

WAHTA ATENHROS:SERA

SESKEHKO:WA
(TIME OF MUCH FRESHNESS)
SEPTEMBER 2015



On August 10th Wahta participated in the YWalk4Women&Girls with Beth Ward. This walk was to raise awareness of missing and murdered aboriginal women. The funds raised will go to the YMCA to help those who have be affected by this, domestic violence, unemployment, lack of housing, transportation and poverty.

In This Issue:

Calendar

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

HEALTH SERVICES

EDUCATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT

CONTACTS

COMMUNITY GENERAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 26TH
9AM-1PM
LUNCH PROVIDED

September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Pole Walking	2	3 Pole Walking	4	5
6	7	8 Pole Walking	9 Foot Care	10 Pole Walking Shopping in Midland	11	12
13	14	15 Pole Walking	16	17 Pole Walking	18	19
20	21 Healthy Brains	22 Pole Walking	23 Gravenhurst Farmers Market	24 Pole Walking	25	26 General Community Meeting
27	28 Apple Picking CHCHAC Meeting	29 Pole Walking Community Meeting	30 Healthy Lunch Exercise Bingo			2

From the desk of the Chief

The third week of August I was pleased to attend the first and last day of the Elders' Conference hosted by Wahta. This was a great event and there is more on that in this issue. The Conference is put together by a team from our staff working in conjunction with the staff of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indian. It had been ten years since we last hosted one, having missed the opportunity last summer. Each year the conference is held at a different First Nation within the Association. A great example of team work and a very excellent showing of our hospitality made our visitors very comfortable and happy. A special thank you from Chief and Council to the staff for all their hard work.

AIAI Chiefs Meeting

During the Elders' conference the Chiefs of the Association held their regular monthly meeting. An issue that I raised at our July Wahta Council meeting was discussed, that being the First Nations Financial Transparency Act and the recent communication from Aboriginal and Northern Development Canada that the General Assessment scorecard for each First Nation will be posted on the internet.

First of all I wish to be clear that our disagreement with this order has nothing to do in any way with not being financially accountable. Our concern is based on a number of issues. The scorecard is based on four categories, governance, planning, financial management, and program management. These are translated on the scorecard in three categories, high risk, medium risk, and low risk.

Points under consideration are, first, there is no formal appeal or dispute resolution process outlined in the general assessment. The assessment is carried out by AANDC employees on a case by case basis prior to renewal of our funding agreements. Because of the lack of a process it may be difficult to have a funding recipient risk designation being changed where such a change may not be warranted. Also publication of the scorecard is not a requirement of the First Nations Financial Transparency Act or any other legislation. The assessment is based on the Treasury Board policy/directive regarding transfer payments but does not require federal departments to publicize assessment results.

According to AANDC the goals is to support the Governments commitments for increase transparency and accountability. It is not clear how publishing these contributes to the transparency already provided for in the legislated documents that must be filed or risk losing funding. It was the feeling of the Chiefs this seems to be more a politically motivated move rather than one driven by legislative requirement. It could be used by the government as a way of reducing funding to First Nations if public interest groups put pressure on the government. Additionally, a First Nation in a non-financial management high risk class may have problems with any private sector business partnerships they may be endeavouring to enter into .

Tobacco Allocation Review

Of interest to Wahta retailers was a presentation at the Chiefs Council by a consulting firm that is hired to speak to stakeholders regarding the quota system for the Ministry of Finance. The government position is primarily that sale of tobacco to non-first nation people is a loss of taxation dollars for the provincial and federal governments. Public Health and the mainstream retailers associations are

lobbying the government based on their opinion that the allocation system to First Nations is too generous.

We have never agreed to the allocation system that was imposed on us. It is overly regulated and the burden is placed on the First Nation to regulate it. The system does not recognize First Nations jurisdiction and restricts the right to establish an economy. There will be more on this issue, the bottom line is that Ontario is going to change the tobacco allocation system. Other methods being looked at are the reimbursement method where retailers will have to collect the taxes then submit for reimbursement. Another one is where the First Nation sign an agreement to control the tobacco at the tax in price then have to apply for a refund.

