

Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

P.O. Box 720 Kahnawà:ke Mohawk Territory JOL 1B0 Phone: (450) 632-7500 Fax: (450) 638-5958

Web Site: www.Kahnawake.com E-mail: communications@mck.ca Enhsakotò: kénhte Nitiotié: ren Tsi Ietsenhaientáhkhwa

Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

MCK signs Declaration on Proposed Casino Project

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 5, Enniskó:wa/March 2012) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) announced today that Chief & Council have made a formal Declaration on the issue of the proposed Casino Project. The Declaration, signed by 10 of 11 chiefs, includes the following highlights:

- 1. Declaration that Chief & Council will adhere to the Five Guiding Principles:
 - The collective will be the prime beneficiary
 - No land slated for housing developments will be used
 - Community members will receive a dividend
 - Social impacts will be address through immediate and effective measures
 - There will be independent community management of all gaming profits
- 2. Declaration that Chief & Council will adhere to the following:
 - MCK will not control or be involved in any way with the Casino Project's management activities or profit distribution
 - A treasury institution will be developed to account for and distribute all casino profits
 - Current and future Council Chiefs while on Council cannot hold any oversight or senior management positions related to the Casino Project, and hereby declare that Council Chiefs will be ineligible to hold any position on the Treasury Board or Casino Board of Directors for a period of at least one (1) year after leaving office
 - The MCK will not compromise any political principles or outstanding political files to secure an agreement on gaming with any outside governments, and pledge to keep any discussions on these issues completely separate from any gaming or casino project discussions or negotiations

"Chief & Council can and must work for the benefit of the collective," said Grand Chief Michael Ahríhron Delisle, Jr. "By signing this Declaration, we are providing a level of comfort that this is a community project, not an MCK initiative. We are promoting and advocating its benefits but – let's be clear – should the community say 'yes' the MCK will not manage, own or run the casino."

STRENGTH
PEACE
UNITY

Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

P.O. Box 720 Kahnawake Mohawk Territory J0L 1B0

Tsi Ietsenhaientahkhwa " OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS " Tel.: (450) 632-7500 Fax: (450) 632-7276 Website: www.kahnawake.com

Declaration of Support for a Casino

05, Enniskó:wa/March 2012

THE MOHAWK COUNCIL OF KAHNAWA:KE recognizes that the People of Kahnawa:ke have been fighting a challenging battle to develop a sustainable economic base that would replace our community's current funding dependency on outside governments. Due to the crippling effects of Indian Act and other governmental policies toward First Nations, sustainable economic development activities within First Nations territories have been practically non-existent. An exception to this bleak economic reality has been First Nations land-based casino development.

Chief and Council, on April 26th 2011 approved for the Casino Project Team to initiate Phase 1 of project research, which consisted of preliminary in-house research on all forms of land-based gaming in Canada and the United States; on September 12, 2011 Chief and Council approved for the Casino Project Team to continue into Phase 2 of project research, which consisted of securing three (3) professional gaming reports and a technical survey on a proposed casino project in Kahnawà:ke and on February 27, 2012 Chief and Council approved for the Casino Project Team to continue into Phase 3 of project research, which will consist of coordinating the formal referendum process for a community decision on a casino project in Kahnawà:ke.

THEREFORE the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, <u>based on a positive result</u> from a Community Referendum, hereby declares that it supports the creation of a community owned and regulated Casino Project that strictly adheres to the following guiding principles:

- The collective will be the prime beneficiary;
- · No lands slated for housing developments will be used;
- Community members will receive a dividend;
- Social impacts will be addressed through immediate and effective measures, and;
- There will be independent community management of all gaming profits.

Further to these principles, The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke hereby declares that it will not control or be involved in any way with the Casino Project's management activities or profit distribution. A treasury institution will be developed to account for and distribute all casino profits.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke also declares that current and future Council Chiefs, while on Council, cannot hold any oversight or senior management positions related to the Casino Project. We also hereby declare that Council Chiefs will be ineligible to hold any position on the Treasury Board or the Casino Board of Directors for a period of at least one (1) year after leaving office.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke further declares that it will not compromise any political principles or outstanding political files to secure an agreement on gaming with any outside Governments. The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke pledges to keep any discussions on these issues completely separate from any gaming or casino project discussions or negotiations.

1. COG	
Ratsénhaienhs Michael Ahríhrhon Delisle Jr.	
Ratsénhaienhs Michael Karonhí:io Bush	Ratzénhaienhs John Dee Ohnawentehkha Delormier
letsénhaienhs Rhonda Kawenanoron Kirby	letsénhaienhs Kahsennenhawe Sky Deer
Martin Thawen:rate Leborgne	letsénhaighns Peggy Kawinéhtha Mayo- Standup
Ratsénhaienhs Kenneth Karonhiatie McComber	Ratsénhaienhs Lloyd Oronhiakhète
Clinton Tionawate Phillips	Phillips Ratsénhaienhs Carl Onakarakete Horn
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