

Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

PRESS RELEASE

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Notice – NO tobacco products being sold in Kahnawake

For Immediate Release

(Kahnawake – 23, Enniskó:wa/March 2020) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) wishes to inform the general public that ALL tobacco stores are CLOSED at this time, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The directive to close the stores was made by Kahnawà:ke's COVID-19 Task Force, which has been given the mandate to address the pandemic on behalf of the community. The decision to close the stores was made to reduce the number of persons entering Kahnawà:ke, which puts the community at a high risk of the virus being transmitted.

There are **no exceptions** to this directive.

"We are issuing this release to make it clear that we will do everything we can to reduce our risk," said Ratsénhaienhs (Council Chief) Harry Rice, who represents the MCK on the COVID-19 Task Force. "The directive will be posted in French and English on the electronic billboards located on Highways 30, 132 and 138, which should help."

"It is only one of many initiatives to help prevent the spread of the virus," he added, "but one that affects a significant number of persons from our neighboring communities who purchase tobacco on a regular basis. We appreciate everyone's understanding during this challenging time."