

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

Tsothohrha - The Time of Cold



December 2021



THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Calendar of Events
- ◆ Chief/Council Update
- ◆ Minutes
- ◆ FYI & Notices
- ◆ Education & Training
- ◆ Health & Social Services

Virtual Public Council Meeting

There will be a virtual Public Council Meeting on **Tuesday January 25th, 2022 at 7:00PM**. The meeting will be hosted on **Zoom**. Please **REGISTER** in advance at the following link:

<https://bit.ly/3pthx5B>

See inside for more information on how to use Zoom and join the meeting.

Community Buildings Closed

The Administration Building, Cultural Healing Centre, and Gym are closed for the time being in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to reassess the situation and reopen when it is safe to do so. You will find updates on the [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page. The Landfill will remain open during its normal schedule. If you have any questions about the status of the closures, please call 705-762-2354.

Are you thinking about building or renovating? Contact Karen or Matthew for help with the various Housing Programs, Subsidy Programs & Mortgage Programs that are available. 705-762-2354

karen.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca
matthew.commandant@wahtamohawks.ca



CHIEF AND COUNCIL UPDATE

December 2021

It is unfortunate we are once again facing a new variant of the COVID-19 virus. Although there are few cases in Canada currently and only one in Ontario, it reminds me of spring 2020 when the Wahta area as well as others had few COVID-19 cases and we thought we were in relatively good shape. Look what happened over time with that situation. The best advice right now seems to be to keep up the vigilance and be extra cautious. Get vaccinated or updated with the booster. Businesses can help by keeping up the safety protocols they have put in place since this pandemic began.

Lately Council has been working on some governance issues that will require input from interested members. The first is the granting of permission to build roads on Wahta owned road allowances and through certain common lots to access more land by individuals. There are considerations to enhance accessibility for people to use their CP lots as they may have no other property. There will be postings up displaying a couple of these requests, and details on conditions will follow. Council is approaching these with a view to be fair to everyone and put in place a policy that can be used going forward.

In another area of governance Council is entering into an investigation of the possibility of developing Child Welfare laws that can be used in the future. Recently the Canadian government enacted Bill C-92, *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* that will finally enshrine into law what Indigenous peoples across Canada have asked of governments for decades: to affirm and recognize their jurisdiction over child and family services. Wahta has taken on a legal firm with much experience in this area. In the coming months there will be consultations and background work done toward the decisions as to a law, and how much jurisdiction we want to assert.

Also, law-making regarding Tobacco progress has been slow especially due to COVID-19. Through the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Wahta has been involved in a process that will enable communities to build the capacity to protect this industry on the ground based on fundamental principals. Of those principles, the positions that tobacco belongs to Indigenous people, and that we will not be collectors of tax for another government are fundamental. It is expected that in January we will begin to introduce information about the AIAI Tobacco Task Force and the work they have done to consider how it may apply to our territory. A website has been established at <https://tobacco.aiai.on.ca/>.

Recently, possible non-members of Wahta have been seen on the territory in the bush or other areas they should not be. It has been reported as well that some of these people may indicate they have permission from myself or a member of council to be there. Council does not operate in that fashion. Non-members do not receive permission to be on the lands unless there is a specific reason to be there, such as hydro work crews or the like. The issue of trespass is one that will continue to be worked on through community consultation considering we have a number of non-member spouses on the territory who live with their families on CP held lands. We also have been working with the regulation development for Ontario Police services with the goal of having not only the police, but the justice system recognize our laws and act upon them.

There is much work to be done looking to put in place membership accepted laws or practices in the coming new year. Council hopes everyone will participate by expressing their views.

Nia:wen for taking the time to read this page, and as usual please contact the Council if you need more information.



Wahta Mohawks Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Thu Oct 28th, 2021

Time: 9:30 am

Those Present:

Chief Philip Franks

Councillor Blaine Commandant

Councillor Lorie Strength-Fenton

Councillor Teresa Greasley

Regrets:

Councillor Jesse Strength

In Attendance:

Murray Maracle, Senior Administrator

Samantha Walker, Council Executive Assistant

Adoption of Agenda & Minutes

Motion 1:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to adopt the October 28th agenda.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Motion 2:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Teresa Greasley to approve the minutes from October 14th, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Motion 3:

Moved by Lorie Strength-Fenton and seconded by Blaine Commandant to approve the minutes from October 20th, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Letter of Support – Bala Arena

Council received a request from a concerned citizen of Bala regarding the Bala Arena potentially not having ice this Winter. This citizen is looking for support from Council to help convince the Township of Muskoka Lakes that an ice rink is wanted and would be used. Council would like to see the arena open with ice, and Chief Franks will send a letter to Mayor Phil Harding to voice Council's support to have the Bala Arena have ice this season.

Discussion on Land Use Study

Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, provided Council with a list of potential consultants that could assist with the development of a Land Use Study. Council will begin to discuss the scope of the study, and seek Request for Proposals from a number of the consultants. Council will provide the consultants with information to get started and also look at examples of Land Codes from other First Nations in the area.

