

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



Tsothohrha- The time of Cold

December 2017



## *This issue....*

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

**Attention Members:  
The Administration  
building will be  
closed for the  
holidays Starting  
December 22 2:00pm  
and reopening  
January 8th 8:00am**

## **Wampum Belt Workshop**

**Thursday January 11/18 9am to 4 pm**

**Friday January 12/18 9am to 1pm**

**At the Culture Centre, lunch provided**

**Maximum 10 participants-**

**Experienced Loomers only please.**

**Call Colleen or Sherry to RSVP**



**\*December  
Public  
Council  
meeting is  
cancelled\***

# December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 <i>Peace Process Meeting 10 am CC</i>
3	4 Afterschool Program CC	5 Afterschool Program CC Community Shopping AB Faith Circle 7 pm CC	6 Tutoring CC	7	8	9
10	11 Afterschool Program CC	12 Afterschool Program CC Faith Circle 7 pm CC	13 Tutoring CC	14	15	16
17	18 Afterschool Program CC Colouring AB	19 Afterschool Program CC Faith Circle 7 pm CC	20 Tutoring CC Movement Therapy AB	21	22 Band Hall Closed at 2pm will reopen Jan 8th at 8am	23
24	25 No Afterschool Program resumes in New year	26	27 <i>Senior Garbage pick up</i>	28	29	30
31						

# Council Update November 2017

## Chief Philip Franks

In the last newsletter I went over a number of initiatives that Council has been involved with. You will be able to see more detail in this newsletter about some of the economic initiatives we have been dealing with. However, some additional information and clarification should be provided on economic development and other items.

First and foremost is the issue of Iroquois Cranberry Growers. Much of the equipment has been sold or brought over to Wahta maintenance for possible use. Council stated the closing of the marsh would include maximizing the remaining resources, for example utilizing any berries that did grow throughout the past season. Those berries were sold to Johnston's Cranberry marsh, rather than letting them rot. Subsequent to a notice put out in the newsletter some time ago that any members wishing to lease the ICG beds could indicate so. A community member has stepped up with an expression of interest in running a scaled down version of the marsh. Council is waiting for a proposal from the member and from there would look at lease arrangements for the property.

We have a number of initiatives in the works and do value your input, and we have a duty to provide a safe workplace. Staff people are often the ones doing the leg work on these, bylaw writing for example. It is unfortunate to have to say but there have been incidents where staff are verbally abused by members. They are working for Wahta as a whole, they utilize a consultation process, and are not writing or implementing programs for any hidden agendas. I truly encourage members to contact Council in meetings, phone, or by mail on any subject matter.

The hunting and fishing by law draft has garnered some attention of late. This document will spell out how the conservation of our resources will be handled. William Manary has been contracted to do this work and he continues to look for feedback. Under the current by law there is no specific enforcement body named, it states Wahta will follow provincial regulations. It calls into question how the by law would be enforced. What is proposed is a draft set of regulations pertaining to anyone who has been granted permission to hunt or fish on the territory, these regulations need to be community based. Also proposed is the contracting of MNRF to look into specific complaints with no prejudice to any other activity that is going on. MNRF would be on call to deal with hunters on the territory who have no permission to do so, and not be concerned about any members who have the right to hunt and fish.

Regarding the changes to how a person becomes a citizen of Wahta Mohawks another community meeting was held November 18 to discuss further the basis of a membership code. At issue are questions such as what is the purpose of a membership code, how has the membership changed since 1985, what will Wahta look like in the future. There will likely be two more community meetings on the issue but more importantly our consultants will be reaching out to those who want input but cannot attend meetings. Council is hopeful everyone will consider this matter and provide input when contacted. A target for early 2018 is being set for a draft code to be considered.

Council recently signed a resolution to an agreement in principle to be a partner in a Chiefs of Ontario initiative on Hydro One shares. Basically when selling shares of Hydro one, Ontario set aside 15 million shares for Ontario First Nations to hold collectively. The dividends for the first years would go to paying the cost of the shares, then the First Nations through a limited partnership would benefit from the dividends of the shares directly. There is no cost to Wahta, it remains to be seen at this time whether sufficient interest was shown to meet the 80% participation level of all First Nations.

