



Kahnawá:ke Ratítsénhaiens

Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

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Enhsakotò:kénhte Nitiotié:ren Tsi Ietsenhaiéntákhwa

Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk - News Release

MCK responds to Kahnawá:ke regarding Tobacco Association's Mandate

For immediate release

(Kahnawá:ke – 8, Enniskó:wa/March 2005) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke (MCK) needs to inform the community that it has no intention of fulfilling the “mandate” given by the Kahnawá:ke Tobacco Association (KTA). The MCK receives its mandate from the entire collective, not an individual interest group.

Though the MCK is in full agreement that there is a need for regulation of the industry, the KTA needs to be reminded that the creation of legislation as important as this, is something that must be done with input from all segments of Kahnawá:ke society. While it has the right to regulate its membership, the KTA does not have the authority to legislate on behalf of the community.

The MCK has maintained a position of willingness to address the issue with the KTA and any other people/organizations within the industry. When this happens we will be in a far better position to create laws and regulations that can be supported and defended by all Kahnawá:kehrónon.

“It is unfortunate that the KTA and KITRA (the “Kahnawá:ke Independent Tobacco Retailers Association”) have chosen to work against each other, as well as the Mohawk Council, and have demanded that Kahnawake support and defend their self-regulatory document” said Grand Chief Michael Delisle Jr. “It is time to engage all of Kahnawake to determine our community’s direction on this important and potentially divisive issue.”

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