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



Kentenhko:wa- The time of much Poverty



November 2017



# Traditional Bean Supper & Silent Auction

Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 530pm at the administration building

Auction ends at 8 you do not need to be present to win

Larger auction items will be auctioned off in a live auction

Tickets will be on sale as of Oct 1, the administration building

\$10.00 non-member, \$5.00 members

Wild meat and item donations for the silent auction are now being accepted

Proceeds go towards Children's programming

Please contact Amy or Kim

#### This issue....

Calendar of Events Minutes **Health Services Education and Training FYI & Notices Employment Opportunity** 

# **Notice Hydro Distribution** line brushing

The brushing of the distribution lines on Wahta Mohawks Territory has commenced by our Wahta Mohawks members.

Please Contact me if you have any questions.

Scott Aubichon Wahta Mohawks Land Manager Office: 705-762-2354 Ext 242 scott.aubichon@wahtamoha wks.ca



# NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Tutoring CC	2 Community Winter Craft 8:30 AB		4 Bean Supper 5:30 AB
5	6 Afterschool Program CC	Afterschool Program CC Faith Circle 7 pm CC	Tutoring CC Foot Care AB LTC Update Meeting AB	9	10	11
12	Afterschool Program CC	gram CC	15 Tutoring CC Movement_Therapy 10:30 AB	16	17	18
19	Afterschool Program CC	gram CC	22 Tutoring CC  Drum Group CC	23	24	25
26	27 Afterschool Program CC Colouring AB Healthy Living AB		29 Tutoring 3:30-5:30 CC Chair Exercise AB	Gommunity Kitchen AB		2

# Chief and Council Update November 2107

As everyone begins to prepare for the change in season this month Council work continues on many issues and projects and the areas of health and social, infrastructure for the future, and governance, and considering what the future of the Wahta membership might look like. Council has been meeting regularly with agencies and other governments to examine issues and put forth concerns that Wahta has.

A recent meeting with the District of Muskoka and the OPP detachment commander was very engaging. We spoke mostly about Muskoka Rd 38 and the issues of speed and safety, but also matters of maintenance. One of the issues was on vegetation and invasive species and how this will be dealt with. Wahta's normal stance has been no spraying of herbicides as we had seen with the hydro right of way for the transmission towers that go through the community. In the latest case of the very tall vegetation along the roadway in wet areas they are using a spot treatment herbicide they claim is safe which only affects the invasive plants. This is something we will look more closely at. On the safety side a number of measures for next year were looked at to try reduce speeding vehicles, on of which is to declare a community safety zone. Follow up on these discussions will occur over the next months.

We will also be looking at the Ministry of Indigenous Relations latest policy paper on the duty to consult with First Nations. Ontario does not seem to have an overall policy on this crossing all ministries. Among the details of how consultation should occur, we will stress that consultation is a government to government issue not involving third parties, and that if a policy is adopted by Indigenous relations, it must apply to all ministries across the Ontario government.

Regarding our work in governance areas we are continuing with the membership work and how we might go forth to the future. Our membership has opinions about blood quantum that vary. The community meetings we have are very important for people to have a say. Our membership looks very different than it did even thirty years ago. We need to recognize that and be able to go forward maintaining our identity as Wahta Mohawks. How we do that will not be contained in just one document describing membership, but in all activities and governance issues we have.

With the capital water project where a communal water system could be placed in the area of the subdivision housing the engineers are currently looking to identify a good supply of water to serve the need. The next step would be to locate a source and test its reliability.

Along with housing, our involvement the First Nations Market Housing Fund is nearly complete. It is expected the program will roll out by February next year offering alternatives in financing for renovating, building or buying a house. Once in place a prospective home builder will have time to consider the options under this program, make application to the program with approval from the bank and be ready for a spring build. The other part of the program involves capacity building for the community in areas of policy development for housing and governance, and we will take advantage of those opportunities during the first year to address short comings we have.

After meeting with Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child and Family Services council has put forth a resolution indicating Wahta would become a part of that organization rather than the mainstream child and family services delivered in Muskoka. We will be having a follow up meeting to address areas of concern in conjunction with our legal advisor.

This process will take a number of months before any actual service delivery in children's aid begins on the ground. Training is underway in November.

One of the initiatives of late is the creation of a hunting and fishing bylaw. To avoid any confusion that is occurring it should be noted this is a draft for community consultation, and more importantly it is to apply to anyone other than our membership who would receive permission to hunt and fish on the territory. The current draft is much longer that our existing bylaw. The reason for this is that the old by law of the 1970s merely referred to the regulations of Ontario. It did not spell out any specifics while this draft attempts to do so. For example the Ontario regulations only allow hunting for deer during a short two weeks while sometimes with climate change hunting may be better later in November. There are public consultations going on to get feedback on the by law so please have your say at these meetings or reach out to us via email or telephone. The main reason behind the bylaw is to help preserve the resources, while respecting the relations we have with other Mohawk communities in allowing hunters into our area as they have this right following the 1701 treaty with the crown.

Tied in with the above and to assist in meeting the needs of the community, work is ongoing a general trespass bylaw. Such a document will assist us in issues we are facing in a changing community and offer support to deal with those issues to keep the peace and safety of our membership at the forefront.

In economic development we were funded to a feasibility study to examine highway property at the north end starting at Iroquois Cranberry Growers. This would look at what type of business development could be successful in that area. A service centre is one ideas but there may be others depending of the availability of space, water, and other infrastructure that may be needed.

It should be repeated at this time that Council is always open to questions and comments. Particularly, if there are concerns about the direction of Wahta's future, or current administration and finances areas these need to be brought forward so correct information can be provided.