Once again Nia:wen for reading, we wish all the best to everyone over the holiday season. Look for the next Council update in January 2018.

## **September 2017 Council Weekly Meeting Summaries**

### **Council Weekly Meeting Summary – September 6 2017**

#### **In Attendance:**

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

#### **Agenda:**

**09.06.01 Finance Review** – Reviewed monthly finance expenditures and motion to appoint auditor, motion below. Finance would like to see all funding agreements prior to signing. The New Relationship funding agreement is coming to an end, may have to look at other alternatives. Addressed the length of time for long term disability within the Insurance policy. Would like to close the bank account of Mohawk Food Processors, see motion below.

**09.06.02 Economic Development and RBC** – RBC introduced their program aimed at supporting Aboriginal Economic Development line of credit for infrastructure. It was felt there was no distinct advantage over the FNMHF (First Nation Market Housing Fund) at this time. May be useful for future development.

#### **Motions:**

**09.06.01** – Motion to appoint KPMG as the auditor for Wahta Mohawks fiscal year 2017/2018. Carried by consensus.

**09.06.01b** – Motion to close the bank account of Mohawk Food Processors and dissolve Mohawk Food Processors Corporation. Carried by consensus

**Next meeting:** Sept 13, 2017

### **Council Weekly Meeting Summary – September 13, 2017**

#### **In Attendance:**

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

#### **Agenda:**

**09.13.01 Hunting and Fishing requests** – Fishing and Hunting requests are put on temporary hold until the by-law can be amended through community consultation. Meetings will be scheduled to look at how it should be amended and what additions/deletions members would like to see.

**09.13.02 First Nation Market Housing Fund Fee** – A fee is required by BMO as part of the FNMHF requirements, see motion below.

## **Motions:**

**09.13.02** - The First Nations Market Housing Fund requires Wahta Mohawks to pay a five-thousand dollar (\$5000.00) application fee to the Bank of Montreal as required by CMHC and FNMHF. Carried by consensus

**Next meeting:** Sept 20, 2017

## **Council Weekly Meeting Summary – September 20, 2017**

### **In Attendance:**

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

### **Agenda:**

**09.20.01 Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child and Family Services** - The focus of DBCFS is more on a joint relationship with CAS and First Nations working on prevention strategies from a cultural perspective and keeping children in the community. There will be a written protocol outlining their duties and responsibilities on territory. They are also looking at locating offices in Wahta.

**09.20.02 Jury Duty** – The local court district continues to request names for jury duty, they feel the indigenous community is under represented on juries. Chief Franks requested an in person meeting with them to go over the request in more detail.

**09.20.03 Archivist Approval and Budget** – Preliminary discussion on what the costs of archiving the files would be including software and implementation. More detailed information is needed.

**09.20.04 Monthly Finance Review** – Reviewed monthly finance expenses. Nothing outstanding at this time.

**09.20.05 Cultural Centre Rates** – Needs more revision for private functions that are not open to the community. More discussion on what those rates should be is required.

**09.20.05 Economic Development Update** – Hwy. 400 feasibility study is forthcoming. Signatures required for Incorporation documents for Wahta Signs Inc. Discussed the MOU and legal funding agreement with Northern Star. More discussion on the sale of ICG equipment and how to best disperse of equipment, some of it has value while other pieces are in need of repair.

**Next meeting:** Sept 27, 2017

## **September 2017 Community Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Tuesday September 26, 2017

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

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

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

**Adoption of Minutes of September 5, 2017:** Moved by Councillor Fenton-Strength Seconded by Councillor Commandant. Carried.