Discussion on the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians Tobacco Summit

On October 26th and 27th, Chief and Council, along with two members of the Youth Council attended the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians' Tobacco Summit. Chief Franks discussed next steps with Council, and suggested that they invite AIAI's Grand Chief, Gord Peters, and AIAI's Tobacco and Governance Policy Advisor, Tina Powell, to do a capsulized session on the process with Council and community retailers. It is important that community understand the importance of creating laws around tobacco, and how these laws would actually help to protect the retailers. The main benefit of introducing these laws is that no retailer would be on their own, as they would have regulations to protect them.

Adjournment

Motion 4:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to adjourn at 11:15am.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED



Wahta Mohawks Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Thu Nov 3rd, 2021

Time: 9:30 am

Those Present:

Chief Philip Franks

Councillor Blaine Commandant

Councillor Lorie Strength-Fenton

Councillor Teresa Greasley

Councillor Jesse Strength

In Attendance:

Murray Maracle, Senior Administrator

Samantha Walker, Council Executive Assistant

Randell Sonmor, Capital Assets Manager

Matthew Commandant, Housing Coordinator

Ariel Berwick, Youth Councillor

Adoption of Agenda & Minutes

Motion 1:

Moved by Jesse Strength and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to adopt the November 3rd agenda.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Motion 2:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Teresa Greasley to approve the minutes from October 28th, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Mutual Aid Agreement with District of Muskoka

Capital Assets Manager, Randell Sonmor, and Housing Coordinator, Matthew Commandant, joined Council to present a Briefing Note on the Mutual Assistance Agreement within the District of Muskoka. The District of Muskoka has drafted a Mutual Assistance Agreement formalising an arrangement whereby the townships/municipalities and First Nation communities within the District of Muskoka provide requested assistance to each other during an emergency. The proposed agreement would not negate the existing agreement that Wahta Mohawks has with

the Township of Muskoka Lakes Fire Department. After some discussion, Council agreed with Randell and Matthew's recommendation to participate in the Mutual Assistance Agreement.

Motion 3:

Moved by Lorie Strength-Fenton and seconded by Blaine Commandant to authorize Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, to sign the agreement to participate in the Mutual Assistance Agreement with the District of Muskoka.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Youth Council Update

Youth Councillor, Ariel Berwick, joined Council to provide an update on the Wahta Mohawks Youth Council. She gave an overview of the current Youth Council and their procedures. There are five members that currently meet on a monthly basis. The agenda is made up of updates from the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, discussions on programming, major projects, followed by a round table discussion. Ariel is hoping to have a survey circulated to the youth in the community to allow them to provide their feedback on the community and add their goals to the strategic plan. The Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians Youth Council has bi-weekly meetings in which the members provide updates on their portfolios and community, discuss various action items, and share ideas and resources. Ariel agreed to provide a briefing note on monthly updates to Council.

Heritage Canada Funding – CDN Technologies PR for Approval

The Education department is looking to purchase laptops and software for the Language program. They require two computers for staff and 14 laptops to loan out to community members so they can access language programming. The laptops would be purchased from CDN Technologies using funding from Heritage Canada ILC.

Motion 4:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Jesse Strength to approve the purchase requisition for CDN Technologies for laptops and set up fees in the amount of \$31,512.40 using funding from Heritage Canada ILC.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Olivia Franks - Request to Share Research

Queens University Graduate Student, Olivia Franks, has finalized her thesis document "Grounding our Meals on Wheels Program in Community Voice: Exploring Food Practices and Perceived Wholistic Health in Wahta Mohawk Territory." She has been invited to provide a

presentation at Queens' Indigenous Research Day on November 5th and is seeking Council approval to share details of the research. Council acknowledged the request from Olivia Franks and agreed to allow her to share her research and findings at the event.

Land Lease Council Resolutions

Council reviewed and approved a number of Land Lease Mohawk Council Resolutions.

Motion 5:

Moved by Lorie Strength-Fenton and seconded by Jesse Strength to approve and sign Mohawk Council Resolutions 2021/22-16, 2021/22-17, and 2021/22-18.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Holiday Shutdown for the Administration

Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle inquired about whether Council was willing to approve a holiday shutdown of the offices for December of this year. Council has once again agreed to do so and directed the Administration office to close on December 24th and reopen January 4th. The Administration will work to ensure essential services are continued over the shutdown.

Motion 6:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Jesse Strength to close the Administration on December 24th, 2021 and reopen on January 4th, 2022.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Child Welfare Study

Chief Franks shared a package from Hensel Barristers containing documents on the Child Welfare Study with Council for their review. Wahta has been provided \$178,000 of funding to be used for the study. The package outlines the options available to Council at this time. Representatives from AIAI are willing to provide a presentation to Chief and Council to help them fully understand their options. Chief Franks will contact AIAI to set up a meeting before the end of November.

ATR Update

Chief Franks provided Council with an update on the Additions to Reserve Process before his meeting the following day. He will be meeting with Laura from Indigenous Services Canada, as well as a representative from the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Town Clerk from Georgian Bay to discuss the road allowance belonging to Georgian Bay at McMaster Lake. In

order for the lands to be returned, Georgian Bay has to close the road allowance. The Town Clerk will prepare a briefing for the Georgian Bay Council for their decision following the meeting. He also informed Council that environmental assessments are still ongoing.

