



Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

PRESS RELEASE



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Kahnawake Fire Brigade issues Extreme Fire Risk notice

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 22, Onerahtohkó:wa/May 2020) The Kahnawà:ke Fire Brigade announced today that the risk of fire in both in Kahnawake and Tioweró:ton is elevated to **extreme**. Due to the recent lack of rain and the forecast for warm/dry weather in the upcoming days, conditions are perfect for major fires to develop.

Therefore, effective immediately, the use of fireworks of any kind is **prohibited**, as are flying lanterns. Additionally, the burning of debris and brush should not be taking place during this time.

“Taking into consideration that people are currently stuck at home due to COVID-19 and wish to continue having small campfires, I am asking that those who choose to do so exercise extreme caution,” said Fire Chief David Scott. “Have your garden hose or a fire extinguisher handy and never leave a campfire unattended for any period of time. Also, please consider purchasing an outdoor fireplace with spark arrestor.”

The situation in Tioweró:ton is, in some ways, even more serious because of the nature of the Territory – which consists almost entirely of forest – and the lack of firefighting equipment on hand.

“The Kahnawà:ke Fire Brigade does not want to enforce an outright ban as we have in the past,” Chief Scott added, “but we will need cooperation from everyone.”

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