### **New Business:**

**Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child & Family Services (DBCFS)** – Family Connections is discontinuing their aboriginal unit. Chief and Council met with DBCFS, they would like to include us in their capital planning to offer services in the band hall building or nearby. The focus is more on a joint relationship with CAS and First Nations working on prevention strategies from a cultural perspective and keeping children in the community. They still operate under the Child and Family Services Act and do not yet have their own designation which they are still working on. This may improve the relationship with CAS and dealing with children's needs in our community. There will be a written protocol outlining their duties and responsibilities on territory.

**Jury Duty** – The Attorney general office contacts us regularly for accessing members for jury duty. In the past Chief and Council have not given out the names of our members. A new pilot project is underway to get higher representation of Indigenous peoples on juries which includes a questionnaire and a paid position to collect data. An upcoming meeting will be held.

**Archives** – Consulted with the archive department in Kahnawake about preserving our documents. Initial costs may be \$20 000 or more for software, licensing and training as well as implementation. This includes retention schedules, scanning and organizing all data.

**Duty to Consult** – The different Province Ministries do not have consistent policies with how they implement Duty to Consult with First Nations on various topics. There are now draft guidelines and the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation will be hosting fall sessions. Chief Franks stated it is important for us to have our say in how we are consulted as this has been an issue in the past.

## **Old Business/ Follow-up:**

**Peace Process Meetings** – More meetings will be held October 6 and 7. Some people felt the format should be more clear that it is to be more inclusive of everyone so there is no set number of people in attendance. Council has expressed this to Ed Conner's, more discussion on this will be held at the next meeting in October.

**Ministers Meeting** – Minister Zimmer from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation did a tour of the ICG Hwy area and Ragged Rapids Road. He did offer the help of his department for funding opportunities and follow up.

## **September Motion Summary:**

**09.06.01** – Motion to appoint KPMG as the auditor for Wahta Mohawks fiscal year 2017/2018.

Carried by consensus.

**09.06.01b** – Motion to close the bank account of Mohawk Food Processors and dissolve Mohawk Food Processors Corporation. Carried by consensus

**09.13.02** - The First Nations Market Housing Fund requires Wahta Mohawks to pay a five-thousand-dollar (\$5000.00) application fee to the Bank of Montreal as required by CMHC and FNMHF. Carried by consensus

## **Questions/Comments:**

Irma White had concerns about outside groups attending the church and felt permission should be made by the community.

Tim Thompson asked about the IESO Hydro project and if the BCR has been made, it will be completed so the project can get underway in 2018.

S Burnett is completing the Small Communities Fund Water Project for the core area as well as the Clean Water Wastewater Fund for upgrades to the Administration Building. Individual water plants in every home may not be practical and would require regular maintenance by every home owner, more information will be forthcoming upon the next S. Burnett meeting.

**Next Meeting Date: Monday October 30, 2017 (changed due to Halloween)**

**Adjournment**



# Call for Proposals

The Wahta Mohawks First Nation believes that students have the right to be educated in a safe, positive atmosphere where learning addresses the whole child. The Trillium Lakelands District School Board developed the Feed All Four Model; a model based on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and the First Nations medicine wheel. When we address the body, mind, spirit and emotions it increases a sense of well-being, connectedness, and resilience, and improves student achievement.

Wahta Mohawks is conducting an assessment to determine how well the Wahta students are doing under the Feed All Four Model. Wahta Mohawks is dedicated to address any areas of need and recognize what is working well.

Therefore, Wahta Mohawks invites you to submit proposals to conduct a Needs Assessment of the Wahta Mohawk students, (parental input required), attending schools within the Trillium Lakelands District School Board. The number of students to be interviewed is less than 50.

The Needs Assessment must be completed before March 1, 2018.

The successful applicant will work closely with the Education Services Coordinator to develop the appropriate questions and methods.

Please email proposals before **December 8, 2017** to **[murray.maracle@wahtamohawks.ca](mailto:murray.maracle@wahtamohawks.ca)**. Successful candidates will be notified of acceptance before December 15, 2017.

We encourage you to inform others who may be interested in this opportunity.



