

# Orihwase'shón:'a ne Wahta Rontenro Raotirihwá:ke

**Enniskó:wa** — *time of great tardiness*

MARCH 2017



*This issue....*

Chiefs Message  
Health Services  
Education and Training  
FYI & Notices

**NEW!**

Check out our new  
website page at  
[www.wahtamohawks.com](http://www.wahtamohawks.com/citizenship)  
/citizenship  
(login required)

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## **TRADITIONAL KIDS CAMP**

**MARCH 14, 15 & 16, 2017**

**9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**LONGHOUSE – WAHTA MOHAWKS**

**The theme is Survival Skills Camp. The children will be spending most of their days outside.**

**PLEASE PROVIDE SNOWPANTS, MITTS AND HAT.**

**Snacks, lunch and drinks will be provided.**

**Please contact Kristal by March 7th to sign your child up.**

**705-762-2354 ext. 230. I will also require your child's jacket size.**

Election Information

KPMG will be conducting the  
Election

Assistant Electoral Officer :  
Matthew Commandant

Nomination Meeting :  
March 4th, 2017

Qualifying Meeting :  
March 11th, 2017

Election :  
March 18th, 2017

# MARCH 2017

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Tutoring 3:30-5:30 (CHC)	2 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC)	3	4 NOMINATION MEETING (AB)
5	6 After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC) Yoga 8pm (CHC)	7 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC)	8 Tutoring 3:30-5:30 (CHC) Foot Care (AB)	9 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC)	10	11 QUALIFYING MEETING (AB)
12	13 Yoga 8pm (CHC)  March Break	14 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) Traditional Kids Camp 9-4  March Break	15 Traditional Kids Camp 9-4  March Break	16 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) Traditional Kids Camp 9-4  March Break	17  March Break	18 ELECTION (AB)
19	20 Yoga 8pm (CHC)	21 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC) Crafts 1-3 (CHC)	22 Tutoring 3:30-5:30 (CHC) Community Shopping	23 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC)	24	25
26	27 After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC) Colouring 1-3 (AB) Yoga 8pm (CHC)	28 Pole Walking 9-10 (AB) After School Kids 3:30-5:30 (CHC) Community Meeting 7pm (AB)	29 Chair Exercises Healthy Lunch (CHC)	30	31	

Locations AB = Administration Building CHC = Cultural Healing Centre

## *From the Desk of the Chief Philip Franks*

This month I will do a recap of some points of interest that council has been working through to date.

As mentioned before Council is beginning the process of the Additions to Reserves where the lands that were returned to us through the land claim need to be returned to reserve status. We had an initial meeting this month with Indigenous Affairs Canada, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests. During that time, we went through a long list of areas that will need to be addressed. There are environmental assessments, a re-survey of the lands or confirmation of the older survey, jurisdictional issues between the province, as well as neighbouring municipalities. In short, it could take up to 5 years before those lands are added to the reserve. To do this in a timely manner someone will need to be hired to be the coordinating body and contact person between all parties involved.

As Chief I have attended meetings with the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians Chiefs Council. Although relationships with the province have been renewed there are still many areas of concern after the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions report and the Calls to Action report.

Some of those areas of concern are Child welfare, this is an area that needs a lot of work, it is a three (3) party process between our communities, the federal and provincial governments.

Taxation, specifically gasoline and tobacco are being discussed as well. The province is proposing changes to the way these things are handled and those talks are continuing. Another initiative underway is understanding the treaties between our communities and the province in today's modern world.

Ontario Hydro and possible First Nation rates con-

tinue to be discussed. First Nations are proposing the elimination of delivery charges for First Nations members, also a First Nation rate be applied whether a customer lives on reserve or not. No decision has been forthcoming on this yet.

Also, regarding hydro is the Sovereign Wealth Fund that would see First Nations owning shares in Ontario Hydro. There is a deadline of December 2017 for First Nations to join the process. Basically First Nations in Ontario would form a partnership. The first revenues for a few years would be put into buying the shares that have been set aside, and following that, the returns would be distributed to First Nations. Details on how that could work will be discussed over the coming months.

There was a meeting with the Ministry of Natural Resources at Wahta in February regarding Fire Suppression. Calling the appropriate authorities in the event of a fire is still an ongoing issue. If there is a bush/forest fire the MNR is responsible, if there is a structural fire the local fire department in Bala is responsible. An information kit will be distributed to explain this and to keep those reminders out to the public.

Wahta Council has been working toward a by-law to deal with strengthening the rules around acts of trespass, not only in certain designated areas on the territory, but extending to lands occupied by rightful Certificate of Possession holders, so that they too will have some protection.

Such a by-law would strengthen our existing by-law regarding hunting and fishing as well. A draft was presented at the recent General Meeting and will continue through Council's Consultation process until people have had their input regarding any changes or additions to the document. The draft, FAQ and a plain language version will be shared with the whole membership and is now available on the website at [www.wahtamohawks.com/reports](http://www.wahtamohawks.com/reports)

The second phase of work to the Cultural Healing Centre will be underway soon. This project would see the basement to be finished with structural support, drywall, floor repairs and finished woodwork. Decking will also be added to the building. Completion of this project is targeted for early summer.

