

STRENGTH

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UNITY

# Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

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*Tsi Ietsenhaientáhkwawa*  
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19, Tsothohrkó:wa/January 2015

Wa'tkonnonhwerá:ton/Greetings,

It is with great sorrow that we have been made aware of the passing of the Honorable Aurélien Gill, one of the most important and influential leaders of the Innu people in recent history.

As former Chief of his community of Mashteuiatsh for many years, he had the confidence of his own people. That confidence was borne from his experiences as a business leader, educator, advocate and family man. The respect that he earned throughout his career was validated by his appointment to the Canadian Senate in 1998 by then-Prime Minister Jean Crétien. His service was exemplary and he dedicated himself to furthering the cause of his people and First Nations across Canada.

He gained friends across the country, including many here in Kahnawà:ke. He was always generous with his time and met often with representatives of our community, including yours truly. His loss will be felt by many, but the results of his life's work will be remembered for many years to come.

We join the many who will mourn his passing but we will also celebrate a life well-lived. As there is no doubt there were a great many sacrifices made by both Chief/Senator Gill and his family during a lifetime of service to his community, family and nation, we are pleased that was able to spend his final years close to those he loved most.

On behalf of the community I offer sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues and send our best wishes as he prepares for his final journey.

**ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS  
MOHAWK COUNCIL OF KAHNAWÀ:KE**



Grand Chief Michael Ahríhron Delisle Jr

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