Adjournment

Motion 7:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to adjourn at 11:30am.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED



Wahta Mohawks Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wed Nov 10th, 2021

Time: 9:30 am

Those Present:

Chief Philip Franks

Councillor Blaine Commandant

Councillor Lorie Strength-Fenton

Councillor Teresa Greasley

Councillor Jesse Strength

In Attendance:

Murray Maracle, Senior Administrator

Samantha Walker, Council Executive Assistant

Adoption of Agenda & Minutes

Motion 1:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Jesse Strength to adopt the November 10th agenda.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Motion 2:

Moved by Lorie Strength-Fenton and seconded by Teresa Greasley to approve the minutes from November 3rd, 2021.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Updates on Road Right of Way

Chief and Council discussed the two ongoing requests from members to build access roads to their properties. At this time, Council is seeking input from the community in order to best decide how to formally acknowledge the use of the roads. Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, will obtain updated maps outlining the proposed roads and provide two written notices to Council for their approval. Once the notices have been approved, they will be posted online for public comment.

Round Table

Chief and Council are currently in the process of commissioning a table for the Council Chambers. Peter Goodwin has drafted a design, and Councillor Strength-Fenton has dropped off wood samples from Peter at the Cultural Centre for Chief and Council to look at. The next step is to decide whether to move forward and have Peter begin to formalize the drawing plans for the table. Peter is willing to meet with Council again if they have any questions.

Adjournment

Motion 3:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to adjourn at 11:30am.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED



Wahta Mohawks Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wed Nov 17th, 2021

Time: 9:30 am

Those Present:

Chief Philip Franks

Councillor Blaine Commandant

Councillor Lorie Strength-Fenton

Councillor Teresa Greasley

Regrets:

Councillor Jesse Strength

In Attendance:

Murray Maracle, Senior Administrator

Samantha Walker, Council Executive Assistant

Adoption of Agenda**Motion 1:**

Moved by Teresa Greasley and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to adopt the November 17th agenda.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

AIAI Cannabis Education and Awareness Project – Letter of Agreement

Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, provided a letter of agreement from the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians for Cannabis Education and Awareness funding. AIAI will provide \$122,000.00 to address existing cannabis education, awareness and harm reduction gaps, by developing and implementing community specific work plans. The Health and Social Department will continue to use this funding for workshops, one on one sessions, and future programming.

Motion 2:

Moved by Lorie Strength-Fenton and seconded by Teresa Greasley to direct Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, to sign the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians' Letter of Agreement for the 2021/22 Cannabis Education and Awareness Funding in the amount of \$122,000.00.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

AIAI Responsible Gambling Funding – Letter of Agreement

Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, provided a letter of agreement from the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians for Responsible Gambling funding. AIAI will provide \$17,000.00 to support various initiatives, such as increasing awareness of the risks associated with gambling, increasing awareness of available treatment services, as well as gambling prevention programs that are culturally, age and gender appropriate.

Motion 3:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to direct Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, to sign the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians' Letter of Agreement for the 2021/22 Responsible Gambling Funding in the amount of \$17,000.00.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

AIAI Mental Wellness Response Crisis Team – Letter of Agreement

Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, provided a letter of agreement from the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians for the Mental Wellness Crisis Response Team funding. AIAI will provide \$56,250.00 to support the implementation of the AIAI Mental Wellness Crisis Team, which will be used to support mental health activities in community using the AIAI Mental Wellness Team model of support.

Motion 4:

Moved by Blaine Commandant and seconded by Lorie Strength-Fenton to direct Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, to sign the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians' Letter of Agreement for the 2021/22 Mental Wellness Crisis Response Team Funding in the amount of \$56,250.00.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Update on Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership

Chief Franks provided Council with an update on the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership (OFNLP), and their current legal proceedings with the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG).

Update on Road Right of Ways

Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, provided Council with two reworded notices for the road requests being currently being discussed. Council agrees that the notices should have more information on what the members are requesting and why the notices are being shared with the community. Council also agrees to discuss the requests at an upcoming monthly Public Council Meeting. Once the notices are revised, they will be posted online.

Tentative OPP Meet and Greet Date

On December 9th, 2021, Ontario Provincial Police Inspector, Michael Burton, as well as newly appointed Superintendent, Laura Houliston, would like to meet with council and tour Wahta to familiarize Superintendent Houliston with the community.

Policy Making

Senior Administrator, Murray Maracle, provided Council with an update on the ongoing policy work. The main focus of the Administration is currently the Vaccination Policy. The Gravel/Sand Policy is ongoing, however there is a formal process in place for sales in the meantime. The Governance Policies that are completed have been posted on the website for comment, however at this time, no feedback has been provided.

Adjournment

Motion 5:

Moved by Lorie Strength-Fenton and seconded by Blaine Commandant to adjourn at 11:30am.

ALL IN FAVOUR

CARRIED

Virtual Public Council Meeting

Tuesday January 25th, 2021, 7:00pm

Please join us for a virtual Public Council Meeting on Zoom!

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqfu2urjsrH9z0bvFbMkMQHU2DOtwpRB0j>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

If you need help getting started or have any questions, please contact Samantha at samantha.walker@wahtamohawks.ca

Wahta Mohawks Community Trust Trust Election

To elect three (3) Trustees to serve until the end of the term of December 31, 2024.

All candidates must meet the eligibility criteria to stand for election to the Wahta Mohawk Community Trust, per the Wahta Mohawks Community Trust Election Rules & Regulations, as enacted by authority of Article V11, Section 7.3(e) of the Wahta Mohawks Trust Agreement.