Have a very Merry  
Christmas from  
Staff and Chief and  
Council.



## *Peace Process Next Meeting Sat. Dec 2*

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.

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

**Please join us for the rescheduled next meeting:**

**Saturday December 2, 10am to 4pm Cultural Healing Centre**

Ed Connors and Kevin Deer

## *Peace Process Meetings vs. Citizenship Meetings*

### *What's the difference?*

This peace process forum facilitates open, inclusive and transparent dialogue between community members that will enable full consideration of diverse opinions and topics that can lead to agreed upon positions that represent the best interests of the Wahta community. In short the peace process is a community discussion about social issues concerning the membership, residents and families of Wahta as a whole.

In contrast the membership meetings will be dealing with the citizenship code and how our membership feels it should change or address the ongoing concerns and shortcomings it has faced within the code for several years.

From time to time issues overlap, we would like to clarify that although the Peace process meetings sometimes discuss issues such as membership and who we are as Mohawk people this is not the same as the citizenship meetings. The peace process is more broad based while the citizenship meetings will address ongoing dialogue specifically involving the citizenship code. The next peace process meeting is December 2. The next citizenship meeting will be in the new year. We hope that you can attend both if possible.

# Economic Development

## Development Corporation

Work continues in governance issues (what can the Corporation do / not do). Interviews with potential Directors are almost complete. We are still looking for a name and open to ideas??

## Rental of Buildings

We have two buildings at the Cranberry marsh site for rent. These are commercial buildings not suitable for residential use. The MFP building has a level loading dock with an office in front and high ceilings in the main part, approx. 2200 sq ft and, the former store is approx. 1000 sq ft. Both buildings have large parking lots. Please contact me if you are interested in either building for a commercial use.



## Cannabis update

A detailed package describing the proposed cannabis greenhouse operation is being prepared and will be sent by mail to all members in the next few days. Have a look at the information and give me a call if you have any questions.

## Hwy 400 development

Wahta has received a \$95,000 grant from the Province to do a feasibility study on a service centre complex on Hwy 400. We have retained MNP and Neegan Burnside to determine, 1: if a complex should be built, 2: if it should be built how big and how much would it cost. MNP is looking at the market size and revenue potential and Neegan Burnside is reviewing engineering costs (buildings water and power etc.) It is anticipated that if the project goes forward we would be looking for individuals to own and operate the various retail outlets and that Wahta would be the developer and landlord.

## Sign Company

Council has authorized the creation of a company (Wahta Signs Inc.) to develop signage opportunities along Hwy 400. We have had many inquiries regarding the existing ICG signage on the Hwy. Normally the Ministry of Transport (MTO) exercises control of signage along Hwy 400 and it is a difficult process to obtain a permit to build a sign. The MTO controls do not apply on Wahta giving us a unique opportunity to earn income from within that length of the Territory.

Lance DeCaire

Economic Development Officer

[Lance.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca](mailto:Lance.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca)

