Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Creek clean up a success!

(Kahnawake – 30, Seskehkó:wa/September 2013) The Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office undertook a successful creek cleanup event last Thursday, September 26th, thanks to the help of community members, including students from the Survival School that came out to support the effort. The clean up this year focused on two areas of concern in the community. The first was a creek blockage that had started after a tree had fallen across the creek. Over time, this tree collected other branches and debris carried downstream until it became a solid mass blocking the movement of fish through the river. It is estimated that this blockage had accumulated over years however with the help of volunteers; the creek was restored within a matter of hours using no more than man power, stubbornness, and the help of a chainsaw to clear the original fallen tree that started the mess!

The second site was on the Little Suzanne River in an area that seems to have been a hotspot for old bicycles. Among other debris, staff and volunteers removed about ten bicycles, which are now slated for the scrap metal bin.

The Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office would like to thank the volunteers who made this event a success: Lisa Borrello, Kenya Bero, Raven McGregor, Tharonhiateka Skye, Karonhiakeron Dickson, Towanna Miller, Jeremiah Johnson, Marcie Gibson, and Peter Serabella.



Creek Blockage obstructing flow and fish movement in Suzanne River



Restored creek after clean-up effort



Survival School students passing debris from the creek. Sticks and mud were placed beyond the top of the bank to prevent it from being carried back into the creek during high spring flows.



Volunteers posing behind the pile of bikes pulled out of the Little Suzanne River.

SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEDIA

Please mention at your discretion.

For further information on this release contact Gene Diabo at 450-632-7500, ext. 2254