

FEEDBACK REPORT

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke Election Law Draft Amendments

December 19, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

The Administrative Unit, under the Executive Director, is responsible for ensuring all aspects of the associated planning for the MCK Election Law. Trina C. Diabo is the assigned Technician to carry out the tasks related to the Draft MCK Election Law and the author of this report.

The amended Draft MCK Election Law and the Regulations were posted online at www.kahnawakemakingdecisions.com on November 17, 2017 for a 30-day community feedback period that ended December 16, 2017. Copies of the drafts were made available at the main MCK building from November 17, 2017 to December 19, 2017. The communications made to Kahnawa'kehró:non for the review of the draft Election Law & Regulations were as follows: **KTV interview** on Thursday, November 30, 2017. **Press Releases** November 30th, December 5th and Dec. 13th, 2017. A **poster** was created and mailed to all post office boxes on Wednesday, December 6th, 2017, Iori:wase & The Eastern Door articles Friday, December 8, 2017, as well as advertisements in local media outlets December 8 & 15th, 2017. There was an **advertisement on the outdoor billboard** at the Services Complex and a discussion on the **K103 noon talk show** on December 14, 2017.

Throughout this review period the following feedback was provided to the proposed amendments:

- 1) Regarding the proposed appointment of the Electoral Officer, the election process for Electoral Officer is time consuming and has costs associated that can both be avoided by an appointment process, but I believe that all community members should have the opportunity to run for the office of Electoral Officer.
- 2) *The Justice Commission* submitted a letter. The Electoral Officer should remain elected as this process is more open and results in greater community respect for the position. It is further suggested that well-defined criteria for the position be developed and included in the Law. Such criteria would include administrative, technical and managerial experience/skills. The rationale is that there would be no need for appointment by the Commission due to the improved quality of the candidates for the community to select from. The vetting of candidates would be completed by the Commission and only those meeting the new criteria would be placed on the ballot.

It was suggested that if there were no candidates or if the Electoral Officer resigns during their mandate that the Commission could selectively recruit the Electoral Officer.

This Election Law Feedback Report will be posted on the website and distributed for discussion at the Community Decision Making Process Hearings.

If you have any **questions about the draft law** or just want to discuss over the phone or in person, please do not hesitate to contact **Trina C. Diabo at 632-7500 ext. 50278**.