705 762-2354 ext 2247

# HRV (Heat Recovery Ventilators)

## What are the Benefits of an HRV?

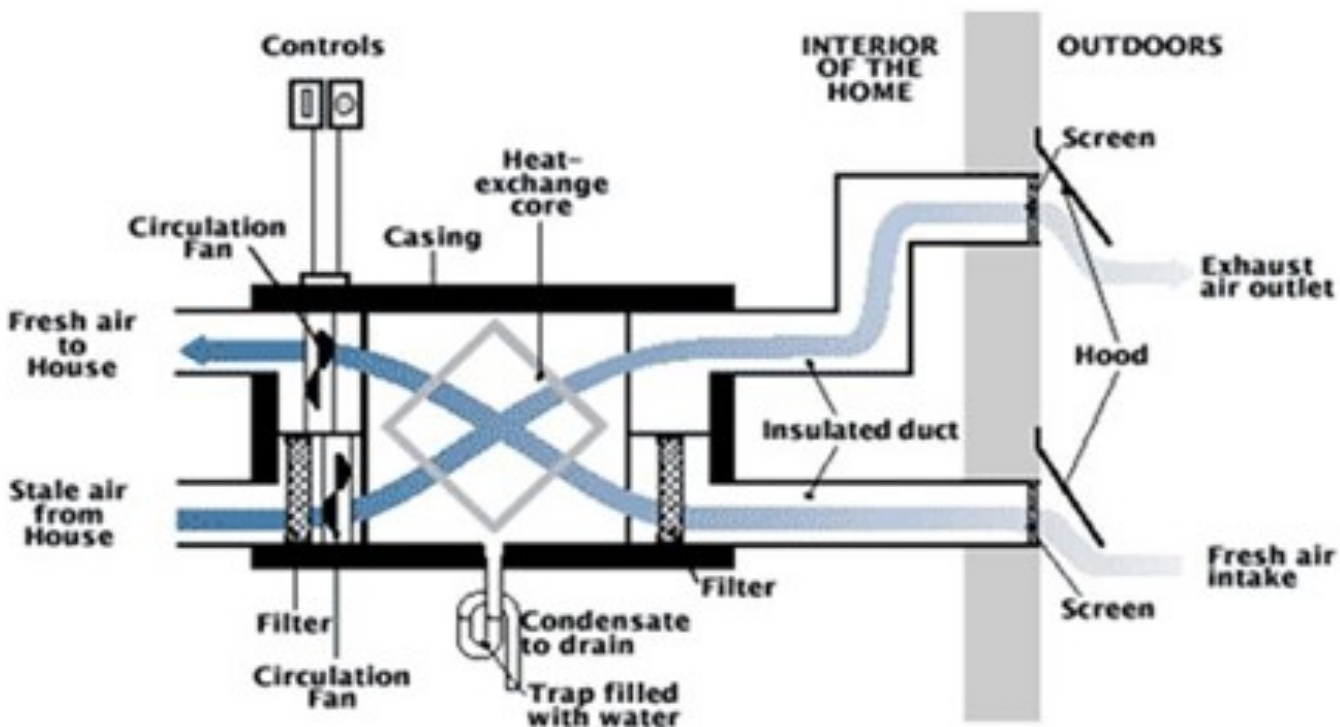
### Reduced Energy Consumption

Reduces ventilation costs by using heat in outgoing exhaust air to warm incoming fresh air in the winter.

### Improved Indoor Environment

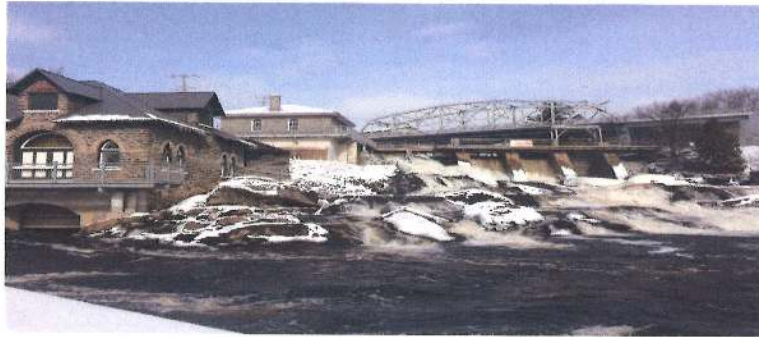
- Ensures delivery, distribution and circulation of fresh outdoor air throughout the house.
- Controls indoor air humidity levels to prevent moisture problems such as condensation on windows and mold growth.
- Helps control odors and humidity levels in bathrooms and kitchens.
- Dilutes indoor air contaminants.
- Provides better comfort by warming incoming ventilation air.
- Filters incoming air.
- Energy Recovery Ventilators (ERV) can also recover moisture from air to help prevent over-drying of home in the winter.

