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PRESS RELEASE

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MCK announces expansion of electronic gaming device permits

For Immediate Release

(Kahnawake – 13 Tsothohrhkó:wa/January 2026) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) is announcing the launch of a new initiative to increase the number of permits for Electronic Gaming Devices (EGDs) as part of a comprehensive plan to strengthen Kahnawà:ke's gaming industry, enhance community benefits, and ensure responsible regulatory oversight.

The expansion will follow a phased approach, introducing additional permits for EGD facilities in accordance with revamped regulations and a renewed focus on location selection, public safety, and operational transparency. The application process for new permits will be thorough, taking approximately twelve (12) months, followed by construction and implementation phases. Any new EGD permits are only expected to be operational within 18–24 months. The Kahnawà:ke Gaming Commission (KGC) will oversee the application process and information on how to apply will be put out in the coming weeks.

Gaming revenues have generated more than \$100 million over the past three decades, supporting essential services, infrastructure projects, cultural revitalization and many other underfunded programs and services. With responsible regulated growth, this expansion of own-source revenue from gaming is expected to exceed \$100 million annually, helping to fund vital community programs and services as federal and provincial funding continue to decline.

"This expansion will empower Kahnawà:ke to generate and direct revenues toward community priorities and continue to support emergency services, public safety, and essential programs for all Kahnawà:ke:ron," said Ohén:ton í:rate ne Ratitsénhaienhs Cody Diabo. "The community has seen many benefits from EGDs - learning from experience that with growth, we also need to ensure the enhancement of the regulatory and operational oversight of the growing industry."

The KGC will implement enhanced regulatory oversight, including stricter due diligence for operators, mandatory public safety screenings, and clearer ownership requirements. Regulatory amendments are underway to further strengthen the gaming framework and ensure compliance with anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing standards.

Public safety remains a top priority, with mandatory health, fire, and security checks for all gaming establishments. Planned enhancements include road safety measures, expanded emergency response resources, and mandatory training for safety and gaming security teams. Additionally, regular monitoring, auditing, and public reporting will ensure transparency in compliance, operations, revenue generation, and social impact. Ongoing data collection and analysis will help guide future decisions and maintain accountability.

Most importantly, the MCK will oversee a robust engagement process to gather community input on the implementation of increased land-based gaming permits and regulatory enhancements. Community feedback is essential to ensure that this initiative aligns with shared values and priorities. More information on the initiative and upcoming engagement sessions will be made available in the coming weeks.