Over the winter Wahta council will be considering many policies in many areas that need to be in place to help guide the administration and community in a productive and fair manner going forward. Some of these we have in place such as a financial policy, education, housing and personnel, they are all being reviewed by administration and revised and updated as required to meet todays situation.

Don't forget the annual Bean Supper and silent auction on November 4. I will be away and not be able to attend but I am sure it will be a great feast once again and as always.

Nia:wenh kowa for reading,

Chief Philip Franks

# July 2017 Council Weekly Meeting Summaries

# Council Weekly Meeting Summary - July 26, 2017

#### In Attendance:

⊠P Franks ⊠L Schell ⊠B Commandant ⊠T Greasley ⊠L Strength-Fenton

#### Agenda:

**07.26.01 KPMG Audit** – Went over the audit with Finance and KPMG. Full presentation at next general meeting. See motion below.

**07.06.02** Housing Policy MCR – Final review of the First Nation Market Housing Policy. MCR 2018/2018-38 signed.

**o7.26.03 Faith Circles** – The Pastor is requesting the use of the Cultural Healing Centre to hold weekly faith circles. He feels some people want it to be more open and not limited to any particular religion, if held at the CHC then this is possible. Council agreed that he can host Faith Circles weekly.

**o7.26.04** - **Land Sale Offer** – Member is interested in selling property to band. Land identification will be completed through the Neeghan Burnside Housing Study, this will identify potential lots with good foundation for structural buildings. Will be looking at this study before any land is considered for purchase.

**o7.26.05 Iroquois Caucus Conference Call** – Discussed issues such as the New Brunswick hunting case currently before the courts which could affect Federal rights to all First Nations.

#### **Motions:**

<u>07.26.01</u> Motion to accept the financial statements ending March 31, 2017 completed by KPMG. Carried by consensus

Next meeting: Thurs Aug 3, 2017

# **August 2017 Council Weekly Meeting Summaries**

# Council Weekly Meeting Summary - August 3, 2017

#### In Attendance:

☑P Franks ☐L Schell ☑B Commandant ☑T Greasley ☑L Strength-Fenton

#### Agenda:

**o8.o3.o1 Board of Directors** – Reviewed Board of Directors terms of reference. Conference call with Cherie Brant cancelled due to illness.

**o8.o3.o2** - **Survey Area Approval** – Survey area of ICG and Hwy. 400 reviewed. Feasibility study funding application submitted.

**o8.o3.o4 Request for Proposal Update** – Request for proposals will be drafted for extensive work at one of the senior's units, new flooring and sub flooring and various other work is required.

**o8.o3.o5 Monument for Chiefs Plaque Approval** – Deferred for now until more quotes come in and a second opinion is obtained and the choices for updating are discussed

**o8.o3.o6** Education Policy Review – Met with Education Coordinator to discuss changes to the Education Policy. Some changes such as the number of tiers, travel, living allowances and related fields for continuing education have been addressed. Will review for approval

Next meeting: Wed August 9, 2017

# Council Weekly Meeting Summary - August 9, 2017

#### In Attendance:

☑P Franks □L Schell ☑B Commandant ☑T Greasley ☑L Strength-Fenton

#### Agenda:

**o8.09.01 BANAC Primary Health Care Team Review** – The BANAC team is looking at the needs assessment for Wahta and their primary care team application review. This will include ways to fill voids in our communities with the inclusion of traditional healing. They are also requesting a BCR letter of support.

**o8.09.02 Language Revitalization Review** – Reviewed the Language Strategy Report completed by Ryan DeCaire. Discussed what the next steps may be for initiating a complete work plan for language strategy and engagement.

**o8.09.03 Library Funding** – There is funding available for a part time position for the library, this was typically taken on by current staff but may be best served as a separate part time position that could also include some community programming.

## **Upcoming Travel/Meeting Dates:**

Alisa Lombard Conference Call Aug 23, 2017

Dnaagdawenmag Child and Family Services Meeting Sept 20, 2017

Next meeting: Wed August 16, 2017

# Council Weekly Meeting Summary - August 16, 2017

#### In Attendance:

☑P Franks ☑L Schell ☑B Commandant ☑T Greasley ☑L Strength-Fenton

## Agenda:

**o8.16.01 - Education Policy Adoption – Review of final changes approved. See motion below.** 

**o8.16.02 - Membership Meeting Update** – A date of Sept, 9 2017 has been scheduled to resume the membership meetings. Alisa Lombard has completed the legal review and will be attending along with Waneek Horn-Miller.

**o8.16.03 - Language Activator** – A job description has been reviewed and posted. Discussion was held to identify funding options for this position and ongoing language revitalization.

**o8.16.04** – **District of Muskoka** – Discussions on the upcoming District meeting were held, what topics are of most importance to Wahta such as speeding, safety zone, signage, vegetation management etc.

**o8.16.05 - First Aid Training** – As part of the Health and Safety requirements First Aid Training is provided to all staff and Chief and Council. There are available dates in Sept and October.

#### **Motions:**

o8.16.01 - Motion to adopt Education Policy with changes August 2017. Carried by consensus

## **Upcoming Travel/Meeting Dates:**

End of August public council meeting has been changed from August 29 to Sept 5, 2017.

**Next meeting:** Wed August 23, 2017

# Council Weekly Meeting Summary - August 23, 2017

In Attendance:

☑P Franks ☑L Schell ☐B Commandant ☑T Greasley ☑L Strength-Fenton

#### Agenda:

**o8.23.01 2017-2018 Contribution Agreement and Reporting Template ALI** – An Aboriginal Language Initiative Historical Project funding has been granted to record the vocal language history through elders and speakers amongst Wahta membership. This project was underfunded and the shortfall is covered as per motion below. Job postings are to follow.