## How Does it work?



For More Information on HRVs or for information on how to maintain your HRV contact Matthew at 705-762-2354 EXT 275 [matthew.commandant@wahtamohawks.ca](mailto:matthew.commandant@wahtamohawks.ca)

# Aboriginal Legal Advice from Aboriginal Lawyers



## ALAAL Clinic

The purpose of this clinic is to provide culturally appropriate, summary legal advice 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

# Health Services for **December and January**

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

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

Community Shopping **Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** Barrie- weather permitting

Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> Barrie-weather permitting

Bus leaves Administration for pick up at 9am

Movement Therapy **Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>** Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> 10:30-11:30 am  
Administration Main Hall

Drum Group Tuesday, January 23 **New Time** 2pm -3:30pm Cultural Center

Community Kitchen Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup> 11:30-1 Administration Kitchen

Chair Exercise **Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** **CANCELLED** Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>

Administration Round Room 10am-1pm

Colouring **Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>** Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> Administration Round Room  
1pm-3pm

Diamond Dotz Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup> from 10-12

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



# First Nations Conservation Program

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## 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, they 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 they assess your home's energy efficiency, They 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

# **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:sue.tait@wahtamohawks.ca)



# 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](mailto:kristal.berwick@wahtamohawks.ca)



## Fall Home Maintenance Checklist

- ☒ Inspect and clean gutters and downspouts.
- ☒ Seal gaps and cracks around windows and doors with weather-stripping and caulk.
- ☒ Inspect your roof for damaged or curled shingles, corroded flashing, or leaky vents.
- ☒ Take steps to repair damaged sidewalks, driveways, and steps.
- ☒ Drain and winterize outdoor faucets and irrigation systems.
- ☒ Clean or replace dirty furnace filters.
- ☒ Have a professional inspect your heating system.
- ☒ Check fireplaces for soot or creosote build-up. Better yet, schedule a visit from a reputable chimney sweep.
- ☒ Clean humidifier plates or pads to ensure efficient operation.
- ☒ If you have a gas-fired room heater, have it inspected by a pro. Also, perform any routine maintenance recommended by the maker.
- ☒ Wood stoves are making a comeback. To avoid a deadly situation, be sure to inspect yours before firing it up.
- ☒ 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 other fire hazards.



Here is why you should consider using LED lamps in your home.	LED	Compact Fluorescent	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

# 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



**\*\* NO SOCIAL IN DECEMBER WILL RESUME IN JANUARY \*\***

# CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AND COOKIES

## ALCOHOL INK CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS IN GLASS

**DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2017**

**TIME: 6 PM TO 8 PM**

CULTURAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTRE

WAHTA CULTURAL CENTRE

WE WILL SERVE YUMMY CHRISTMAS COOKIES TOO



Alcohol ink is a new art medium that allows you to create beautiful artistic creations without any art experience at all. It is an ink based product that flows and disperses in isopropyl alcohol.

Making alcohol ink glass and tile ornaments is so much fun. Each ornament is unique, which makes this project enjoyable while you watch the creation unfold before your eyes. With the help of Sue Tait, the Cultural Centre Coordinator, she will guide you through the techniques step by step. The inks are smelly, stain easily and not suitable for children under the age of 12

Please RSVP if you plan to attend so we have enough supplies on hand

Call 705 792-3343 or email [Sue.Tait@wahtamohawks.ca](mailto:Sue.Tait@wahtamohawks.ca)



Join Dolly Parton's  
**Imagination Library**  
**GET FREE CHILDREN'S  
BOOKS EVERY MONTH**

We are building a foundation for reading and learning  
through books for First Nations children on-reserve.  
*Give your child the gift of reading.*

**WHO?** First Nations children living on reserve in Ontario, aged 0-5 years old.

**WHAT?** Your child's very own Imagination Library! A new age-appropriate book  
mailed to your child every month until he/she turns 5 years old.

