



Kahnawà:ke Ratitsénhaiens

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Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

Lloyd Phillips among chiefs to meet with Prime Minister & Cabinet

(Kahnawake – 23, Tsothohrkó:wa/January 2012) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) would like to inform the community that Chief Lloyd Phillips will be part of a group of twelve delegates from the Quebec region who will meet tomorrow (24 Tsothohrkó:wa/January) with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his Cabinet.

The group will be among First Nations representatives from across the country who will be attending the all-day Crown/First Nations Gathering “Strengthening Our Relationship – Unlocking Our Economic Potential” being held on Parliament Hill.

Governor-General David Johnston, Prime Minister Harper and Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief Shawn Atleo are scheduled to give opening addresses. The agenda will include the Government of Canada’s Progress Report; Unlocking the Potential of First Nations Economies; Strengthening the Relationship and Enabling Opportunity; and Realizing the Promise of First Nations People.

“My message will be clear,” said Chief Phillips. “Canada and the Crown must honor their responsibilities for First Nations by recognizing our rights and true self-determination. More specifically to Kahnawà:ke, we are developing our own laws and justice system – Canada must remove its imposition and engage in meaningful dialogue based on the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the *Two Row Wampum*. Although there is a lack of trust in the Conservative government, we must continue to assert our rights and jurisdiction whenever possible.”

Chief Phillips, who represents the MCK at both AFN and Assembly of First Nations of Quebec & Labrador meetings, will return to the office on Wednesday.

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