ELECTION:

Saturday December 4, 2021 – 10:00am to 3:00p.m.

Assistant Electoral Officer: Ariel Berwick - admin@wahtamohawkstrust.org



Do you have any scenic photos of Wahta that you
would be willing to share?

The Health and Social Team are collecting photos
of Wahta, and we would love to see yours!

Credit will be given if shared or distributed.

Please send your photos to kathleen.white@wahtamohawks.ca

Wahta Housing Subsidies

Wahta Mohawks offers subsidies for New Construction and Renovations. We also have a subsidy for Water and Sanitation.

- New Construction Housing subsidies are limited to a maximum of \$26,300.00 each.
- Renovation subsidies are available to a maximum of \$26,300.00 on a 50/50 cost sharing basis.



We have only two of these subsidies available each year so it would mean two housing subsidies, or one housing subsidy and renovation subsidies totaling \$26,300.00 etc.

We also offer a Water and Sanitation subsidy of \$15,000.00 available for two new homes or to assist with the replacement of a well, pump, water system or for septic system renovation.

October 1: Update on Applications for Housing, Renovations and Water & Sanitation Subsidy

The Administration would like to inform Community members that two applications were received and approved in the second phase of our revised application process (please refer to the March newsletter for information on the changes).

To date, a total of five applications have been approved.


As funds remain available for the above subsidies, we are now inviting applications for the above subsidies as part of the third phase of our revised process.

For this third phase, we request that applications be submitted by December 30, 2021. As with the first and second phases, all applications will be assessed at the same time. We plan to assess all fully completed applications by January 15, 2022, after which we will notify applicants.

Please contact Karen Sahanatien at karen.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca for the application form.

Gravel Delivery Notice

Following the purchase of each gravel order, members are now requested to call Sahanatien Haulage to provide delivery instructions. Their number is 705 762 5346.



GET YOUR WATER TESTED

The best time to sample your well water is when the probability of contamination is greatest. This is likely to be in early spring just after the thaw, after an extended dry spell, following heavy rains or after lengthy periods of non-use. If you live on the Territory and would like your water to be tested, please contact Evan Holmes at 705-644-9884.

Land for Sale	Land for Sale	Land Wanted	Land Wanted	Land Wanted	Land Wanted
2 acres adjacent to Musk. Rd. 38 with driveway	Various locations	Band member looking to purchase waterfront property on lake Gibson.	Band member interested in purchasing a building lot along the river. If you own one of these lots and would consider selling it, we're most interested in speaking with you. We may also be interested in other lots not on the river. Please contact Diane at 226-332-2352	Band member looking to purchase property. Please contact 705-801-9508	Property for lease for member to use as recreational land, e.g. Camping Any size, any location Leah 705-238-9004 leah.readman@gmail.com
5 Acres adjacent to Musk. Rd. 38 with no driveway	Call 705-762-0013 for more information	Please contact Chantell. 289-440-2464			
80+ acres with bush lot and waterfront					
For more info, please call 705-644-4227					

Snow Plowing and Shoveling Services for the 2021/22 Winter Season

Wahta's Public Works department has completed the repair/servicing of the snow plowing and sanding equipment in preparation for providing its' snow clearing services for the upcoming 2021/22 winter season.

In addition to the snow clearing at the community buildings, rental units and Wahta roads, snow plowing and snow shoveling service is also provided to seniors (those aged 65 and over) and those on ODSP living in the community. Last winter, we provided this service to 29 private homes in the community. It is expected that this number will increase slightly for the upcoming season.

As a reminder, the services provided to seniors and those on ODSP includes:

- Snow plowing of driveways.
- Shoveling of a pathway from the driveway to the front door. The pathway will be a minimum of three feet in width.
- Shoveling of a pathway to a secondary exit door at the house.
- Plowing and shoveling takes place when there is a minimum of 3" of snow accumulation
- Shoveling at the residences will not start before 7:00 am so as not to disturb those living in the home.

For further clarification, the snow clearing services outlined above do not include:

- Pathways to propane tanks and sheds
- Clearing satellite dishes, roofs, and cars
- Clearing decks beyond the pathway to entrances of the home
- Seasonal residences
- Businesses
- Members' residences outside the community

As in previous seasons, we truly appreciate everyone's understanding and patience as we mobilize our services with each snowfall. The demand on services has increased over the last few years and we strive to ensure services are delivered as efficiently and effectively as possible. If you are a senior or on ODSP and are not currently registered for these services and would like to be, please contact Karen Sahanatien at 705 394 5134 or by email karen.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca.

Land Fill Hours Notice

*The landfill will be closed on Saturday December 25th and
Saturday January 1st.*

*It will be open on Monday December 27th from 5pm-7pm and
Monday January 3rd from 5pm-7pm*

BE PREPARED for Winter Storms and Power Outages

As we have all experienced, the impact of power outages during the winter can be very serious.

Wahta would like to provide some suggestions/tips as a reminder on how you can prepare for outages and protect your families and yourself.

For seniors living in the rental units, the Administration will be providing specific support during power outages, such as hooking up portable generators to the units and offering other support during the outage.

In the first two/three hours of the outage, the Administration's staff may not be able to assist those seniors living in private residences, such as to start portable generators, We ask that family members be the first to provide immediate help to those seniors.

