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Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

MCK Addresses "Band Card" Fraud

For immediate release

(Kahnawá:ke – 7, Kenténha/October 2005) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke (MCK) announced today that an affidavit is to be made available at the MCK for community members' signature. The affidavit is a solemn affirmation that the person signing has never used his/her Kahnawá:ke Native Status number ("band number") to purchase tobacco or tobacco products, nor consented to have his/her number used for that same purpose.

Numerous requests from community members have asked the MCK for assistance in assuring that their numbers have not been used without their knowledge and, if it is discovered that abuses have taken place, find ways to rectify the problem.

Those wishing to sign can do so at the MCK main office weekdays from 8:30am to 4pm, beginning Tuesday, 11 Kenténha/October. A Commissioner of Oaths will be available to witness the signing.

"There is a definite need to ensure that the rights of community members are protected from abuses, alleged or otherwise," said Grand Chief Michael Ahríhron Delisle, Jr. "The affidavits will give the MCK an excellent tool to work with in order to properly deal with this complicated issue."

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