### **Membership, Leadership and Governance: A Community Peacemaking Process:**

There was a weekend retreat held recently for members to consider where Wahta is going in terms of defining membership. The event was held at Rama Conference Centre and was well attended, an initial look at the meeting evaluations show a positive outcome .

You can download the pdf presentations from this event on our website at [www.wahtamohawks.com/community-unity](http://www.wahtamohawks.com/community-unity), the conference was also videotaped, those video files will be available on the website shortly.

The retreat highlighted three (3) key areas; where we are with the Indian Act and how we got to where we are today, how we view what we have today and what might work better, as well as looking at traditional values and identity such as The Great Law of Peace.

While much of the weekend was devoted to making information available to the members, there was ample time for small group discussions. The meeting was not designed to begin making decisions, if the membership is ready to change then that work would

begin in another phase of consultation. Three Bears Consulting will be completing the work they have been contracted to do, however for the time being there will be a hold on things until after our election, then the decision can be made on how to proceed. The goal over this term of council has been to ensure we have a clear process of defining our membership, and having attained that work we can begin looking at governance for the future.

The work of Chief and Council is now winding down, we have remained focused on the strategic plan that was developed and shared with the membership. Events over this term have indicated a need existed for a process to help this community increase unity and identify what is important to us and learn from each other about how we can work together.

In closing, I would like to recognize the Council and Administration for the last three (3) years of hard work that has been completed for the future of the community ,especially regarding our younger members and what they will inherit.

This term was not without difficult issues yet we have persevered and even thrived amongst adversity. From infrastructure to retaining a cultural identity, Council and staff continued to maintain a peaceful and prosperous plan.

Niá:wenhkó:wa

Chief Philip Franks



### **Membership, Leadership and Governance Presenters**

From left to right: Rick Hill, Ed Connors, Kevin Deer, Alisa Lombard, Kahente Horn-Miller





# HEALTH SERVICES

## Cultural Education Series

**Saturday, March 4th, 10-2 and on March 18th, 10-2** at the Cultural Healing Centre

## Foot Care

**Wednesday, March 8th,** at the **Administration Building**

## Community Shopping

Join us for a day of shopping in Barrie on **Wednesday, March 22**. Pick up will be at **9am**. Please Contact Christine (273).

## Colouring Club

Let's beat the Winter Blues "Coloring has been shown to have stress-reducing benefits. The reason? Coloring is said to calm the amygdala, the part of the brain related to the fear/stress response while stimulating the parts of the brain responsible for creativity and logic. In fact, coloring therapy is being used experimentally for those with anxiety and stress related disorders. Some people report sleeping better when coloring for even 5 minutes before bedtime". So let's colour!! **Monday March 27th, 1-3pm** at the Cultural Centre register with Christine or Sherry.

## Chair Exercise and Healthy Lunch

**Wednesday, March 29th. Cultural Center 10:30-1** register with Christine

## EDUCATION

POST SECONDARY applications for 2017/2018 are now available. Students planning to return to school must reapply. Please contact Carol at [carol.holmes@wahtamohawks.ca](mailto:carol.holmes@wahtamohawks.ca) or call 705-762-2354 x 233 to request an application form. Completed forms must be returned before March 31, 2017.

PRE-SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAM has had a great start.... Each Monday from 10-12 children ages under 1 year to 3 years gather at the cultural centre for a place to play and learn. Mohawk language will be incorporated into the morning as much as possible.

Future programs at the pre-school library program include:

**March 6th Vision Board Workshop program offered by B'sannibimadsiiwin**

This past week an official Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony took place in Toronto between Gord Peters Grand Chief of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Carolyn Bennett Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada and Mitzie Hunter Minister of Education. The primary objective of this partnership among the Parties mentioned above for the purpose of improving the holistic development and learning outcomes of our Kindergarten to grade 12 First Nation students. Wahta Mohawks student, Felicity Smith, prepared a speech about the importance of language and culture being taught in schools. Unfortunately Felicity was sick and couldn't deliver the speech, however it was read aloud and was well received.

# Economic Development

**ICG** - We are waiting for the new council to finalize plans for ICG and the ICG site.

## Other projects:

- \* We are working on a service centre for the ICG interchange. It is early days, but the vision is for an "On Route" type of facility with gas, coffee, fast food, convenience store, native crafts, etc. At this point the Band would act as landlord and lease out space to operators.
- \* An application will be submitted for funding to bring in a fibre optic cable to the Territory for high speed internet access.
- \* The Community Energy Audit is ongoing. If you would like to have your home on the territory audited please contact Lance DeCaire at 705-762-2354 ex 224. The audit will be the first step in reducing electric bills on Wahta. If you are not on the Territory but have a home in Ontario, the Ontario government has a new energy audit program with some subsidies for new appliances, windows, etc. Information can be found at <https://ohecip.ca/en/>
- \* We need a name for the Wahta Development Corporation. Virtually all successful community owned aboriginal businesses are run through development corporations. We are working with a native legal team that has set up several development corporations and we will take the best ideas from everywhere to ensure transparency and accountability coupled with the ability to make decisions on a business time frame. More to come soon. Let me know if you have an idea for a name, Lance DeCaire 705-762-2354 ex. 224.



