



Kahnawà:ke Ratitsénhaiens

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 Ietsenhaiéntákhwa

Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

MCK to decide on continuation of Land-Based Gaming research

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 8, Seskehkó:wa/September 2011) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke is pleased to announce its findings on its 'Phase I' research into land-based gaming. An executive summary will be available for any community member upon request early next week.

In Onerahtókha/April the MCK informed the community that it would be conducting preliminary research into land-based gaming throughout the summer. As part of Phase I the MCK researched three types: 1) video lottery terminal/slot machine facilities, 2) 'racino' facilities (horse/dog track and sports betting) and, 3) casino facilities.

In summary, Phase I preliminary research has clearly indicated that the most viable and potentially profitable facility would be a casino. However, much more professional research is required. Chief & Council are expected to make a decision on whether to proceed with Phase II research shortly. This would include a Market Feasibility Study; an Economic Impact Study; and a Social Impact Study as well as a technical survey to gauge community opinion on whether or not such a venture is wanted.

Once Phase II is completed – and if the information and findings are positive – Chief & Council would most likely call another land-based casino referendum in 2012 as the formal method of seeking community approval.

Chief & Council are expected to table the Phase II \$115,000 budget request from Operational Reserves during the Monday, 12 Seskehkó:wa/September Council meeting. (Please note that Phase I research was done in-house, with no additional cost or budget). Should this request be accepted, work will begin on Phase II. Additionally, the MCK will hold a special Community Meeting on this topic in the coming weeks.

"We'd like to remind the community that any land-based gaming venture would have to abide by the five principles set out by Chief & Council in April," said Grand Chief Michael Ahrírhon Delisle, Jr. "The **collective** must be the prime beneficiary; no lands slated for housing developments will be used; community members shall receive a **dividend**; social impacts will be addressed through immediate and effective measures; and there will be **independent** community management of all gaming profits."

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For further information, please contact:
Joe Delaronde, Political Press Attaché
Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke
450-632-7500 or joe.delaronde@mck.ca