**08.23.02** Neeghan Burnside Housing Study – Meeting scheduled for Sept 27, 2017

**o8.23.03 Backpacks for kids Press Release** – Tribes Helping Tribes and Chief Bob Lowe have donated to the children of Wahta free backpacks with supplies. A press release by the same group will follow

**o8.23.04 Ministers Meeting Update Sept 8.** – Went over items of discussion for the Minister of Reconciliation and Indigenous Relations David Zimmer. Items include Raggid Rapids Road, ICG road and Hwy 400, tourism in the area and economic opportunities and funding availability.

**o8.23.05 AEDF Feasibility study at ICG drive & Hwy 400** – The Aboriginal Economic Development Fund application has been approved to do the feasibility study at ICG drive and Hwy 400 in the amount of \$93500.

**o8.23.06 Election Regulations & Citizenship Regulations review with Alisa Lombard** – A conference call with Alisa Lombard was held to discuss questions she had on the current election regulations. The complete legal review is ongoing.

#### **Motions:**

**08.23.01** – Motion to cover shortfall of \$23 978 for the Aboriginal Language Historical Project. Carried by consensus

Next meeting: Wed August 31, 2017

# Council Weekly Meeting Summary - August 31, 2017

#### In Attendance:

☑P Franks ☑L Schell ☑B Commandant ☑T Greasley ☑L Strength-Fenton

#### Agenda:

**o8.31.01 Strategic Planning** – Reviewed several changes to Strategic Plan, work ongoing, update to be completed by next general meeting.

**08.31.02 Health and Safety Committee** – New Health and Safety committee as stated in motion below.

**o8.31.03 Economic Development Update** – Discussed several items such as a meeting with RBC to discuss possible line of credit for any future business endeavours, how to best sell off the remaining ICG equipment, highway signage, etc. A new corporation of Wahta Signs Inc. has been formed to handle all signage finances and income. The corporation expenses include insurance, accounting, legal fees and general business expenses as per motion below. Rental rates for highway signage was discussed.

#### **Motions:**

**o8.31.02** – Motion to appoint the new Health and Safety Committee that will consist of seven members of staff including Martie Stanton on behalf of Management aa well as Amy Davidson, Harry Byrne, Scott Aubichon, Matt Commandant, Nicole Belcourt and Kim North. Carried by consensus.

**o8.31.03** – Motion to grant a promissory note for \$10 000 to cover insurance, accounting and legal fees for Wahta Signs Inc. a branch of Wahta Development Corporation. Carried by consensus

Next meeting: Wed Sept, 6 2017

# Sept 5, 2017 Community Meeting Minutes

Date: Sept 5, 2017

**Present**: Chief Philip Franks, Councillor Lawrence Schell, Councillor Blaine Commandant, Councillor Strength-Fenton and members. Regrets Councillor Teresa Greasley

**Call to Order**: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Adoption of the Agenda: Moved by Councillor Commandant, Seconded by Councillor Schell. Carried.

**Adoption of Minutes of July 25, 2017:** Moved by Councillor Strength-Fenton Seconded by Chief Franks. Carried.

#### **New Business**

- Wahta Signs Inc. There have been many inquiries into Highway sign rental, there are currently four sign locations that will bring in approx. \$600 \$800 per month per sign. The new corporation is called Wahta signs inc
- Chiefs Monument Looking into getting the Chiefs monument fixed as it is crumbling on the inside. Some ideas are to take the plaque off and replace it and keep the original in a safe place, or repair the plaques and add another one in the back or try and restore it as is and have a stand alone plaque that identifies what the original plaque says. All options are being considered and estimates for work are currently underway. There was some discussion on moving the peace/Hiawatha belt as well.
- •Education Policy The revised education policy has been approved. Some changes such as the number of tiers, travel, living allowances and related fields for continuing education have been addressed. A member inquired about how Wahta can fund members without status, Chief Franks mentioned that INAC education funding addresses those with status only. The trust could address those members without status. There was discussion on how long files are kept and if there is an ongoing database of who graduated from what program, this information is not on an official database but available to the Education coordinator. There was discussion around people that have had their education paid agreeing to volunteer or give back in some way to Wahta, Chief Franks felt this would be difficult to enforce.

• Meeting with District - Meeting with the district October 11 to go over speeding issues, signage, increased visibility, vegetation and visual management also meeting with the new OPP Detachment Commander at a later date to go over speeding issues as well.

## Old Business/ Follow-up

- First Nation Market Housing Fund Policy and Procedures Resolution to accept housing policy, making it easier to build, buy or renovate a home through a qualifying bank.
- Iroquois Caucus Update
  - **Hunting and Fishing** There is a hunting court case in New Brunswick in which 7 hunters were charged at the border for hunting Moose. All Iroquois Caucus communities are in agreement to assist financially with caucus funds and the court is now working on a settlement.
  - **Medical Marijuana Licensing** Akwesasne and Kahnawake are looking at medial marijuana licensing. Tyendinaga are currently invested in this also
  - **Algonquin Land Settlement Claim** This claim overlaps with traditional Iroquoian territories will have to be dealt with ongoing.
  - **Tobacco Pilot Program** This was discussed, the retailers will get the name brands at a higher price opening up competition in the marketplace. Those higher fees are paid to the Ministry and then paid back to the retailers. It is only a test program at this point and needs more work.
  - Language Strategy Update The language strategy is now complete and we are now looking for a language activator to keep the strategy initiatives going. The new position has been posted.
- **AEDF** (**Aboriginal Economic Development Fund**) **Feasibility Motion Summary** The study has been approved. \$93 500 in funding has been approved for a feasibility study for the Hwy 400 area. The Minister of Indigenous reconciliation is also visiting the area and looking at other available opportunities in funding and infrastructure.