## Wahta Community Church

Sunday services will continue the first Sunday of every month, March 4<sup>th</sup>,  
April 2<sup>nd</sup>

We need your help! If you have a desire to help with music or are interested in other roles please let us know

Faith Circles meet every Tuesday. There is a brown bag lunch (bring your own) at 12pm and a time of storytelling and sharing at 1pm. This is a great way to explore your faith and find support.

If you would like a home visit or a hospital visit, Pastor Derek is available every Tuesday. We continue to value your feedback and look forward to the new year.

Contact Derek Parenteau at (705) 346-1858 or [derek@ruggedtree.org](mailto:derek@ruggedtree.org)



Wahta Mohawks

Box 260

Bala, Ontario,

Canada, P0C 1A0

Phone 705-762-2354

Fax 705-762-2376

## NOTICE OF ELECTION

2017.01.10

### Notice of Nomination

Nominations for the positions of Chief and Council will take place on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 2664 Muskoka Road 38 on Wahta Mohawk Territory between the hours of 14h00 and 18h00 local time. If more than one nomination for a position is received, there will be a poll. Eligibility for Nominators and Nominees are contained in the *Wahta Mohawks Election Rules and Regulations*.

### Qualifying Candidates Forum

In accordance with the *Wahta Mohawks Election Rules and Regulations*, a Qualifying Candidates Forum will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2017 at 2664 Muskoka Road 38 on Wahta Mohawk Territory between the hours of 10h00 and 12h00 local time. All Candidates must attend this meeting.

### Notice of Poll

In accordance with the *Wahta Mohawks Election Rules and Regulations*, if more than one Nominee is nominated for a position on Chief and Council, a Poll will be conducted for the positions on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 2664 Muskoka Road 38 on Wahta Mohawk Territory between the hours of 09h00 and 19h00 local time.

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The Election process will follow the *Wahta Mohawks Election Rules and Regulations* approved by Council on January 8, 2011.

**Photo identification is required for all Electors, without exception.**

For more information please call 705-762-3343.

Paul Pidutti, CPA, CA

Electoral Officer

**Wahta Mohawks**  
**TOBACCO QUOTA APPLICATION**  
 April 2017 – March 2018

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  
 ALL INFORMATION IS KEPT  
 CONFIDENTIAL

**APPLICANT INFORMATION (MUST BE PRIMARY OWNER)**

Name:		
Date of birth:	Email:	Phone:
Mailing Address:		
City:	Prov:	Postal Code:
Do you currently receive a Quota? Yes: No:		
If yes, what is your current allotment? Cartons		

**BUSINESS INFORMATION**

Business Name:		
Location:		
Mailing Address:		Box Number:
City:	Prov:	Phone:
Postal Code:		
Type of Business: Sole Owner: Partnership: Corporation: Association:		

**CO-OWNER(S)/ PARTNERS/ASSOCIATES INFORMATION**

Name:		Box Number:
Mailing Address:		Phone:
City:	Prov:	Postal Code:
Name:		Box Number:
Mailing Address:		Phone:
City:	Prov:	Postal Code:
Name:		Box number:
Mailing Address:		Phone:
City:	Prov:	Postal Code:

**I certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.  
 I understand and agree that providing false information may result in loss of quota privileges.**

Signature of applicant:	Date:
Signature of Wahta Council Member:	Date :
Approved: Yes: No:	Allotment: Cartons
If <b>not</b> approved, specify reason:	



## Chief and Council

Chief Philip Franks	philip.franks@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-528-9468
Councilor Mike DeCaire	mike.decaire@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-644-3384
Councilor Teresa Greasley	teresa.greasley@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-644-9934
Councilor Stuart Lane	stuart.lane@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-641-1548
Councilor Lawrence Schell	lawrence.schell@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-644-3001

## Administration

705-762-2354

Karen Commandant	Senior Administrator	Ext. 231
Scott Aubichon	Lands and Resources Coordinator	Ext. 242
Yvonne Aubichon	Housing Coordinator	Ext. 275
Kristal Berwick	Employment/SS Administrator	Ext. 230
Sherry Byrne	Health Services	Ext. 250
Christine Cox	Health Services Family Violence	Ext. 273
Amy Davidson	Health Services Assistant	Ext. 240
Lance DeCaire	Economic Development Officer	Ext. 224
Carol Holmes	Education Services	Ext. 233
Colleen Mendes	AHWS/NCWPW/AHBHC	Ext. 241
Joanne Contant	Finance Officer	Ext. 245
Kim North	Finance Clerk	Ext. 237
Karen Sahanatien	Lands and Housing Clerk	Ext. 222
Martie Stanton	Executive Assistant/Human Resources	Ext. 272
Kara Wanoth-Mee	Community Wellness Worker	EXT. 227

***Please Feel Free to Call with any Questions or Concerns***

*Administration Office Hours:*

*Monday thru Thursday, 8:00am—4:30 pm*

*Fridays 8:00 am—2:00 pm*

