

**COMMUNITY DECISION-MAKING PROCESS  
PHASE 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

**REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION: Kahnawà:ke Election Law  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL  
20, Enniskó:wa/March 2012  
6:00 – 8:00 PM**

**RECORD OF DISCUSSION**

**FACILITATORS:**

Kahente Horn-Miller (Lead -CDMP)  
Shakoshennakéhte Ron Skye (Group 1)  
Tammy Beauvais (Group 2)  
Tekahnetóntie Joe Delaronde (Group 3)

**RESOURCE PEOPLE:**

Trina C. Diabo (Lead – Resource Person)  
Lori Jacobs (Group 1)  
Angus Montour (Group 2)  
Darlene Alfred (Group 3)

**RECORDERS:**

Kennikaronia:a Leslie Skye (Lead/Logistics)  
Brandi Meloche (Group 1)  
Melissa Curotte (Group 2)  
Trina Diabo-Jacobs (Group 3)

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**6:00 P.M. OPENING**

Kanento Patton opened with the Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen.

**6:15 P.M. INTRODUCTION/MEETING GUIDELINES**

Kahente Horn-Miller welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the 2<sup>nd</sup> Community Consultation and gave a brief introduction on the CDMP and the roles of each group's facilitator, resource person, group speaker and recorder.

**6:20 P.M. QUESTION: ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE KAHNAWÀ:KE  
ELECTION LAW**

Trina informed that the mandate was received on February 28, 2012 to make amendments to the Kahnawà:ke Election Law. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to address the current recommendations and to ask if there are any additional recommendations.

**Question:**  
**Are there any additional recommendations to current amendments of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke Election Law?**

**Group 1**

<b>Facilitator:</b>	Shakoshennakéhte Ron Skye
<b>Resource Person:</b>	Lori Jacobs
<b>Group Speaker:</b>	Arnold Lazare
<b>Recorder:</b>	Kahentinehshon Brandi Meloche

**DISCUSSION:**

- Would like to see a clear separation / distinction between a law and a regulation.
- We're not changing the whole law, shouldn't take a lot of time.
- Membership law maybe should've been looked at first.
- The Election Law should be compatible with the Membership Law.
- Ordinarily resident needs more clarification.  
Ordinarily resident should be removed.
- If you're on the membership list, you should be eligible to run, regardless of where you live.
- Either you are a member or not.
- If someone is on the list but never lived here, they don't know anything about the community. They should not have the right to run.
- Membership Law states → A member can hold office. However, there are members that are under 50% Mohawk blood quantum.
- Candidate's criminal record should be viewed and enforced.
- Look at possible consequences for leaving office early.
- While they are an elected representative of this community, they cannot have any private business holdings.
- Should a Chief not be re-elected or choose not to run, they should have to go through job competition to be hired for a position with the MCK.
- Would like to see accountability, such as a "report card".

**QUESTIONS:**

- Why can't the election law be ready for the coming election?
- If he or she has previously served on Council, must have left in good standing → what does this mean?

**Question:**

**Are there any additional recommendations to current amendments of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke Election Law?**

**Group 2**

**Facilitator:** Tammy Beauvais  
**Resource Person:** Angus Montour  
**Group Speaker:** Jeremiah Johnson  
**Recorder:** Melissa Curotte

**DISCUSSION:**

- Anyone sitting in the group is sitting here as a community member.
- Make sure the person running for Council does not have a hidden agenda.
- Education (life experience), academic, able to read and understand documents, laws, agreements and historical issues.
- Future issues - internal and external.
- Healthy lifestyle (free of drugs and alcohol), know how to handle stress and lead a balanced life - physically, mentally, spiritually & holistically.
- Define criminal offense. Whose laws - external or internal?
- Re-word Declaration.
- Chiefs' accountability for time in the office as well as out of the office.
- Reduce Chiefs to 9.
- The need for more female representatives.
- Accountability on the community members who voted for the Chiefs.
- Process on removal of Chiefs (disciplinary measures) & having a separate board (community based).
- How to merge the two (2) systems?
- How do we get the silent majority involved in decision making?
- How do we get them to trust the electoral process?
- How do we get everyone in the community involved?

