

Onkwe'tà:ke lakotokénhstha

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Suggested Media Instructions:

Please run at your discretion.

Media Inquiries:

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As per the MCK
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Tekakwitha Island Beach not yet officially open, please use CAUTION

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 25, Ohiari:ha/June 2021)

The Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office (KEPO) and the Recreation Department wish to update the community on the status of the new beach on Tekakwitha Island. Currently, the beach remains closed as we continue to finalize safety features for the area. We are aware that the abnormally low water levels experienced this year have resulted in a reduction in the size of the desirable swimming area. We have also been alerted to the **presence of some rocks in the water that may pose a hazard**. We are investigating solutions for these issues that could lead to modifications of the in-water area near the beach.

The beach element is one component of the larger project on Tekakwitha Island and in the Bay. Removal of aquatic plants within portions of the bay is scheduled to begin by the third week of July and dredging in select locations will begin in August. These activities are also expected to improve the swimming experience at the beach.

We ask for the community's understanding and patience as we continue to work on this project and enhance the user experience. Please use caution if entering the water and **do not** dive or jump off rocks located near the beach. An official opening for the beach is expected on July 1st after which time lifeguards and amenities will be present.

For more information, please contact the Sports & Recreation Unit at **450-638-3311** or KEPO at **450-635-0600** or bayproject@mck.ca.