



Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

PRESS RELEASE

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\$9 million Economic Relief Measures Fund launched

For Immediate Release

(Kahnawake – 25, Enniskó:wa/March 2020) In response to the COVID-19 emergency measures within the community, the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) has approved a \$9 million Economic Relief Measures (ERM) Fund. The ERM Fund was approved at today's special duly-convened Council meeting and was passed by consensus by all twelve (12) elected Council chiefs.

The purpose of the Fund is to support workers and businesses who are most vulnerable to the economic interruption occurring as a result of the COVID-19 related emergency measures in the community. More specifically:

- *To provide income security to those who are not able to work*
- *Provide funding for businesses where operations have been interrupted*
- *To ensure community members have access to basic needs*

If you are recently unemployed as a result of COVID-19, immediately contact MCK Client-Based Services at **450-638-0500**. You may be eligible for one of the following as early as April 1, 2020:

- *Employment Insurance (E.I.)*
- *Social Assistance (S.A.)*
- *Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) paid through Canada Revenue Agency*

If your business has closed/suspended services or is otherwise affected by COVID-19, immediately contact Tewatohnhi'saktha (**450-638-4280**). You may be eligible for Business Interruption Assistance.

"The MCK is working closely with Tewatohnhi'saktha in this important initiative," said Grand Chief Joseph Tokwirot Norton. "Several people have worked very hard and extremely quickly to have these measures put in place for those who need it."

Chief & Council have empowered a Board of Representatives to oversee distribution of the Fund, which will consist of Ratsénhaiensh Gina Deer, Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer and Mike Delisle, Jr., along with Barbara McComber of Tewatohnhi'saktha and Alexis Shackleton of MCK Client-Based Services.

In order to address Food Security the Board has approved two \$25,000 cash injections to the Kateri Food Basket and Kahnawà:ke Shakotiia'takéhnhas Community Services' Emergency Food Services (contact **450-632-6880**).

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