Land Claim

Meanwhile back at Wahta, Council on the day of this writing is finalizing financial terms with our lawyer to go forward to apply for a better compensation package than what came with the agreement in principle signed a number of years ago. Council hopes this will open up negotiation to revisit the settlement terms in line with the numbers identified by the last Council. We expect solid news on this by September end.

Membership

We are currently looking for someone to fill a position of coordinating the research and process of community consultation over our citizenship code. We will utilize the steps outlined in the Wahta Consultation Plan and hope that when this starts everyone will have some input into the issue. At the heart of this will be discussion on what membership will be based on. It is currently based on blood quantum but convoluted with designations from the Indian Act, coupled with cases where past Councils have made certain exceptions causing an imbalance among extended families in regards to who is and who is not a member under the same circumstances.

Wahta Roads

Council invested in having the rest of the rock at the quarry on Wahta Springs Trail crushed into a gravel thereby saving from paying the retail rate when fixing up our roads. There should be enough there to fix all community roads where required and hopefully be able to offer reduced prices for residents needing to fix their driveways. At the end of the work the area will be cordoned off to prevent large vehicles from loading up without authorization.

Financial Audit

The Audit for the year ending March 31 2015 was accepted by Council in July. Of note many costs were down including the area of band support. Comparatively, Council costs are lower, as well as other areas of expense including a newly negotiated insurance coverage that was significantly reducing our costs for insurance by over \$20,000.00. Service delivery income meanwhile remains stable. The one unusual item noted in the 2015 Audit was the relocation expense of the administration during the summer of 2014. Councils intention is to maintain a budget that will minimize the amount of secondary revenue from non-government sources that we have to utilize to continue to support the work of the administration and provide effective programs and services.

Upcoming Issues

In the next month or so I hope we will be meeting with the **Ministry of Natural Resources** to establish a relationship going forward from here. The Ministry was not willing to attend a scheduled meeting here last year due to security concerns however they are now willing to come back to the table.

Council continues its dialogue with **Hydro One Networks Inc** regarding the relationship agreement between us that was established a couple of years ago. There are a couple of points within the addendum to that agreement that need more clarification, one being the 1.5 mil of in-kind services that were promised to the community and how those services would be established.

I am hoping to renew some dialogue with the **Ontario Provincial Police** in the next while with regard to this community. There are priorities they have established for us and it is time to check in and review those to ensure we are on the same page. If anyone has comments about policing or lack thereof, good or bad, please email or send me a note at the administration office.

Council was invited to meet with the **Local Health Integrated Network** since we are a part of that organizations mandate. A date is yet to be confirmed with a date.

We expect to meet with the **Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs** as we go forward regarding our concerns with the consultation and energy decisions made by the government that concern us. In particular, the sale of Ontario Hydro, as well the potential adverse effects of development on territory on the Moon and Musquash Rivers.

We are beginning the process of reviewing the Citizenship Code as I stated, as well as the **Matrimonial Real Property** law. We intend to explore these issues through community consultation so that you can decide whether you wish to abide by the provisional laws set by the federal government or create your own law. If we do the latter it will take all membership participation in a vote, with a high threshold in favor of the law by the total membership. So, if we get to that point and you do not live here, please participate by casting a ballot. You never know, someday you may return to the territory of your family.

In the coming month I will be attending the **Aboriginal Labor Force Development Corp** annual meeting at Rama August 31- Sept 2, 2015. Also in September the **AIAI Chiefs Meeting**, and **the Iroquois Caucus** meeting will be held here at Wahta, and if scheduled the **AIAI health social advisory** board meeting.

As Chief I continue to try to limit the amount of travel I do and prioritize what meetings are the most important to us. This is something I indicated when taking on this role however there are specific commitments and demands from the groups we are associated with to attend other political events and lobby for the good of all First Nations. To date my activities in my role are more or less part time but demands continue. If anyone has a problem reaching me there could be a number of reasons but don't hesitate to contact the reception at the Administration office and leave a message for me. I will get back to you as I am able.

