



# Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

## Social Funeral Support Program Policy

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### 1.0 Objectives

- 1.1 To deliver funeral benefits through a structured social support program designed to assist Kahnawà'kehró:non during times of loss.

### 2.0 Definitions

- 2.1 **Kahnawà'kehró:non:** An individual who meets any of the following criteria:
- Is formally listed on the **Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry**, or
  - Holds official authorization as an **Approved Kahnawà:ke Resident**, or
  - Has submitted an application and obtained residency approval in accordance with the **Kahnawà:ke Residency Law**, or
  - Is a minor child whose parent or legal guardian satisfies one or more of the above requirements.

### 3.0 Application

- 3.1 The program provides financial assistance to support the family of the deceased in organizing and hosting a gathering or meal following the funeral, memorial service, or traditional 10-day feast. Should no gathering or feast take place, the benefit will be issued directly to the designated responsible party's identified service provider.

### 4.0 Policy

#### 4.1 Implementation of Fund

This program will implement the Kahnawà:ke Funeral Support Benefit upon confirmation of successful application for financial support of the program.

#### 4.2 Eligibility

Following the implementation of the program, the immediate family of a deceased **Kahnawà'kehró:non**, or the individual responsible for funeral arrangements, may

apply for the Kahnawà:ke Funeral Support Benefit, provided the deceased meets the established eligibility requirements.

#### **4.3 Documentation**

Documentary evidence confirming responsibility for funeral arrangements is required to process reimbursement of eligible costs. In situations where multiple applications are received, priority will be given to immediate family members in the following order of precedence: spouse, followed by child, etc.

#### **4.4 Benefits**

A one-time, fixed benefit will be issued per eligible deceased individual who meets the funeral benefit eligibility criteria. The amount of the benefit will be determined annually, subject to the availability of funding and approval through the annual budget process. This benefit is not considered income for the purposes of Last Resort financial assessments. Continuation of the program is contingent upon the receipt of funding . The implementation date for this program is April 1, 2025.

#### **4.5 Program Integrity and Enforcement**

Accessing this program does not result in the benefit being considered income payable upon death. Any suspected fraud, misuse, or abuse of the Social Support Program will be subject to review and action by the Client-Based Services Committee (CBSC) and the Financial Sub-Committee (FSC) of the CBSC.

### **5.0 References**

N/A