

#### Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

# PRESS RELEASE

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As per the MCK Communications Protocol, all media requests must be arranged through the Public Relations / Communications

#### Additional updates on housing

#### For immediate release

**(Kahnawake – 29, Kentenhkó:wa/November 2022)** The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) is informing the community of follow up activities on the announcement by the Executive Director on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, regarding the results of the Housing fraud criminal investigation.

Most notable, oversight of the file has been undertaken by Executive Operations Officer Alan John Rice, who oversees the Housing Unit. As announced, the MCK had initiated immediate actions in 2018 that mitigated the situation and ensured these types of activities never again occur in the future. More recently, the MCK has added increased priority and urgency to resolving situations on an individual basis.

"The first announcement on the result of the criminal investigation was extremely difficult for much of the community, MCK employees included," said Executive Operations Officer, Alan John Rice. "We've received several questions and concerns, many of which have been presented to the community in different forms. Forthcoming, we will resume efforts to provide up-to-date information as best we can."

Community members who believe they do/may have fraudulent activity on their account are encouraged to contact Client Based Services to open a file. Representatives from the Housing Unit, Credit Management, financial consultant from the Osborne Group, and MCK Executive Alan John Rice, will work with individuals on resolving their issues. An improved triage process will allow individuals to receive prompt follow up with these representatives within the ensuing days. Should cases where accounts need reconciliation or legal support, other representatives will be made available at the follow up session.

To reach Client Based Services, please call 450-638-0500. The formal address made on November 3<sup>rd</sup> can be watched in its entirety here. kahnawake.com video.

"The MCK team is working diligently to ensure the community has the most up-to-date information," continued Rice. "Coincidentally, work towards the overall improvement to housing services is ongoing and announcements are forthcoming."

In December, updates on the Housing Study, Restructuring Strategy and the Financial Reconciliation project will be presented to the Council of Chiefs by the Housing Unit Director Areti Malliarou and the external consultants from the Osborne Group and D. Brant & Associates, which will ultimately guide the direction for further improving performance within the Housing Unit and introduce new and improved programs that will be available to the community.