**WHEN?** Books begin to arrive each month, 8 to 10 weeks after children are enrolled.

**HOW MUCH?** FREE! Books are provided at NO COST to you!

[imaginationlibrary.ca](http://imaginationlibrary.ca)

For more information:

Funding provided by:  
 Ontario

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



# Christmas Family Movie Night Pizza and Popcorn

**When: December 7, 2017**

**5:30 to approx. 8:30 pm**

**Where: Caltuure Healing Centre**

Reviews: a ROMANTIC COMEDY “loved this movie! It's funny, charming, romantic, and the scenery is awesome! I wish I could live there. All the actors were great! It was really funny! I really liked all the actors and actresses as they gel together. You hardly ever see an all Native American cast and so natural” movie is rated PG. Please bring your favorite blanket and pillow.

Call Sue Tait for more information:

705-762-3343



**Do you need support...someone to talk to?? Everyone needs support at one time or another.**

# Aboriginal Mental Health Program (B'saanibaamaadsiwin)

This program is aimed at providing culturally appropriate support and treatment for Indigenous individuals, families, and community. Model of service is culturally relevant and community specific therapeutic interventions that are based on best practices.

Please contact Sherry for referral (ext 250) or referrals for counselling and treatment can come through any source or self-referral throughout the districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound. Services can be accessed by calling the Parry Sound Office. People can be supported in community or go into their offices...whatever your preference may be.

# The Good Food Box

## A Pilot Project (Starting in January)

**The Good Food Box** is a monthly box of assorted fresh fruits and vegetables. Bulk ordering of fresh, high-quality produce (mostly local and Ontario) offers a sizable discount to customers. Each box contains a monthly newsletter with health and dietary information along with produce information and recipes to prepare meals from the box of produce you receive.

Boxes can be purchased and picked up from the administration building.

**Small boxes cost \$10.00 and large boxes cost \$15.00.**

**Boxes must be pre-ordered and paid for by the 7th of each month**

**Please contact Chris-**

**tine or Sherry**



## 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](mailto:harry.bryne@wahtamohawks.ca) or 705-641-0833 for more information.



# *Seniors Christmas Luncheon*

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

**11:30am**

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

**Administration Building**



# The Cranberry Marsh Study Meetings

Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

1:30

&

Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>

1:30-3

Please contact Christine or Sherry

Both Meetings at the Administration Building

It is hoped these meetings will provide Bryan some direction by the community on more specific research priorities and procedures (e.g., a list of people to recruit for interviews, what questions should be asked during interviews, how information collected should be managed/stored, desired outcomes of the project, etc.)

## WHAT'S THE CRANBERRY MARSH STUDY ALL ABOUT?

**Purpose:** to document the history of the Iroquois Cranberry Marsh as told by members of the Wahta Mohawks First Nation

**Focus** on stories, knowledge, and experiences of Wahta Mohawks



Bryan Grimwood was born and raised in Sarnia, Ontario at the southern point of Lake Huron and the mouth of the St. Clair River. He now resides with his family in Kitchener, Ontario, a short hike to the shores of the Grand River. Bryan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. His research focuses on understanding human-nature relationships and working with communities on projects relating to tourism, cultural livelihoods, and environmental learning and management.



# 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](http://www.wahtamohawks.com/member-registration)**

**Email us at [info@wahtamohawks.com](mailto: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](http://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.

## 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

**Muskoka Community Health Hub:  
Wahta Site – Holiday Hours:**  
**The Wahta Health Hub will be  
closed Friday, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 through  
Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018.**

### Attention Seniors:

Due to the way this Christmas, Boxing Day and New Years Day lands. Seniors garbage pick-up will be on Wednesday December 27 2017 and January 2nd, 2018.

Thank– you for your understanding.

## Wahta United Church

Faith Circle will be meeting at 7pm at the cultural centre every Tuesday night.  
Church Service will be on December 3rd at 11am

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

If anyone would like a visit, they can 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



# Wahta's Remembrance Day Celebration



## 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 Contant	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 and Social 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	705-762-3343
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*



P.O. Box 260  
Bala, On. P0C 1A0  
705-762-2354 phone  
705-762-2376 fax  
[www.wahtamohawks.com](http://www.wahtamohawks.com)