



Kahnawá:ke Ratítsénhaiens

Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

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Enhsakotò:kénhte Nitiotié:ren Tsi Ietsenhaiéntákhwa

Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk - News Release

Kahnawá:ke Issues Statement on Gaming Jurisdiction

For immediate release

(Kahnawá:ke – 12, Ohiari'kó:wa/July 2005) Kahnawá:ke Grand Chief Michael Ahríhron Delisle, Jr. has issued a statement today that clearly reiterates the Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke's position that it has and will continue to exercise its jurisdiction over gaming.

Chief Delisle's statement follows reaction to a report in an industry publication that implies an on-line poker company that maintains back-up servers within the Mohawk territory of Kahnawá:ke is facing the threat of legal action under the Canadian Criminal Code.

The statement reads as follows:

"The Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke, as the governing body in and for the Territory of Kahnawá:ke, affirms that since 1996 the Mohawks of Kahnawá:ke have consistently exercised their jurisdiction over gaming and will continue to do so. At no time has this exercise of jurisdiction been challenged.

Kahnawá:ke's jurisdiction in this area, as in any other area, is not subject to negotiation or compromise. However, Kahnawá:ke remains open to harmonizing its gaming regulations with those of other regulating jurisdictions – particularly regarding Internet gaming, an area in which Kahnawá:ke is recognized as being a global leader.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke strongly supports the Kahnawá:ke Gaming Commission and the excellent regulatory environment it has established and maintained for Internet gaming. Its Regulations concerning Interactive Gaming, and its technical standards and protocols, have established a world-wide benchmark for regulating in this space."

"I can state categorically that recent reports suggesting that gaming companies operating within our Territory are being threatened with legal action are false and groundless," said Grand Chief Delisle. "We note that these reports emanated from a jurisdiction that has recently enacted its own Internet gaming legislation."

"The world accepts and respects our jurisdiction in the field of gaming – particularly Internet gaming," he continued. "It's time for Canada to stop playing games and to establish its own regulations in this area. We would be pleased to assist them in doing so."

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