



# Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

## Social Parental Support Program Policy

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### 1.0 Objectives

- 1.1 To provide parental benefits through a structured social support program designed to assist Kahnawà'kehró:non during pregnancy, birth, and early childhood.

### 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**

### 3.0 Application

- 3.1 This policy applies to Kahnawà'kehró:non residing in Kahnawà:ke who are ineligible for parental benefits through the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP) or Employment Insurance (EI).

### 4.0 Policy

#### 4.1 Implementation of Fund

This program will implement the Social Support Parental Benefit upon confirmation of successful application for financial support of the program.

#### 4.2 Eligibility

Kahnawa'kehró:non employees or self-employed individuals who are a minimum of 38 weeks pregnant, have experienced a pre-term birth, and work for a business located in Kahnawà:ke or operate as independent contractors, may be eligible for parental support benefits under this program, provided they are not registered for benefits in Canada.

Eligibility extends to the following individuals:

- Employees of Kahnawà:ke-based businesses that are federally or provincially unregistered for benefits;
- Individuals earning income from multiple sources within Kahnawà:ke;
- Self-supporting part-time workers employed in Kahnawà:ke;
- Sole proprietors or independent contractors, such as cleaning service providers, who receive contracts within Kahnawà:ke.

Applicants must demonstrate a minimum of 26 weeks of continuous employment prior to applying, with qualifying hours defined as:

- Full-time: 30 hours or more per week;
- Part-time: 20 to 30 hours per week.

A letter from the employer(s) confirming employment status is required to support the application.

#### 4.3 **Benefits**

Eligible applicants may receive a maximum fixed parental support benefit, the amount for part time and full time benefits will be predetermined annually, subject to the availability of funding and approval through the annual budget process.

The benefit is calculated beginning at the 38th week of pregnancy and continues until the child reaches 50 weeks of age, provided the application is submitted within the program's established timeframe.

Parental support is available exclusively to the parent with primary care responsibilities for the child. Applicants with a child under 52 weeks of age at the time of program implementation may apply for benefits until the child reaches 52 weeks of age.

No retroactive benefits will be issued for any period prior to the application date.

The continuation of the program is contingent upon the receipt of funding through successful application processes. Should funding not be renewed, the program will terminate as of March 31 of the applicable fiscal year.

#### 4.4 **Program Integrity and Enforcement**

Applicants who are eligible to access federal or provincial programs for benefit support are not eligible for this program.

The Kahnawà:ke Social Assistance Program serves as a last resort income support for households unable to access other programs based on eligibility criteria.

Any suspected fraud, abuse, or misuse of the Social Support Program will be subject to investigation and enforcement by the CBSC and its Financial Sub-Committee (FSC).

### 5.0 **References**

- 5.1 MCK MCED #37/2024-2025 approving the Project in Principle with delegation to the CBSC(SDC)