



Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

PRESS RELEASE

MCK acknowledges Quebec commitment to Mohawk workers for Mercier Bridge works

For Immediate Release

(Kahnawake – 5, Seskéha/August 2019) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) wishes to acknowledge the Québec government for its announcement confirming its commitment to Mohawk workers for upcoming Mercier Bridge works, including the maintenance contract on the 'provincial portion' of the bridge, as well as for the reconstruction project for the southbound span that is still in the planning stages.

In its press release dated August 1st, Québec also stated that it is reconfirming its recognition of Kahnawà:ke's authority, as exercised by the Kahnawà:ke Labor Office, to qualify workers and contractors for these works. Workers will have the choice to participate as a union or non-union member.

"This is a significant development," said Grand Chief Joseph Tokwiro Norton. "We have been working diligently to ensure that the 1932 Order in Council is respected, and this announcement – from three ministers, no less – gives us a solid level of comfort that the province not only understands but also agrees with our positions regarding the formal prioritizing of Mohawk workers."

"It is also important that Québec has publicly announced its support for an 'open shop' approach to bridge works, whereas union and non-union workers can work side-by-side without penalty. For us, it is important that all workers have the opportunity to work, regardless of affiliation. History has proven that we can do this type of job – and do it better than anyone."

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