Hydro One Emergency Number

**Hydro One Power Outage & Emergency Line:
1-800-434-1235**

Use this number to report a power outage, fallen tree hazard or emergency (24 hours, 7 days a week).

Health and Medical

- Have a well stocked emergency kit on hand. For tips on assembling an emergency kit, go to <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/hzd/pwrtgs-bfr-en.aspx>. Kits can also be purchased from a number of organisations: Canadian Red Cross kits can be purchased [on its website](#). The Salvation Army also has a [standard kit](#) as well as a [car kit](#) available for purchase on its website.
- Have at least 1-week supply of prescription medications on hand
- First Aid Kits: Each home should have one on hand and make sure it is well supplied. These kits can be purchased at most pharmacies and other organisations such as The Red Cross.
- Homes with babies and toddlers they should have extra diapers , wipes, and infant formula on hand.
- Medical supplies, ensure you have enough supplies on hand for at least one week.
- Do not overexert yourself while shoveling - this can lead to heart attack, take frequent breaks, stretch before starting and at the first sign of distress call 911 immediately.
- Have enough sand and or salt on hand for walkways and stairs to help prevent falls. Foot ware grips for shoes can help prevent slip and falls.

Equipment and Home Devices/Supplies

- Check your back-up or portable generator. Have enough gasoline on hand for extended power outages.
- Have flashlights, lanterns, candles and matches or other emergency lighting devices stored in a handy place. Use proper candle holders.
- Keep your cell phones charged.
- Stock up on bottled water, canned goods, dry food goods.
- If you have a wood-burning fireplace, clean the flue every fall in preparation for its use for home heating.
- Ensure your vehicle has at least half a tank at all times during the winter.

Community Skating at the Bala Arena



Wahta has book the ice for the following dates to allow community members some free skate time. All skate times are from 11am- 1150am.

December 11th, & 18th

January 8th & 22nd

February 12th & 19th

March 5th & 26th

Children's Christmas

This year Santa has set up a crew to deliver gifts to children on territory. A heat and serve meal, along with a holiday movie and snacks will also be provided this day. Please expect your special delivery on Dec 16th between 430pm-6pm. Off territory members that have previously signed up, your items will be ready for pick up Dec 16th between 9am-3pm.



Community Festive Decorating Program

Please note due to required travel for voting the decorating program is for on Territory households only.



Reminder for those who signed up. Participants will be required to decorate the exterior of their homes by December 10th. Between December 13-16 all community members will have the chance to drive around the

community and submit their vote for their favorite festive décor.

Please have your lights on between 6pm & 8pm. We have a small gift for all participants in the decorating challenge, you will be contacted when items are available for pick up.

NEWS: Those who plan on viewing and judging these decorated homes, please contact Amy for rules and list of participants. Only address will be given out along with a voting card. When viewing please use caution on the roadway and stay safe.

Children's Bedtime Stories

Every Wednesdays at 7pm on ZOOM. Open to anyone who wants to join. Contact Amy and a link will be provided.



Upcoming Seminars

We are excited to present Family, Post-secondary and youth budgeting seminars coming to you this January. This will be a very informative presentation that will help you budget for the new year. Watch for more information in the January newsletter.

Kanien'kéha Mohawk Language

Community Language Classes – Online Zoom

Classes will now run seasonally Fall Session of Kanien'kéha Community Classes is underway until end of December. If you would like to get on the list of Winter Session, please email sarah.chaloux@wahtamohawks.ca. Class sizes will have maximum capacity for greatest learning. Classes will run for 10 weeks, twice weekly. Ability to commit to each class is ideal. Monday and Thursday evenings; 7-8pm. Please reach out for more information.

Youth and Family – Online Zoom

Please email sarah.chaloux@wahtamohawks.ca to receive the zoom link. Youth and families still welcome to participate. Wednesday's 4:15-5:00pm

Language Nest - Online Zoom

Sessions run Monday mornings 10:30am. Caregivers and preschool aged children may participate in this early-years exposure and supports for Kanien'kéha in the home.

CAN8 Language Software - sign ups are still welcome. Please email if you would like instructions and access to this program for self-led learning paired with Richard's teaching supports.

Community Consultation

Please consider joining a Community Consultation Advisory group for future language endeavors. Your input and guidance are important to the success of Kanien'kéha in Wahta. Email me to help connect and facilitate any meetings. Alternatively, you may also send in ideas or requests at any time.

Any language stakeholders, speakers, or interested community members are needed for an upcoming language initiative. Please consider reaching out to make yourself available for consultation, whether a brief input or lengthier engagement, we would appreciate your involvement.

All registrations and questions welcome at sarah.chaloux@wahtamohawks.ca
Language Instructor Richard Hay can be reached at richard.hay@wahtamohawks.ca

Land-Based Learning

On a path to increasing land-based learning initiatives, and creating a youth land guardians' program, we wish to have all family input come forward, consider participating in a community advisory group, and enroll your families in this community driven programming. Let's get out on the land, and let it teach us, heal, and be in relation, taking on responsibility to care for the land for the next seven generations to thrive on.

Input welcome as this initiative develops, please provide your statement of interest to plan to accommodate participation numbers.