Nia:wen kowa

Monday, September 21st Healthy Brains presentation with the Alzheimer's Society



Thursday, September 10th

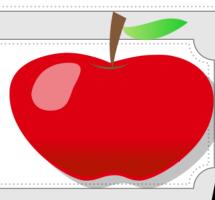
Thursday, September 10th **Community Shopping** In Midland



Wednesday, September 23 **Gravenhurst Farmers Market** 8am



Apple Picking 8am bus leaves the administration building Lunch is at participants own cost

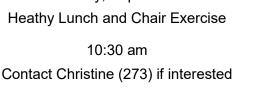


Foot Care Wednesday,



September 9th

Wednesday, September 30th



Wednesday, September 30th Bingo 1pm Contact Christine (273) if interested



Pole Walking Tuesday &Thursday 9:30—10:30

MIDLAND POW WOW

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH, THE BUS DEPARTS THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 10:00AM.



PLEASE CONTACT COLLEEN EXT. 241 OR CHRISTINE EXT. 273 IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING. PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A MAXIMUM OF 13 PARTICIPANTS DUE TO BUS SIZE. THANK YOU.







CHCHAC MEETING

MONDAY Sept. 28th, 2015 at 6 PM

Thank you to those who have previously expressed an interest in serving this committee.

We look forward to serving the community and working together in the best interest of

Wahta Mohawks.

Cultural and Healing Centre

Construction continues on the centre and we are looking forward to a finished product in the fall. Consultation for programming began with a dinner and focus group sessions that occurred on August 26. Consultation will be an ongoing process. A presentation at the General Meeting in September will be available with the opportunity for further ideas and suggestions. We will have a suggestion box available in the main foyer in the administration centre.

As mentioned before the identified need for a cultural healing centre came from direct feedback from community through questionnaires, community consultation dialogue, Council strategic planning, etc. The direction we have been provided for health and healing through culture and combining primary health care and cultural healing together under one strategy makes the most sense. We will be establishing a new Community Health and Cultural Healing Advisory Committee (CHCHAC) to ensure the directives of administration and mandates of Council are met and to provide advice to ensure the health and wellness priorities of the community are identified and met in the most culturally relevant, efficient and effective manner possible.

Education News

Students will be returning to school very soon and as a reminder to our community residents please be watching for students crossing the highway for buses in the morning and afternoon. Best wishes to all our post- secondary students new and returning. Our program is fully or partially funding 31 students this Fall. We have 16 students attending a community college and 15 university students.

On-line Mohawk language program

The language program began on Tuesday August 26, 2015. Eight students are registered and are eager to learn the Mohawk language. This program is a great way to reach out to our membership who live afar and want to stay connected to community and learn their language. One of our students resides on the East Coast and one is south western Ontario. The rest of the students are more local to Wahta. This program is being recorded and our instructional lessons will be made available upon completion so that others can learn at their own pace. At this time the program is being delivered live on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. We appreciate those who have dedicated this time to learning our language. We do plan to offer other Mohawk language learning opportunities in the near future.

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.



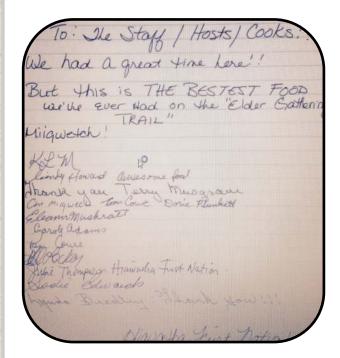
Programs available through Kagita Mikam are: Purchase of Training, Targeted Wage Subsidy, Mobility Assistance, Youth Work Experience, Employment Assistance Supports and Self Employment Assistance. Funding for training is for 1 year only. Members of Wahta Mohawks without status are eligible for funding. 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 kristal.berwick@wahtamohawks.ca

The AIAI Elders Conference



CHIEF AND COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE WAHTA MOHAWKS STAFF FOR THEIR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION IN HELPING TO MAKE THE AIAI ELDERS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS!