#### August 2017 Motion Summary:

- 07.26.01 Motion to accept Financial Statements ending March 31, 2017. Carried by consensus
- **08.16.01** Motion to adopt Education Policy with changes August 2017. Carried by consensus
- **o8.23.01** Motion to cover shortfall of \$23 978 for the Aboriginal Language Historical Project. Carried by consensus
- o8.31.02 Motion to appoint the new Health and Safety Committee that will consist of seven members of staff including Martie Stanton on behalf of Management as well as Amy Davidson, Harry Byrne, Scott Aubichon, Matt Commandant, Nicole Belcourt and Kim North. Carried by consensus.
- **o8.31.03** Motion to grant a promissory note for \$10 000 to cover insurance, accounting and legal fees for Wahta Signs Inc. a branch of Wahta Development Corporation. Carried by consensus

#### **Questions/Comments:**

- The new senior Administrator starts September 11, 2017 as well as a new hire of Sue Tait the new Family Wellness worker primarily working out of the Cultural Healing Centre.
- Legal membership review Sept 9, 2017
- General Meeting Sept 30, 2017
- Tim Thompson stated that Hydro One is initiating a energy assessment plan that may include new appliances for homes to start 2018.
- Carol Holmes asked if there are permits to allow snowmobile trails through Wahta territory. The snowmobile Federation will not issue permits and no formal permission has been granted for access that Chief Franks is aware of.

Next Meeting Date: September 26, 2017

Adjournment



# Flu Clinic available Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> 11-2 Administration Round Room with Sue Siwik

# Citizenship Within Wahta



through blood quantum which only values or contribution.

We are looking for a working group of members that can offer input into what the future means for Wahta and how we can ensure that Wahta's roots stay strong and that our community thrives.

As it stands now the stated purpose of the membership code is to *preserve cultural integrity and* sovereignty.

Our current code is based on Indian Act authority, adopting a method of determining people's rights preserves racial purity and does not address cultural

What does it mean to be a member of Wahta Mohawks?

How do we define community contribution?

Tools such as UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People) state:

"to properly recognize our members through the right to belong to an indigenous community or nation, in accordance with the traditions and customs of the community concerned and no discrimination of any kind may arise from the exercise of this right." UNDRIP

This speaks to a universal goal, but we cannot dismiss the impacts of colonization on our community. How do we recognize these impacts and start to move forward once again in a healthy way?

Some of the issues we face on an ongoing basis include: status vs. non-status, off reserve vs. on reserve members, and blood quantum comparisons all perpetuated by the Indian Act. Many citizens of Wahta Mohawks live away from their home territory, this should not affect the collective rights of the nation, every member counts.

The role of non-member spouses and children is also important, how can we support and encourage everyone in the community and their families?

# **Questions to Consider**

What does it mean to be a member of Wahta Mohawks?

- What do you think you and your family should be receiving and giving back as a Mohawk person, what should community contribution mean?
- How can you contribute and build a stronger Wahta Mohawk Nation?
- Is blood purity the same thing as lineage? What is lineage?
- How do you define your history as a Mohawk person and how will you pass this down to your children?
- What are the impacts on children and grandchildren?
- How would you like to see the future of Wahta for you and your children and grandchildren?
- What are the most important values and principles that should be reflected in our own Wahta citizenship code?

How does the current Citizenship code address the next seven generations?

# Citizenship Criteria

Part of the process is to determine and define the agreed upon criteria. Such criteria to consider may include:

Descendants, Lineage, Blood Quantum, Tradition, Language, Duties and Responsibilities as members, Residency, History, Marriage, Adoption etc.

Chief and Council have the responsibility in the collective decision making process to ensure that the citizenship code, roles and responsibilities reflect the values of Wahta Mohawks and its members. This process will include identifying key decision points, being respectful of other points of view, facilitating and creating a safe place for ongoing discussion.

# Join Us

Please join us Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> 10am – 4pm at the Cultural Healing Centre to start the discussion, lunch is provided.

Please direct any questions or comments to info@wahtamohawks.com

# Aboriginal Legal Advice from Aboriginal Lawyers



#### **ALAAL Clinic**

The purpose of this clinic is to provide <u>culturally appropriate</u>, <u>summary legal advice</u> to aboriginal clients. Lawyers **Cara Valiquette** and **Jay Herbert** will focus on all areas of law, including criminal, child protection, family, and civil law. Services could include: creating wills, Powers of Attorney, and Indian Act issues. The clinic will run approximately once per month, at **three locations**. Space is limited, so sign up in advance!

## **Parry Sound Friendship Centre**

What: Legal clinic for aboriginal clients

Where: 13 Bowes Street

Parry Sound, ON P2A 2K7

When: December 8, 2017

January 16, 2018

February 12, 2018

**Time**: 1pm – 4pm

**Other**: Walk-ins are welcome, but those with appointments will be served first please call 705-746-5970 to book

## Midland Friendship Centre

What: Legal clinic for aboriginal clients

Where: 175 Yonge Street

Midland, ON L4R 2A7

When: December 22, 2017

January 17, 2018 February 16, 2018

Time: 1pm - 4pm

**Other**: Walk-ins are welcome, but those with appointments will be served first please call 705-

526-5589 to book your appointment

## **Barrie Friendship Centre**

What: Legal clinic for aboriginal clients

Where: 175 Bayfield St

Barrie, ON L4M 3B4

When: November 27, 2017

December 18, 2017 January 12, 2017 February 13, 2018

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Other: Walk-ins are welcome, but those with

appointments will be served first please call 705-721-

7689 to book

# First Nations Conservation Program

# Coming to Wahta 2018

Launch party to be announced in the new year to discuss this new program at Wahta.



# **How the Program Works:**

# 1. They look at how you are using energy now

They will visit your home and recommend the best upgrades for your home.