March Break Camp

Planning is underway for March Break Camp. Please save the date: March 14th – 18th. Monday – Thursday 9:00am- 4:00pm, Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm. To help us plan and prepare for numbers please reach out to register your school-aged child(ren). Camp plans to be run at Culture Healing Centre CHC outside for the duration of the day.

Email: sarah.chaloux@wahtamohawks.ca

Wahta Mohawks Health and Social

Ongoing Monthly Services

Online Traditional Healer Sessions

Rebecca Maracle from Tyendinaga will be available for one-on-one online healing sessions. If you do not have access to the internet and would like to participate, Rebecca also offers sessions over the phone. When registering, please indicate how you would prefer your session. Please register with Kristan Sahanatien – kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca or Sherry Byrne – sherry.byrne@wahtamohawks.ca or 705 762 2354. Ext 241 or 250.

Music Therapy

Once a month we will provide an online group music-assisted progressive muscle relaxation session. Music can be used to assist the relaxation process, and to teach relaxation skills for independent self-care. Along with this, we also offer 1:1 music therapy sessions. For more information, please contact Kristan Sahanatien – kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca or Sherry Byrne – sherry.byrne@wahtamohawks.ca

The Playful Warrior 1:1 sessions

Using The Power Of **Play** And **Mindset** To Reconnect With Your Authentic Self, Heal Your Inner Child & Create A Life That Lights You Up. This program is facilitated by Certified Life & Success Coach and Practitioner of NLP, Hypnotherapy, EFT Tapping and TIME Techniques. The program will consist of eight 1:1 sessions. For more information or to register, please contact Kristan Sahanatien – kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca Registered participants will be contacted with the zoom link.

Cannabis 1:1 Sessions

Dr. Lionel Marks de Chabris. Dr. Lionel is a pain and addiction specialist working out of Northern Ontario. We have had Dr. Lionel host multiple workshops for the community throughout the summer months and have received great feedback from participants. Dr. Lionel would be providing his expertise knowledge in this area and answer any questions you may have. For further information or to register, please contact Kristan Sahanatien – kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca .

Falling Leaf Program

Seniors that are at a risk of falling or even just family members that are worried about their vulnerable loved ones being home alone are able to ask to be added to our falling leaf program which provides a safety alert system to the seniors. This system is also equipped with GPS should a family member like to leave the home so they can be easily found should they have a fall. Contact: Bobby Decaire - Bobby.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca or 705-641-1263

Music and Memory

We have a system for all seniors that brings them music from all aspects of their lives, this system is often used for dementia, anxiety, depression and much more. It is designed to bring calm to most situations and bring comfort to our seniors. Contact: Bobby.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca or 705-641-1263

Joyce's Principle - aims to **guarantee to all Indigenous people the right of equitable access**, without any discrimination, to all social and health services, as well as the right to enjoy the best possible physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health. We will be making this available to all of our seniors, my goal is to assure every senior has access to this information very easily. We will be also Distributing copies in public areas such as the Administration front desk and cultural center. This is open for all members of the community no matter age. For more information please contact: Bobby.decaire@wahtamohawk or 705-641-1263

Madeline's Mobile Salon:

We now have a mobile salon service please contact Bobby Decaire for more information and to sign up. 705-641-1263 or email Bobby.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca

Program Registrations for December

Annual Youth Conference (Ages 11-17)

Please register with Kristan Sahanatien – kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca Deadline to register is December 10th, 2021. Registered participants will be sent the conference outline and zoom links. Please note that this conference will be done online on Wednesday evenings for 6 weeks. Date and times will be confirmed.

Youth and Kids Bingo (up to 17 years)

Please register with Kristan Sahanatien – kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca deadline to register is December 10th, 2021.

Online Art Show

During the Month of December Wahta Mohawks will be featuring all the amazing creations that Wahta members have created during the pandemic. Items can be either something you have created with a Wahta program, or your own unique creation! Please send your pictures to Kristan Sahanatien – Kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca . Photos submitted will be posted on Wahta Mohawks Health and Social Facebook page. Participants can submit multiple entries. This is open to all ages and abilities.

30 Day Walking Challenge

Join us virtually in January to get healthy and participate in our 30 day walking challenge. We will have daily walking goals we will work towards achieving each day. Please contact Kristan Sahanatien to register – Kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca – deadline to register is December 10th, 2021.

Virtual Wellness Workshops with Kristina Giacobbe

- Session # 1 – Monday, January 24th from 4:30-6:30PM **"Anxiety: Get to know what it is, how to identify it, and how to better cope!"**
- Session # 2 – Monday, March 7th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm **"Stress: How to identify in adults & youth, and how to effectively cope."**

Each session will include coping mechanisms, and formal resources. If you would like to register, please contact Sherry Byrne at sherry.byrne@wahtamohawks.ca by December 9th 2021.

Seniors (64+) Mental Health Kits

Please register with Sherry Byrne at sherry.byrne@wahtamohawks.ca or Kristan Sahanatien – kristan.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca deadline to register is December 9th, 2021.

Snowman Making Contest

It's that time of year! SNOW is coming, it's a great time to get outside and build a snowman.

Categories:

- Children up to 12
- 13 to 17
- 18 to 64
- 65 +

Send me a picture of your snowman, indicating which age group you are entering (one entry per person) by February 11th 2022. Send your picture to sherry.byrne@wahtamohawks.ca

Soap Stone Carving Kits for Adults

If you are interested in receiving a soap stone carving kit, please register with Sherry Byrne at sherry.byrne@wahtamohawks.ca by December 9th 2021.

