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Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k **PRESS RELEASE**

MCK extends condolences

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 30, Kentenhkó:wa/November 2022) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) wishes to express its deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Mr. Kory Cross, who passed away after a long battle with cancer this past Monday. He was the beloved spouse of Samantha Montour-Cross, a long-time employee of the MCK who works directly with the Council of Chiefs. She has been the Executive Assistant to the past three Grand Chiefs.

"In many ways, this is like losing a member of the MCK's family," said Ohén:ton Í:iente ne Ratitsénhaienhs (Grand Chief) Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer. "Sam has been a great colleague and an even better friend to so many of us through the past twenty years or so. She stood steadfast by Kory and her family while he struggled bravely with his illness. It's especially difficult when a young family is impacted in such a tragic way. On behalf of all of us at the MCK, I offer our most heartfelt condolences."

"Sam, his children, and his extended family have suffered a tremendous loss," said Ratsénhaienhs Michael Delisle, Jr. "I grew close to Sam and Kory during my time as Grand Chief. He was a man of integrity with an unmatched love for his family. I join everyone in wishing the family the strength to move forward during this most difficult and challenging time."

"With four people having passed away in the course of less than a week, this has been a particularly difficult time for the community," added Grand Chief Sky-Deer. "We will keep these families in our thoughts at this time and wish their loved ones safe passage as they rejoin their ancestors in the sky world."

Visitation takes place beginning today at 6pm at the Kahnawà:ke Legion Branch 219, with the funeral taking place at the Legion on Friday at 11am.

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