They will start by looking at:

• the light bulbs you are using, and the age of your appliances (e.g., fridge, freezer, dehumidifier and window air conditioner).

If your home is electrically heated, we will also look at:

• whether drafts are coming in through your doors, windows, attic or basement, and your insulation.

## 2. They install your energy-efficient upgrades

After we assess your home's energy efficiency, we will supply and install your upgrades, at no cost to you.

# 3. They show you more easy ways to save

They will also show you how to use your new upgrades and give you advice on more ways to save energy.

# Small upgrades can add up to big benefits

#### THERE'S NO COST TO YOU

They will supply and install all upgrades, free of charge.

#### MAKE YOUR HOME MORE COMFORTABLE

Energy-efficient appliances and other upgrades can improve your comfort, whatever the season.

#### SEE ONGOING ENERGY SAVINGS

With simple upgrades to your home that use less energy, you will save throughout the year.

If you have any questions about this new program call the administration office 705-762-2354

# Wahta Health Hub

Please join me in congratulating Dana and Misty at the Wahta Health Hub. As we all know they are incredibly dedicated and try their best to meet the needs of their patients. After attending their community forum in the first part of October it was easy to see how much their patients appreciate their time and effort.

Below is a direct excerpt from MuskokaRegion.com

"Muskoka's community health hubs received an <u>unprecedented honour</u> from the province in October.

Donna Kearney, co-ordinator for the <u>Muskoka Community Health Hub demonstration project</u>, told staff from the Dorset, Port Carling, Wahta and mobile health hubs, during a presentation in Brace-bridge on Oct. 24, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care had just named the project to the Minister's Medal Honour Roll.

"We feel very proud of each of you and the work you've done," said Kearney. "Without staff, this model would mean nothing. You bring it alive each and every day with the excellent care you give patients."

The hubs, facilitated by the District of Muskoka, funded by the province and meant to enhance access to primary care and community programs and services in rural and remote communities in Muskoka over a three-year trial period, employ 10 staff, including nurse practitioners.

Dana Strength, nurse practitioner with the Wahta Health Hub, had been a nurse for 24 years and a nurse practitioner for 10 years, working in home care, public health and primary care.

"My whole life has been dedicated to primary care and rural care," Strength told muskokaregion.com after the announcement. "It's huge to be recognized by the ministry and the minister because I've been striving for that quality of care, patient participation and respect for the patient as equal partners."

She said without the hub in Wahta, for example, patients would have to travel 65 to 70 kilometres one way for health services.

And they offered flexibility in meeting with patients.

"Part of the quality care for me is spending enough time with a patient," she said. "If I have some-body that is having trouble with depression, anxiety or schizophrenia, I'm spending an hour with them." (Alison Brownlee – MuskokaRegion.com)



Dana and Misty have been through many trials and tribulations to make the Wahta Health Hub a success! So please don't hesitate to acknowledge their achievement!

# **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

# **ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> FROM 12:00 – 4:00 PM

PLEASE RSVP BY NOVEMBER 30TH TO COLLEEN

@ 705-762-2354 ext 241



Children under the age of 16 will receive a gift from Santa.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the food bank.

# **By-law Meeting**

Dear Wahta members,

Greeting to all members both hunters and non-hunters. The Walleye bite is picking up before ice-in with reports of some very large walleye being caught out on Muskoka Lake near the river mouth as they start to stack up outside Bracebridge. Northern Pike are being caught in both good numbers and size near the Huntsville area. The Bass have turned their backs on the weather, they have headed to the deeper sections of the lakes in the Muskoka area where the rocks meet the weed edges. We may have seen the last of the Bass bite for the year unless we get some settled weather again. With fall here in all of it's glory the hunting season is in full swing. I have had reports from hunters in my circle of communication that the Black bear, and Moose seasons have been successful for some and not as well for others. I have enjoyed a few trips out this year with little success, but always nice to spend time in the bush successful or not. I hope that the Wahta members have had some success in their efforts to put meat in the freezer. I would like to know if any members have had any luck with Wild Turkey hunting this year. Please drop by the office to tell me of your success or lack of success with your fishing and hunting this season.

The original meeting scheduled on November 6 will be rescheduled to the 20<sup>th</sup> to allow more members to attend based on hunting seasons. The November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting at the administration building is fast approaching. I would like to extend an invitation to all members, concerned with the proposed changes to the hunting by-law to attend the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will be discussing the purpose for the proposed

change, and reviewing the draft by-law. We will be providing snacks, coffee, and a door prize. This meeting is open to all members both hunters and non-hunters alike. We need your input to create a by-law that protects your rights to hunt and fish. If you cannot attend the November 20th meeting your input on this matter is still valued. Please feel free to stop by my office at the administration building to have a discussion, or make comments on the website under the by-law page.



I look forward to meeting with you either at the meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> or speaking in person at my office at the administration building. William



# **Notice Hunters**

If any hunters would like to donate their hides this year please call kara.

They will use the hides for a community workshop.

# Preserving the Voice of our Language Keepers Wahta Mohawks Video Documentation Project Advisory Committee Required

The Project requires an advisory committee to provide direction on the content of the video and language to be captured. The committee will assist in developing the questions to be asked of the first language speakers. The committee will also provide direction regarding written materials to be produced from the video.

If you are interested please contact Sue at the Cultural Healing Centre, she can be reached at 705-762-3343 and by email sue.tait@wahtamohawks.ca.

# **Last call for Potential Development Corporation Directors**

We are looking for people who would be interested in sitting on a Board of Directors for our Development Corporation.

We are especially looking for members with either accounting or legal expertise.