**RESPONSE/POSITION:**

- Refine ordinary resident

**Question:**

**Are there any additional recommendations to current amendments of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke Election Law?**

**Group 3**

**Facilitator:** Tekahnetóntie Joe Delaronde  
**Resource Person:** Darlene Alfred  
**Group Speaker:** Timmy Norton  
**Recorder:** Trina Diabo-Jacobs

**DISCUSSION: Additions**

- Item H – the Drug testing, suggestion is to submit to a psychological test also (include in criteria).
- Accountability: Chiefs should not be able to obtain a portfolio to set them up for the future (this needs to be discussed).

**QUESTIONS:**

- Should “Councilors” choose Chiefs? (this can be included in the criteria)
- 4 great grandparents to run, should this continue? (criteria)
- Will any of part of our suggestions be included in the upcoming election?  
Answer: Some may be used but it will most likely only go on the next election.

**RESPONSE/POSITION:**

- **NOTHING TO ADD – JUST DETAILS**

## **OUTCOME AFTER GROUP 1 PRESENTED TO GROUP 2:**

### **GROUP 1**

Group 1 agreed to remove the two (2) items that Group 2 disagreed with and additionally removed:

- Either you are a member or not.

Also further clarified/defined the following point:

- Candidate's criminal record should be viewed and enforced:  
Any individual convicted or has plead guilty to a criminal offence as defined by the criminal code of Canada or any other judicial district either domestic or foreign and where a pardon has not been received. Should be clearly defined. Are there exceptions? Let the working group review. There are exceptions.
- While they are an elected representative of this community, they cannot have any private business holdings:  
Let the working group continue to work on this
- ...accountability or report card:  
Let the working group continue to work on this

### **Disagreed**

Council should be administrative:

Council is elected to be political leadership. They do not have time to be administrative.

## **CONCLUSION FOR ALL 3 GROUPS:**

*black font = Group 1*

*red font = Group 2*

*blue font = Group 3*

- Would like to see a clear separation / distinction between a law and a regulation.  
(Agree)
- We're not changing the whole law, shouldn't take a lot of time. (Agree)
- Membership law maybe should've been looked at first. (Agree)

- The Election Law should be compatible with the Membership Law. (Agree) although additional leadership criteria should be thought out more on Election Law and Membership.
- Ordinarily resident needs more clarification. (Agree)  
Ordinarily resident should be removed. (Disagree)
- If you're on the membership list, you should be eligible to run, regardless of where you live. (Disagree) \*Disagree, because you need to live here.
- Either you are a member or not. (Clarification)
- If someone is on the list but never lived here, they don't know anything about the community. They should not have the right to run. (Agree)
- Membership Law states → A member can hold office. However, there are members that are under 50% Mohawk blood quantum. (more discussion is needed) \*Either has to be the 50% or the 4 great grandparents.
- Candidate's criminal record should be viewed and enforced. (Agree) define a criminal record.
- Look at possible consequences for leaving office early. (Agree) more discussion is needed. \*Agree more discussion is needed
- While they are an elected representative of this community, they cannot have any private business holdings. (Agree) more discussion is needed. \*Responsibility/Accountability
- Should a Chief not be re-elected or choose not to run, they should have to go through a job competition to be hired for a position with the MCK.
- Would like to see accountability, such as a "report card". (AGREE)

#### Addition:

- Council should be administrative. \*Disagree, Council needs to be involved in all aspects.
- Is it necessary to have a Grand Chief's position (role needs to be defined)? \*Agree. It is necessary as the Chairperson and spokesperson.
- Ordinarily resident should stay the same.  
\*Only details need to be added and we are in agreement with both groups.  
\*Process needs to be followed.

**NEXT STEPS:** Selection of three Community Representatives

The Working Group will be comprised of the Technician, Trina C. Diabo and three Community Representatives. The Technician will work collaboratively with the Working Group to implement the recommended changes to the Kahnawà:ke Election Law. The following three (3) Community Representatives were chosen, one from each group:

Matthew Stacey  
Angus Montour  
Lori Jacobs

**Alternate Community Representative:**

Joanne Patton

Kell Styr D

Chiefs Advisory

March 26, 2012

Date

Trina C. Diabo

Technician

May 16, 2012

Date

*originally signed April 4, 2012  
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