Men's Hand Drum kits – (for men only) January program

If you are interested in receiving a hand drum kit, please register with Sherry Byrne at sherry.byrne@wahtamohawks.ca by December 9th 2021.

Christmas Cookies

If you are interested in making cookies this holiday season please email sara.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca or by phone at 705 801 5300 no later than Friday December 3rd.



Thank you

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season, and a happy and healthy 2021!!

Saturday February 19th, 2022

Starts at 8am

Ice Fishing Derby 2022

*If you wish to participate, please sign up by contacting
karen.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca
by January 14th, 2022.*

Due to the ongoing pandemic the annual ice fishing derby won't be held as usual. This year people can ice fish at any location on February 19th, 2022 from 8am to 3pm.

*If you catch a pike, please take a picture with you and your fish with a measuring device and send to
karen.sahanatien@wahtamohawks.ca*

Prizes for those who participate.

Please plan on participating and remember to social distance.

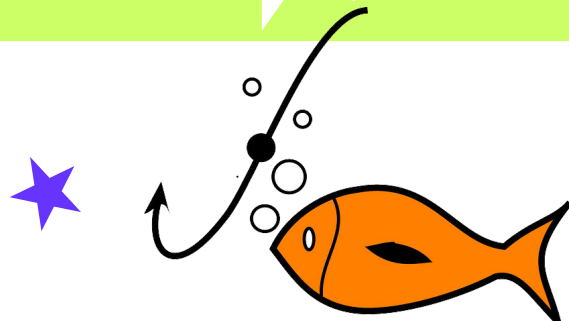
Stay safe everyone!

Ice Fish at any location

*Fun for the whole
Family*

*Categories for women, men
and youth*

*Pictures maybe used in the
Wahta newsletter and
facebook page*



Good Food Box

Northern Produce will be delivering Good Food Boxes to everyone who is signed up.

If you have not signed up and are interested in receiving the Good Food Box, and you live on reserve, please email Sara at sara.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca. You can also contact our receptionist Skye at 705-762-2354, and she will give Sara the message.



Ambulance Payment Assistance

Attention: If you have used an Ambulance to West Parry Sound Health Centre (Parry Sound Hospital)

When you receive your bill please get in contact with:

Patricia Austin, M.O.A.

Financial Services Clerk

West Parry Sound Health Centre

6 Albert Street, Parry Sound P2A 3A4

Phone: (705) 746-4540 ext 4112

email: paustin@wpshc.com

www.wpshc.com



Patricia can, with the status number that you provide, send the bill to FNIHB for payment directly!

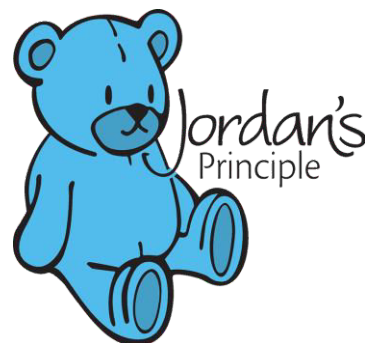
If any questions arise please contact Christine for assistance.

if you live elsewhere and have to use an ambulance get in touch with that hospital's finance department and see if this can be arranged for you

What is Jordan's Principle?

Jordan's Principle is meant to prevent First Nations children from being denied essential services or experiencing delays in receiving them. Different levels of government fund different services for First Nations children, and as a result it can be hard to figure out how to access necessary products, services, and supports. Under Jordan's Principle, we can:

- ✓ Inform families about the resources available for their child and how to access it
- ✓ Coordinate access to products, services, and supports
- ✓ Provide funding when it's needed to make sure products, services, and supports are accessed without delay



Who can apply to Jordan's Principle?

A child under the age of majority in their province of residence can access Jordan's Principle, if they permanently reside in Canada, and if the child meets **one** of the following criteria:

- ✓ Child is registered or eligible to be registered under the Indian Act
- ✓ Child has one parent or guardian who is registered/eligible to be registered under the Indian Act
- ✓ Child is recognized by their nation for the purposes of Jordan's Principle
- ✓ Child is ordinarily resident on reserve

What is covered under Jordan's Principle?

Health:

- ✓ mobility aids
- ✓ wheelchair ramps
- ✓ addiction services
- ✓ services from Elders
- ✓ mental health services
- ✓ specialized hearing aids
- ✓ traditional healing services
- ✓ services for children in care
- ✓ assessments and screenings
- ✓ transportation to appointments
- ✓ medical supplies and equipment
- ✓ long term care for children with specialized needs
- ✓ therapeutic services for individuals or groups

Social:

- ✓ social worker
- ✓ land-based activities
- ✓ personal support worker
- ✓ specialized summer camps
- ✓ respite care
- ✓ specialized programs based on cultural beliefs and practices

Education:

- ✓ school supplies
- ✓ tutoring services
- ✓ teaching assistants
- ✓ specialized school transportation
- ✓ psycho-educational assessments
- ✓ assistive technologies and electronics

For more information, please contact:

Kathleen White, Jordan's Principle Navigator

kathleen.white@wahtamohawks.ca or (705) 330-1875

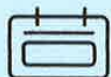


RAAM CLINIC

West Parry Sound Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Clinic

The Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic is a low-barrier, culturally safe clinic for individuals 16 years of age and older who are struggling with substance use concerns; or for friends and family seeking personal support around a loved one's substance use.