THE ELDERS WERE ASKED TO COMPLETE A SHORT SURVEY ABOUT THEIR 3 DAYS SPENT AT WAHTA, 90% RESPONDED WITH EXCELLENT, 10% GOOD, THERE WERE MANY POSITIVE COMMENTS AND THANKS FROM THE ELDERS THAT ATTENDED.





NOTICE

We are compiling a list of persons who attended residential schools and are requesting family members to please call in with their names.

A memorial is being created to recognize those who attended and survived.

Please call

Karen Sahanatien

705-762-2354 Ex 222



STAFF:

Susan Siwik CHN

Marsha Rivers CHN - LOA

Nancy Tabobandung, Clerk

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30am – 4:30pm

Thursday 8:30am – 1pm



Important Phone #'s

Toll Free NIHB client lines

Dental: 1-855-618-6291

All other services:

1-800-640-0642

Box 89 – 74 James Street
Parry Sound, ON P2A 2X2
Phone: (705) 746-5807
Fax: (705) 746-1421
nancy.tabobandung@hc-sc.gc.ca
susan.siwik@hc-sc.gc.ca

marsha.rivers@hc-sc.gc.ca (LOA

Parry Sound Health Centre First Nations & Inuit Health Branch

SEPTEMBER 2015

WAHTA MOHAWKS COMMUNITY VISIT DATES

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER $9^{TH} - BP$ CLINIC

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16^{TH} – COMMUNITY VISIT

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH – CHAIR EXERCISE AND LUNCH EDUCATION

2015 - Vaccines required for School to ensure compliance with the <u>Immunization of School Pupils Act</u>

Ages: 2, 4, 6, and 18 months

Designated Diseases: Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio, Pertussis

Vaccine to be Administered: **Pediacel**

Age: 12 months

Designated Diseases: Measles, Mumps, Rubella

Vaccine to be Administered: **MMR II or Priorix**

Age: 12 months

Designated Disease: Meningococcal Disease

Vaccine to be Administered: **Menjugate, Meningitec, Neis**

Age: 15 months

Designated Disease: Varicella

Vaccine to be Administered: **Varivax III or Varilrix**

Age: 4 – 6 years

Designated Disease: Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio, Pertussis

Vaccine to be Administered: Adacel-IPV or Boostrix-IPV (Injectable Polio Vi-

rus)

Age: 4-6 years

Designated Disease: Measles, Mumps, Rubella & Varicella

Vaccine to be Administered: **Priorix-Tetra**

Grade 7

Designated Disease: Meningococcal Disease

Vaccine to be Administered: **Menactra**Designated Disease: Hepatitis B (2 dose series)

Vaccine to be Administered: Recombivax or Engerix

Adolescent Booster (10 years after 4-6 year booster)

Designated Disease: Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis

Vaccine to be Administered: Adacel or Boostrix

Six Nations Kastowas



This picture shows the differences in kastowa's (men's traditional head wear) between the Six Nations Longhouse people (Iroquois Confederacy).

The large feathers are eagle feathers and the smaller feathers are usually turkey feathers.

The symbols underneath the pictures and explain what the Nation meaning is:

Seneca = *People of the Great Hill* (two feathers up)

Cayuga = *People of the Swamp* (one feather up, one feather down)

Onondaga = *People of the Hills* (one feather up)

Oneida = *People of the Standing Stone* (two feathers up, one feather down)

Mohawk = *People of the Flint* (three feathers up)

Tuscarora = *People of the Shirt* (no feathers)

Wahta Mohawks Member Recognition



National Aboriginal Day is a day to celebrate the cultures and contributions to Canada of First Nations. Accordingly, we wish to recognize and celebrate our own members who have contributed to Canada and our community. We will be providing space in our monthly newsletter to recognize our people so that all of our members can be proud and inspired by these role models of our community.

If you know someone that you feel should be recognized for their contributions socially, economically, politically or culturally now or in the past, then please complete one of the attached forms and submit to Karen Commandant, Senior Administrator by mail or email at karen.commandant@wahtamohawks.ca using the form below.

