a hopeful and exciting activity for our community and our youth to be part of. Not participating would be a shame to us all.

Olympics is a World Inclusive event. Kahnawake's participation should be noted in that light and not as specific to Canada. Should the Torch relay committee not be willing to cooperate - they can by-pass Kahnawake and our community members can view its passing in the surrounding areas.

Why not?

Yes, of course it's the Olympics!!!! It would be an honor and excellent for our youth to witness such an event that may spark their interest!!

Definitely..I think it would be an awesome opportunity for our young athletes.

I believe it would be an honor for one or more Kahnawake:ronon to carry the torch.

Is it not the ultimate goal of an athlete to go to the olympics this is a great honor

I am in favour of having the torch pass through Kahnawake. The Olympics are one of the things we want our youth to strive towards. We are proud of our community's Olympic medallists, to boycott this event as a show of solidarity makes less of their accomplishments.

On community matters like this one, we shouldn't have to take a survey. It is an honor to carry the Torch and a great memory for the person who will carry it.