

Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

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Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

MCK approves new social housing initiative, schedules meeting with neighborhood residents

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 27, Kentenhkó:wa/November 2012) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke announced today that it has agreed to pursue the refurbishment of the former Environment Office as a social housing facility.

The facility will be used to temporarily house single community members who find themselves in a difficult position due to a shortage of suitable housing.

"We have a responsibility to ensure that people have a place to stay, especially during the cold winter months," said Chief Martin Leborgne, who has been a strong advocate for such a facility. "If all goes well, the facility will be ready within a couple of weeks."

The MCK Social Development Unit has been working diligently to ensure that suitable criteria are created in order to meet the needs of both potential clients and the surrounding neighborhood. A meeting is scheduled between neighbors and the MCK to answer questions and address concerns.

"This isn't a half-way house or anything like that," continued Chief Leborgne. "It is simply something that will help community members who are in a tough situation to have a solid roof over their heads. We've been acting in a discreet manner on this project in order to respect people's dignity but, unfortunately, certain people have already created a situation that stigmatizes potential residents. Regardless, we'll still do everything in our power to assist those who need a helping hand."

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