Although not required, referrals are helpful and appreciated. Walk-ins are welcome.



Start Date:
Monday May 27, 2019



Mondays: 2 PM - 6 PM
Thursdays: 8 AM - 12 PM



West Parry Sound Health
Centre - Ambulatory Care
6 Albert St., Parry Sound



Check-in at Admitting

For additional information, referral forms, patient hand-outs, and brochures, please contact us:



705-375-9900

or call:



705-746-4264

and ask for a RAAM counsellor



Canadian Mental
Health Association

Addictions and
Mental Health Services



West Parry Sound Health Centre

Rural Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic

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 **Kathleen White** at **705-762-2354 x. 240** or by email at **kathleen.white@wahtamohawks.ca**



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

Aboriginal Mental Health and Addictions Program (B'saanibaamaadsiwin)
705-746-2512 24/7 Support Line

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.

If you would like an appointment with **Dr. Ed Connors** please call **Sherry Byrne** at 705-762-2354 ext. 250.

Wahta Mohawks Business Directory

Business Name	Phone Number	Website	Services Offered
Commandant Towing and Recovery	(705) 205-1418		Towing and Recovery Free Scrap Vehicle Removal Tire Services – vehicles, trailers, atvs
First Nations Liquidation	(705) 762-0101	https://firstnationliquidation.com/	Convenience Gifts Fireworks Household items
Long House Grill	(705) 762 6687	https://firstnationliquidation.com/longhouse-grill/	Restaurant
Mrs. H's Fish & Chips	(705) 762-4262	https://mrshsfishandchips.ca/	Restaurant
Muskoka Rural Electric	(705) 762-3440	www.muskokaruralelectric.com	Licensed electricians
Poseidon Plumbing	(705) 801-6164	http://godofwater.ca/	Full-service plumber
Redd Roads Craft and Smoke Shop	(705) 706-1476		Native crafts and smokes
Sahanatien Haulage	(705) 762-5346	https://lshaulage.com/	Site development Roads and driveways Septic systems Landscaping and supplies Material delivery
Team Boats	(855) 770-8326	https://teamboats.ca/	Custom Aluminum Boats
The Big Smoke	(705) 762-4934		Smoke Convenience
Wahta Station	(705) 762-2195	https://thewahtastation.com/	Convenience Grocery
Wahta Springs	(800) 593-0127	http://www.wahtasprings.com/	Water Bottling
What-a-Convenience	(705) 762-1923		Gas Station Bakery Gifts
Wolf Energy Muskoka and Trading Post	(249) 605-0238	https://wolfenergymuskoka.ca/	Trading Post Gas Station Gifts Grocery Wellness
Womb Rising	(705) 323-5599	www.wombrising.com	Birth Services

If you own and operate a business on territory and you would like to be included in this directory,
please contact Kathleen White at
kathleen.white@wahtamohawks.ca or (705) 330-1875.

Contact Information

Chief & Council

Chief Philip Franks	philip.franks@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-528-9468
Councillor Blaine Commandant	blaine.commandant@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-394-8699
Councillor Teresa Greasley	teresa.greasley@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-644-9934
Councillor Lorie Strength-Fenton	lorie.fenton-strength@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-774-2796
Councillor Jesse Strength	jesse.strength@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	TBD

Administration

705-762-2354

Scott Aubichon	Lands and Resources Coordinator	Ext. 242
Sherry Byrne	Community Wellbeing & Good Minds Programming Coord.	Ext. 250
Sarah Chaloux	Language Activator	Ext. 259
Matthew Commandant	Housing Coordinator	Ext. 275
Joanne Contant	Chief Financial Officer	Ext. 227
Christine Cox	Health & Social Services Manager	Ext. 273
Amy Davidson	Family Well-Being Worker	Ext. 203
Bobby DeCaire	Senior Services Coordinator	N/A
Courtnei DeCaire	Financial Assistant	Ext. 230
Sara DeCaire	Diabetes & Seniors Programming Coordinator	Ext. 206
Skye DeCaire	Receptionist	Ext. 221
Richard Hay	Kanien'keha Language Instructor	N/A
Carol Holmes	Education Services Manager	Ext. 233
Murray Maracle	Senior Administrator	Ext. 231
Kim North	Finance Clerk	Ext. 237
Karen Sahanatien	Membership/Lands & Housing Clerk	Ext. 222
Kristan Sahanatien	NNADAP	Ext. 241
Randell Sonmor	Capital Assets Manager	Ext. 224
Jacqueline Stewart	Education Assistant	N/A
Samantha Walker	Council Executive Assistant/Librarian	Ext. 272
Kathleen White	Ontario Works Administrator/Employment & Training	Ext. 240

Maintenance & Public Works

Berry Berwick	Public Works Supervisor	705-641-0722
Harry Byrne	Maintenance Supervisor	705-641-0833
Terry DeCaire	Maintenance	705-644-9862
Evan Holmes	Public Works	705-644-9884

Please Feel Free to Call with any Questions or Concerns

Administration Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday, 8:00am - 4:30pm

Fridays 8:00am - 2:00pm