If this sounds like you contact Lance DeCaire, 705-762-2354 ext 224 or email at:

lance.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca

# Seeking Community Members to Joining Culture Healing Centre Committee

We are seeking community members to join the Cultural Healing Centre Committee. This committee has done a great deal of work to date and is now moving forward to the implementation stage of program planning for the Centre. Meetings will be held starting in October and will require a commitment of a few hours per month.

If interested in joining the committee, please contact our New FWB coordinator, Sue Tait at 705 762 3343 or email her at sue.tait@wahtamohawks.ca

# Peace Process November Meetings

Wahta's Peacemaking Process has begun the next steps of development. We have initiated the next steps that was proposed and introduced to the community through numerous community meetings, telephone conversations, meetings with community members and 2 conferences held over this past year.

This forum will facilitate open, inclusive and transparent dialogue between community members that will enable full consideration of diverse opinions that can lead to agreed upon positions that represent the best interests of the Wahta community. On October 6 and 7 many topics were covered, the main one for this meeting was:

# Belonging

What does it mean to belong to a community?

How do we identify one as belonging?

Have people felt they did not belong and what are the reasons attributed to that?

As community members, you are invited to attend the gatherings of the circle, these meetings are **open to everyone**.

Due to scheduling conflict we will have to reschedule the November Meeting. Will keep you updated with further date.

Ed Connors and Kevin Deer





# Home Maintenance



Wahta Mohawks is hosting Home Maintenance Training on November 14, 15, & 16, with an evening session on the 15<sup>th</sup> for homeowners that can't make it during the day.

Basic plumbing repairs	Basic drywall repairs
How to identify and prevent mold	Day to day HVAC maintenance
How to identify and deal with day to day issues	• The importance of the ventilation system (HRV, range hood & exhaust fans)
Building life cycle and costs	• Identify potential issues regarding the building envelope
Building systems	Energy and the home
What's new in housing	When to contact a professional

The training will be provided by First Nations Technical Services. Space is limited, so sign up today! Lunch and snacks provided. Training at the Cultural Healing Center, 2343 Muskoka Road 38.





# **Snow Removal for Driveways**

#### Dear Homeowner:

Once again this winter season, Wahta Mohawks will be providing snow removal on household driveways for the time period November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. To assist with the planning and billing for this years' service, we are asking that this form be completed and returned as soon as possible. The rate charged will depend upon the area of your driveway. Please contact Karen at the office to determine which rate that applies to you. We are pleased to advise that this service will continue free of charge for our senior residences.

If you would like to have this service for the winter season 2017/2018, please fill out the information below and deliver or mail it to the administration office. Only those who have completed and signed the form will receive this service. There will be no "as needed" service available.

Homeowner
Address:
Please check one of the following for service delivery:
Snow blowing required:
Senior Residence
Community Residence
It is the responsibility of the homeowner to ensure all objects are removed or marked clearly along the driveway area. All items should be at least 3 metres (10ft) from the snow removal area. Wahta Mohawks is not responsible for any damages under any circumstances and if damages do occur, no compensation will be paid. This service is provided at your own risk.
Everyone including senior and community members must fill out this form and return to the administration office.
Please note any outstanding invoice from last season must be brought up to date before you will be added to this year's listing.
The billing of this service is generated at the end of every month.
Signature:





In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row That mark our place, and in the sky The lark, still bravely singing fly Scarce heard amid the guns below

We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields

Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you from falling hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high
If you break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
In Flanders fields

This year's Remembrance Day service will be held at the Wahta administration office. Service begins at 11:00am. Please plan on attending.

# **INVITATION FOR RENOVATION ESTIMATES**

Proposal to include labour and materials for the purpose of renovating at rental unit 1031 unit #1 Wahta Rd 5. This includes repairs to existing foundation, structural support beams at entrances, one new window and replacement of existing press board siding with new vinyl siding.

- 1. excavation around building to ensure proper drainage
- 2. repairs to main support beam under building
- 3. supply and install one new window
- 4. approximately 2000 sq ft of vinyl siding
- 5. repairs to support beams at main entrance

Please contact Harry Byrne at harry.bryne@wahtamohawks.ca or 705-641-0833 for more information.

# **Customary Care**

Customary care is an important care option for First Nations children who are not able to remain with their immediate family. It is a family-based care model reflective of the culture, values and traditions of the child's parents and community. It recognizes that members of the child's immediate and extended family and community share responsibility in the provision of care to a child, who is or may be in need of protection.

There are two kinds of customary care:

## **Traditional Customary Care**

For First Nations communities, customary care refers to care throughout an individual's lifespan and it is a way of life in which the community takes care of its own members according to its own customs, traditions and standards. Customary care is sanctioned by tribal laws that are indigenous to each Band or First Nations community; tribal laws give Chief and Council the authority to act on behalf of the community in matters related to child and family services. For this reason, the contents of a Customary Care Agreement may vary between each Band or each First Nations community. The mandated child protection agency may or may not be involved in traditional Customary Care Agreements. A traditional Customary Care Agreement may be entered into by a child, the child's parents, the child's Band, or the alternative caregivers who will be providing out-of-home care for the child, pursuant to the Band's customary care declaration.

# **Formal Customary Care**

Where a child protection agency determines that a First Nations child is in need of protection, removal of the child from the parents/caregiver is required and there is a customary care declaration by the Band, the agency may grant a subsidy to the person caring for the child. Formal customary care is recognized as a culturally appropriate placement option for First Nations children, but the child's placement must be supervised by a child protection agency pursuant to the Band declaration and the terms of a signed Customary Care Agreement. This service is provided by the Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions FNMI protection team and resource team.



# **Longhouse Socials**

Join us the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month at 6pm for a Potluck social at the

longhouse. Songs, dances and social interaction with community members and guests!

This is an alcohol and drug free event.

Please join us!