Name of person to be reco	ognized:		
Reason for Recognition: _			
	er in which this member provided co		
	Contact #		

Some Notable Elders and

Community Members of the Past

(An excerpt from the History of the Wahta Mohawks Community)

Sarah was born July 16, 1912 and was the daughter of James Sahanatien (1879-



1962) and Johanna Dewasha (1884-1975). She died December 11, 1994. Sarah is well known in the community for her involvement in the church and taught Sunday School, something she would have obviously have been well qualified to do, having been trained for two years at Bible College in London, Ontario. She worked as a missionary in various places, including Northern Saskatchewan where she learned how to read cree syllabics. Before being posted as a missionary it was also necessary for her to study nursing for one year so she could assist in the provision of health care to the members of the remote communities she was to visit.

When Sarah was at Wahta, where she spent about the last 35 years of her life, she coordinated Christmas pageants and made the community's church a central part of her life. Sarah's knowledge of heal-

ing herbs like golden thread was mentioned by an elder as well.





Register for Newsletters, Meeting Minutes and More Monthly Content www.wahtamohawks.com



Bala Cranberry Festival Committee

We need Volunteers who want to make a difference!

Iroquois Cranberry Growers was built by Wahta members into the largest cranberry marsh in Ontario The Bala Cranberry Festival is the single largest event that we have to promote and show the world what our small Mohawk community has accomplished. This year we are going to make a "splash" at the Festival. We need your ideas and we need your energy.

Contact Lance DeCaire for more information

705-762-2354 ext. 224

Employment Opportunity Iroquois Cranberry Growers Sales and Marketing Professional

Iroquois Cranberry Growers, Ontario's largest cranberry farm, is located in the heart of Muskoka near Bala Ontario. Community owned and operated by Wahta Mohawks First Nation, Iroquois Cranberry Growers (ICG) has an opening for a Sales and Marketing professional to develop sales of ICG branded value added products including cranberry based jams and chutneys in addition to juice and frozen berries. Primary duties initially will be to develop the market in Ontario, expanding to the rest of Canada. Significant opportunities exist to expand on existing export markets in Europe and Asia.

The successful candidate will have a combination of a commerce related university degree and/or significant experience in selling food products to the retail market.

This job will involve travel. It is possible for the successful candidate to work out of their home office remote from the ICG offices however they will most likely reside in Ontario.

Remuneration will be based on experience with a high commission component.

If you are interested in applying for this position please forward your resume to:

Lance DeCaire

Economic Development Officer

Wahta Mohawks First Nation

Box 260

Bala On. P0C 1A0

lance.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca



Job Opportunity

Retail Store Clerk (seasonal)

The Retail Store Clerk serves customers, provides samples, maintain store cleanliness
Retail Store Clerk has the following Job Duties and Responsibilities:

Staffs the store when required

Responsible for Pricing

Responsible for following Policies

Daily and Monthly Reporting

Operates store consistently with brand and merchandising plan

Retail Store Clerk Skills and Qualifications:

Customer Focus, , Market Knowledge, Client Relationships, Verbal Communication

For more information or to apply, contact:

Lance Decaire Economic Development Officer lance.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca

WAHTA MOHAWKS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

POSITION SUMMARY: Reporting directly to the Senior Administrator, the Communications Coordinator is involved in all aspects of the development and implementation of Wahta Mohawks internal and external communication strategies. The Communications Coordinator is responsible for promoting, protecting and executing Wahta Mohawks political and/or organizational interests by developing and executing media relations and public relations strategies, alongside internal communications to Wahta Mohawks council, staff and members.

