

### Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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# Reminder - Engagement with community on Fr. Lajoie issue begins <u>Tonight</u>

#### For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 9, Kentenhkó:wa/November 2021) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) wishes to remind the community that the Kahnawa'kehró:non Ratitsénhaienhs are gauging the opinions of community members by inviting them to share their concerns and feedback on the issue regarding the remains of Father Leon Lajoie.

Fr. Lajoie was a priest and, later, the long-time pastor for the St. Francis Xavier Mission in Kahnawà:ke who retired in the mid-1990's and passed away in 1999. He was buried on the Territory after a request from representatives of the Catholic Church on behalf of the family of the deceased was received by the MCK and granted at that time.

As this is an issue which affects the entire community, the MCK is now moving forward with engagement of the broader community.

These engagement sessions for Kahnawa'kehró:non will be held at the Kahnawake Moose Lodge (upstairs) on the following dates:

- TONIGHT: Tuesday, November 9 from 6pm-9pm
- Saturday, November 13 from 11am-2pm

In the interests of transparency and in order to assist in these discussions, the MCK has made a timeline of events available which details the issue from the date of the original decision to present day. The timeline is available online at <a href="https://www.kahnawake.com/timeline">www.kahnawake.com/timeline</a>.