



Mohawk Council Communiqué

Monday, 8 Enniska/February 2021

Meeting held via Video Conference

In: Ratitsénhaienhs Tonya Perron (Chairperson), Frankie McComber & Cody Diabo, Rhonda Kirby, Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer, Mike Delisle Jr., Clinton Phillips, Harry Rice, Ross Montour & Gina Deer

Out: Lindsay LeBorgne (Wellness Day)

Also Present: Trina Diabo-Jacobs (Council Meeting Administrator), Winona Polson-Lahache (Chief Political Advisor), and Joe Delaronde (Public Relations)

House Keeping and Upcoming Meetings

- Cheque signers: Nitsénhaiehns Rhonda Kirby & Lindsay LeBorgne
- Minute Acceptance for September 21 & 22, 2020
- Wednesday: COVID-19 Task Force Update.
- Thursday: External Relations Global Analysis & Strategy meeting (all day)
- Friday: Governance and Administrative Affairs Portfolios joint priorities presentation/meeting (all morning)
- Reading into the Minutes: Department of Indigenous Services Canada Multi-Year Funding Agreement #1112-03-00003 Amendments #59-21, and Notice of Budget Adjustment #18-20
- **Tonya Perron:** Wednesday: weekly Strategic Meeting scheduling, Justice matters, Administrative Tribunal Regulations Technical Drafting Committee, and Consultation (X2) meetings
- **Clinton Phillips:** Wednesday: prep for External Governance Global Analysis & Strategy meeting;
- **Cody Diabo:** Wednesday: Aquaponics meetings (X2); Thursday: Recreation Bay project meeting; Friday: Kanawaki Lease meeting
- **Frankie McComber:** Wednesday: Iroquois Caucus Harvesting Working Group meeting; Friday: Wellness Time in the afternoon)
- **Gina Deer:** Wednesday: prep for External Government Relations Global Analysis & Strategy meeting, and meeting with Quebec government representatives; Friday: internal Fuel Tax meeting
- **Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer:** Wednesday: prep for External Relations Global Analysis & Strategy meeting, Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwén training (X2), prep for Friday's joint priorities session; and Indigenous identification meetings; Friday: Jay Treaty Border Alliance Advocacy meeting
- **Mike Delisle, Jr.:** Wednesday: prep for Friday's joint priorities session, and Kahnawà:ke Gaming Commission meeting
- **Rhonda Kirby:** Thursday: Indian Day School Settlement meeting
- **Ross Montour:** Wednesday: prep for External Relations Global Analysis & Strategy meeting, Administrative Tribunal Regulations Technical Drafting Committee, and Cannabis Control Board meetings

Formal Agenda Items

Request for Decision: Mandate for Working Group to Establish a Relationship Framework for MCK Leadership (Council Chiefs and Executive Director)

Presence of Winona Polson-Lahache. Lead Portfolio Chiefs: Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer & Mike Delisle, Jr. Request to approve a Mandate to create a Working Group responsible to develop a Relationship Framework to clarify and standardize the working relationship between MCK Executive Director (administrative) and the Council of Chiefs (governance). The working group would consist of Ratitsénhaienhs Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer, Mike Delisle, Jr., Tonya Perron, Rhonda Kirby, & Lindsay LeBorgne, the Executive Director, an Executive Officer (to be identified), Human resources and Legal Services Directors, Winona Polson-Lahache, and Executive Assistant Samantha Montour-Cross. The Working Group will draft a report to be presented to Council of Chiefs, with regular updates being provided. **Approved by Consensus**

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Mohawk Council Executive Directive (MCED): Kahnawà:ke Economic Relief Measures (KERM) Fund Extension, and Request for Decision: Changes to Policy regarding Access to KERM Fund Benefits

Presence of Neil McComber (Tewatohnhi'saktha), Paul Rice, Erica Delisle & Alexis Shackleton. Portfolio Chiefs: Gina Deer, Mike Delisle, Jr. & Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer. Request to approve extension (via MCED) of the KERM Fund, which was created to assist businesses and workers negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic who are/were not covered by other/existing programs. The Mandate of Board members Gina Deer, Mike Delisle, Jr., Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer, Alexis Shackleton and Neil McComber is also extended by this extension. **Passed by Consensus.** Additionally, Request for Decision to approve use of fiscal reserves to continue to support the program, and amendments to the KERM Fund Policy regarding program eligibility.

Approved by Consensus

Request for Decision: Tewatohnhi'saktha – Indigenous Community Business Fund

Presence of Neil McComber, John Bud Morris, Tammy Delaronde & Coreen Delormier (Tewatohnhi'saktha). Lead Portfolio Chiefs: Gina Deer & Mike Delisle, Jr. Request to approve an additional \$1,009,900 from the Indigenous Community Business Fund for new economic relief programs to be administered by Tewatohnhi'sáktha. Details included in a press release issued by Tewatohnhi'sáktha on this date (February 8, 2021). **Approved by Consensus**

Request for Decision: Complaint - Client/Attorney Privileged Item

Presence of Mary Lee Armstrong (Director, MCK Legal Services). Client/Attorney Privileged

Mohawk Council Executive Directive: Kanien'kéha Language Project - Advanced Language Support

Lead Portfolio Chief: Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer. Request to approve funding application and agreement for \$14,490 from the Ministère des culture et communications (Quebec); and an allocation of \$966 and \$3,864 of in-kind services from the MCK to provide tools for Kanien'kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitíóhkwa Language & Cultural Center advanced language programs. Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer authorized to sign on behalf of the project. **Passed by Consensus**

Discussion: Human Resources - Client/Attorney Privileged Item

Presence of Mary Lee Armstrong (Director, MCK Legal Services). Client/Attorney Privileged

Council of Chiefs Updates

- Gina Deer updated on the Federal C-15 gaming legislation and concern over lack of further correspondence from/with Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada David Lametti on this matter. A Strategic session will be scheduled for Thursday (February 11) to address this further.
- Brief discussion on recent Iroquois Caucus meeting regarding COVID-19 impacts on the various Kanien'kehá:ka communities
- Clinton Phillips brought forth an issue regarding a potential *Kahnawà:ke Residency Law* issue. The issue was clarified by Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer
- Meeting ended at **4:13pm.**