PRIMARY DUTIES:

- Assist in developing, implementing and evaluating external and internal communication plans
- Manage day-to-day media relations/media requests for member nation issues.
- Develop written materials including press releases,
 Q&A, media statements on issues as required
- Build relationships with key media contacts and identify opportunities to proactively pitch advocacy to media as appropriate
- Maintain social media accounts, blogs, twitter, website etc.
- Assists in the oversight of all communication initiatives from execution through completion

- Provide guidance to ensure coordination and communication of messages/news to both internal and external audiences
- Lead responsibility for all internal communications initiatives
- Develop and implement online communications strategy ensuring alignment with internal communications strategy, includes day-to-day content development strategy, and functional enhancements
- Serve as editor and provides communications content for Website
- Evaluate the effectiveness of internal communications and report results back to Office Manager.

Requirements:

- Degree in communications, public relations, journalism, English or related discipline
- Strong working knowledge of communication principles and practices
- Work experience in Communications and/or public relations and/or related experience required Must produce a clean CPIC (criminal record check).

Please send resume to:

EMAIL: martie.stanton@wahtamohawks.ca

FAX: 705-762-2376

WAHTA MOHAWKS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY RESEARCH ANALYST

POSITION SUMMARY: Reporting directly to the Senior Administrator, the Research Analyst is involved in all aspects of the research, processes and facilitation of meetings etc. that support the needs of the Administration in meeting the directives and mandate of Council. The Research Analyst will be responsible for conducting community consultation processes, analysing the necessary documentation, working with resource people, and specifically reviewing the Wahta Mohawk Citizenship Code over a one year period. The Research Analyst will implement the Wahta Mohawks Consultation Plan by utilizing internal and external communication strategies and is responsible for facilitating, protecting and executing Wahta Mohawks organizational and community interests; and developing and executing a citizenship plan following through to the community Referendum process.

PRIMARY DUTIES Include:

- Conducting research into assigned areas of interest including Citizenship and Matrimonial Real Property Law
- Facilitating in-person interviews, focus groups and/or project committees and community meetings
- Preparing, proofreading and editing various project documents, proposals, reports, presentations
- Writing reviews and performing background research for information summaries
- Completing telephone and/or in-person qualitative/key informant interviews
- Scheduling, organizing, recruiting, hosting and facilitating focus groups;
- Manipulating data in Excel, Access
- Tracking task assignments and survey completions on many projects simultaneously;
- Be familiar with laws, systems and processes applicable to the position such as applicable Statutes and Regulations, the Indian Act, Native Organizations and Government structures, and other laws, systems, and processes determined to be applicable to citizenship.
- Implement Wahta Mohawks Consultation Plan
- Maintain high ethical standards, be aware of and remain up to date on privacy laws relating to client information, and maintain confidentiality at all levels
- Operate in accordance with and ensure compliance to the Wahta Mohawks Administrative, Finance, Personnel and program policies and procedures as may be updated and amended from time to time
- Other duties/tasks/responsibilities as required and as assigned

SUPERVISION: This position is not a supervisory position.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Post-secondary degree in Business Administration and/or equivalent combination of education and related experience in research
- Work experience working directly with Aboriginal communities in Canada; experience related to engagement, capacity building and community development would be preferable
- Native ancestry preferred.
- High level of communication skills (written and oral)
- Proficiency in the use of the Microsoft suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook), Internet Explorer, various on-line communication methods
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel,
- Project management skills
- Must have the ability to work effectively in the community.
- Must be capable of maintaining confidentiality, with a high level of accuracy regarding information.
- Knowledge and understanding of First Nation issues and political structures
- Must possess a current and valid Driver's License and dependable vehicle.
- Must produce a clean CPIC (Criminal records check) annually.

The closing date to apply is Sept 18th, 2015

Please send resume to martie.stanton@wahtamohawks.ca or fax 705-762-2376

Chief and Council

Phillip Franks	Chief	705-528-9468	
Lawrence Schell	Councillor	705-644-3001	
Mike DeCaire	Councillor	705-644-3384	
Teresa Greasley	Councillor	705-644-9934	
Stuart Lane	Councillor	705-641-1548	

Administration

Phone: 705-762-2354

Fax: 705-762-2376



Please.....

Please advise Wahta Mohawks of any change in address as soon as possible so we can continue to serve you.