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PRESS RELEASE

Community Consultation on proposed Kahnawake Residency Law tonight

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 23, Onerahtohkó:wa/May 2017) The Kahnawà:ke Legislative Coordinating Commission would like to remind the community that a Community Consultation meeting will be held this evening for the proposed *Kahnawà:ke Residency Law*.

The meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall. It will begin at 6pm sharp and end at or before 8:30pm.

The proponents wish to gain consensus on:

- 1. the urgency of the law
- 2. the purpose and scope of the law
- 3. a mandate to move the law forward using the Urgent Process, as indicated in the Community Decision Making Process (CDMP)

The proposed law is being categorized as **Type I – Urgent**, as it is a fundamental law that affects the entire community. Based on the *Descheneaux Decision*, the Federal government has been directed by the Superior Court to amend the *Indian Act* by July 2017. The amendments would allow for a significant number of people to be entitled to be registered as Mohawks of Kahnawà:ke, despite not meeting the requirements of the *Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke Registry*.

Should the community give the Mandate to move forward, Hearings on the proposed law would begin the following Tuesday, May 30th. If the Mandate is <u>not</u> given, the topic will continue on May 30th.

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For further information on the proposed law, please contact: letsénhaienhs Rhonda Kirby, Proponent Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke 450-632-7500, rhonda.kirby@mck.ca

For further information on the process, please contact: Leslie Skye, Coordinator Kahnawà:ke Legislative Coordinating Commission 450-632-7500, leslie.skye@mck.ca