2591 Muskoka Rd. 38





\*Flu Immunizations are available: Please book an appointment\*

Wahta Health Hub Holiday Hours:

The Wahta Health Hub will be closed Friday December 22, 2017 through Monday, Jan 1, 2018.

Please ensure all prescription renewal requests are in prior to Monday December 18, 2017.







# Your Voice Matters - November 16

Have you or a family member received cancer care or service provided by the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program at RVH in Barrie?

To ensure that the cancer program is meeting the needs of Indigenous patients, families and communities, we would like to hear about your experiences.

On **November 16<sup>th</sup>** the Aboriginal Patient Navigator will be at the **Wahta Administration Building** to meet with patients and family members individually and privately. Your feedback will help to improve the performance of the cancer program in meeting the cancer care needs of all Wahta community members who are effected by a cancer diagnosis or who may be effected in the future.

Please contact Christine Cox at 705-762-2354 x 273 or Leah Bergstrome at 705-728-9090 x 43133 to schedule a time on the 16th that will work best for you. Home visits can also be arranged if you are unable to visit the Administration Building.



# Sisters in Spirit



For more information please call the administration office 705-762-2354 ask for Colleen

# Health Services for November and December

Please contact Christine (273) or Sherry (250) if interested in any of the following:

Community Winter Craft Stock Up Trip- Thursday, November 2 Please meet at the Administration- Bus leaves @ 8:30 (Newmarket- "That Bead Lady" Store, and Barrie "Lens Mills") \*quick stop for lunch\*

Pole Walking- Every Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-9:30....newcomers welcome!!

LTC Update Meeting - Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> Administration Building Contact Christine for more info

**Community Shopping-** Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> Midland - weather permitting Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> Barrie- weather permitting Bus leaves Administration for pick up at 9am

Movement Therapy- Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> 10:30-11:30 am Administration Round Room

Drum Group- Wednesday, November 22nd 6:30-7:30 Cultural Center

Community Kitchen- Thursday, November 30th 11:30-1 Administration Kitchen

Chair Exercise- Wednesday, November 29th

Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> Administration Round Room 10am-1pm

Colouring -Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup> Administration Round Room 1pm-3pm

Health Living- Monday November 27<sup>th</sup> 10am

Senior's Christmas Luncheon- Wednesday December 6<sup>th</sup> (see full page for more details)

Christmas Cookie and Gift Exchange- Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 2 dozen (of your homemade baked goods) and a \$10 wrapped gift



# Seniors Christmas

# Luncheon

# Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

11:30am

RSVP Sherry or Christine by November 22<sup>nd</sup>
Administration Building



# Youth Night

# "The Power within a Healing Blanket"

**What:** The healing blanket will be created by using the 'tie blanket making' technique. Before we tie the last knot, cedar, sage, sweet grass, and tobacco will be placed inside a pouch inside of the blanket .The healing blanket symbolizes the healing process by wrapping strength, support and comfort around an individual.

Blankets help to represent who we are as people. We gift blankets to our new babies, our elderly and to families when they are in need, for celebration and acknowledgement.

When: Thursday November 9, 2017

Who: Youth 12+

Where: Wahta Cultural Centre

**Time:** 5:30pm-8:00pm

**RSVP** Kara

705-752-2354 ext. 227

kara.wanothmee@wahtamohawks.ca



If you would like to sign your child up to receive books, Please call Colleen 705-762-2354 ext 241



# Beginner Fitness

# Come get FIT physically, mentally, & spiritually.

# Nov 9, 16, 23, 30 2017



Held at the Administration Building

All are welcome to come out and enjoy a fitness class within our community!

**Instructor: Melanie Sanford -Maracle** from Tyendinaga, Mohawk of the Bay of Quinte. (birthplace of the Peacemaker.) Melanie is certified with the Canadian Society of Exercise Physiology (CSEP) as a Personal Trainer and Honoured with 10 years of Service with the Government of Canada in the Canadian Forces as a Fitness, Sports and Combat Instructor.

RSVP Kara 705-762-2354

A Partnership with Wahta Mohawks & the Parry Sound Friendship Centre B

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<sup>&</sup>quot;Aboriginal Healthy Living Program Coordinator" Melanie Sanford -Maracle from Tyendinaga,

# WARRIOR

# MILITARY FITNESS TRAINING PROGRAM

This Fitness Training is for all fitness levels.

Each exercise will offer two intensity levels (easy & hard)

Nov. 23, 2017, & Nov 30 2017 5:00-6:00pm

"Exercise is Medicine"

"Aboriginal Healthy Living Program Coordinator"

Melanie Sanford -Maracle from Tyendinaga,

Mohawk of the Bay of Quinte. (birthplace of the Peacemaker.) Melanie is certified with the Canadian Society of Exercise Physiology (CSEP) as a Personal Trainer and Honoured with 10 years of Service with the Government of Canada in the Canadian Forces as a Fitness, Sports and Combat Instructor.



A Partnership with Wahta & the Parry Sound Friendship Centre

**Held at the Cultural Healing Centre** 

RSVP Kara

Phone: 705-762-2354 ext. 227

kara.wanothmee@wahtamohawks.ca



Parry Sound Friendship Centre

13 Bowes Street , Parry sound

(705)746-5970



# Express yourself! Getting creative is good for your soul

Who: For all Community

What: Come out and have some fun learning painting techniques and leaving with a beautiful painting to take home

When: Wednesday November 22, 2017

**Time:** 6:00-8:00pm

RSVP Kara ext. 227 kara.wanothmee@wahtamohawks.ca

No experience required!



# **Kagita Mikam Employment & Training**

Intake applications are ongoing for Kagita Mikam Employment & Training Programs. If you are unemployed, underemployed or out of school and would like to receive training to get back into the workforce then support is available upon meeting the criteria and funding availability.



