



Kahnawá:ke Ratítsénhaiens

Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

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Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk - News Release

Kahnawá:ke files suit

For immediate release

(Kahnawá:ke – 30, Enniskó:wa/March 2005) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke (MCK) announced that it has filed a motion to intervene against the State of New York (and others) in regard to the recent Akwesasne/New York State land claim/settlement. The agreement was reached between the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA), the St. Regis Tribal Council, the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs and the State of New York.

Following failed attempts to meet on the issue of inclusion in the claim, Grand Chief Michael Ahríhron Delisle, Jr. stated, "It is unfortunate that this has put us in the position where we have no choice but to take a course of action that protects our long-standing, historical interest in the claim."

Kahnawá:ke has a considerable interest as a beneficiary and initiator of the Treaty of 1796. Further, the Mohawks of Kahnawá:ke have interests in New York State, which must be addressed and respected.

(Of note: Kahnawá:ke is documented as the negotiators of the Treaty of 1796 and, with a mention of the May 2, 1796 George Washington memo and directive, "...to hold a treaty with the Cohnawaga (sic) Indians, styling themselves as the Seven Nations of Canada.")

Also, in 1978 the MCK was requested by the MCA to join the U.S. Claim; this is supported by BCR from the MCK that authorizes the MCA to pursue the claim on our behalf. Unfortunately, it has been discovered that Kahnawá:ke's interests were not being represented by the MCA in this claim, therefore leaving the MCK no alternative but to file an intervention.

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