Programs available through Kagita Mikam are: Purchase of Training, Targeted Wage Subsidy, Mobility Assistance, Youth Work Experience, Employment Assistance Supports and Self Employment Assistance. Funding for training is for 1 year only. Members of Wahta Mohawks without status are eligible for funding. A Letter from Wahta Mohawks stating that you have membership must be provided. Members with status must provide status number and membership letter. For more information on the program please contact Kristal at 705-762-3343 x. 204 or by email at <a href="mailto:kristal.berwick@wahtamohawks.ca">kristal.berwick@wahtamohawks.ca</a>



A home safety check should be an annual ritual in every household. Test smoke and CO monitors, inspect (or install) fire extinguishers, review fire escape plans, and rid your home of old newspapers and



Here is why you should consider using LED lamps in your home.	LED	Compact Fluores- cent	Incan- descent
Light bulb projected lifespan	50,000 hours	10,000 hours	1,200 hours
Watts per bulb (equiv. 60 watts)	10	14	60
Cost per bulb	\$35.95*	\$3.95	\$1.25
KWh of electricity used over 50,000 hours	500	700	3000
Cost of electricity (@ 0.10per KWh)	\$50	\$70	\$300
Bulbs needed for 50k hours of use	1	5	42
Equivalent 50k hours bulb expense	\$35.95	\$19.75	\$52.50
Total cost for 50k hours	\$85.75	\$89.75	\$352.50

# Join Our Newsletter Email!

In an effort to help save postage and paper costs, we would like to email the newsletter to as many community members as possible. To join the newsletter list, there are 2 ways to do so.

2 ways to get your newsletter through email:

Register at www.wahtamohawks.com/member-registration

**Email us at info@wahtamohawks.com** and let us know you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you.

# Why Switch to Email

# Why should I opt in for Newsletters?

Help Save on Postage and Paper! With over 700 newsletters sent out each month it is a time constraint and costly procedure for staff every month. If you have an email address we would like to email you and save on time, paper and postage costs.

# When will I get the Newsletter?

Getting the newsletter online is usually faster than postage. We can email it once it is ready, no need to wait for snail mail.

## Do I need to be a member to get the newsletter?

Not necessarily, if you are the spouse or parent of a member then please do not register but instead email us and let us know you would like to receive the newsletter via email.

# How else will my email address be used?

Your email address will not be shared with anyone and will only be used for newsletters and occasional communication regarding community updates.

# **Status Cards**

Rama First Nation has been assisting our members with renewing status cards. Unfortunately they can no longer do this.

As an alternative, renewing your status card can be done by mail. The forms are available online at www.aadnc-aandc.gc.a or from the Wahta administration office. Assistance in completing the forms is also available at the Wahta office.

Please check the expiry date on your card, if you have one, as it could take a couple months to renew it by mail.

If you have any questions, please contact the administration office.

# Traditional Bean Supper

# Is looking for wild game meat to be donated

If you are interested in donating please contact Amy at 705-762-2354 ext.240



# **Housing Assistance**

Wahta Mohawks is accepting applications for housing renovations and housing subsidies.

#### **Housing Subsidy**

Grant of \$26,300.00 for house construction Grant of \$15,000.00 for well and septic installation Must have status and membership Need to own the land where the home is to be built

#### **Housing Renovations**

Home must be located on Wahta Territory
Home must be the permanent residence of
applicant
Must have status and membership
Cost shared with Wahta Mohawks at 50%
homeowner and 50% band up to maximum of
\$26,300.00

This is a summary of information for housing assistance. Please contact the office for further Information,

705-762-2354

# **Wahta United Church**

"Services and faith circle will be starting back"

Faith Circle will be meeting at 7pm at the cultural centre every Tuesday night.
Church Service will be on November 5th at 11am

If you would like a visit or have any questions, please contact Pastor Derek at (705) 346-1858"



# **House for Rent**

One 1 bedroom senior apartment
Unfurnished

Please contact Karen
Sahanatien for further
Apartment for Rent
information
705-762-2354

## **Chief and Council**

Chief Philip Franks	philip.franks@wahtamohawkscouncil.ca	705-528-9468
Councilor Blaine Commandant	blaine.commandant@wahtamohawkscouncil.ca	705-644-3384
Councilor Teresa Greasley	teresa.greasley@wahtamohawkscouncil.ca	705-644-9934
Councilor Lorie Strength-Fenton	lorie.fenton-strength@wahtamohawkscouncil.ca	705-774-2796
Councilor Lawrence Schell	lawrence.schell@wahtamohawkscouncil.ca	705-644-3001

# Administration

# 705-762-2354

Scott Aubichon	Lands and Resources Coordinator	Ext. 242
Nicole Belcourt	Reception/ Administrative Assistant	Ext. 221
Matthew Commandant	Housing Coordinator	Ext. 275
Joanne Conatant	Chief Financial Officer	Ext. 245
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
Murray Maracle	Senior Administrator	Ext. 231
William Manary	By-Law Coordinator	Ext 242
Colleen Mendes	AHWS/NCWPW/AHBHC	Ext. 241
Kim North	Finance Clerk	Ext. 237
Bonnie Racine	Housing Intern	Ext. 259
Karen Sahanatien	Lands and Housing Clerk	Ext. 222
Martie Stanton	Human Resources	Ext. 272
Sue Tait	Wellness Coordinator	CHC
Kara Wanoth-Mee	Community Wellness Worker	EXT. 22

# Please Feel Free to Call with any Questions or Concerns

Administration Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday, 8:00am—4:30 pm



P.O. Box 260 Bala, On. P0C 1A0 705-762-2354 phone 705-762-2376 fax www.wahtamohawks.com