



Kahnawá:ke Ratítsénhaiens

Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

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Community Notice

Tobacco Regulations Imminent

For immediate release

(Kahnawá:ke – 9, Ohiarí:ha/June, 2005) The recent fire that destroyed the Khanata Plaza has caused many community members to question whether proper safety precautions are in place at the many tobacco-manufacturing facilities operating within the Territory.

Several of these facilities exist in areas that can best be described as 'residential.' The Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke (MCK) shares the community's concerns that the potential exists for a disaster should a major fire occur.

Though the MCK has been in discussion with several people within the industry in regard to the creation of a regulatory law, it has become apparent that this has become a much higher priority in the eyes of the general population.

"We no longer have the luxury of moving slowly on the issue," said Grand Chief Michael Ahríhron Delisle, Jr. "It doesn't matter whether people within the industry are licensed by Quebec or Canada: if they're operating in the Territory, they fall under the jurisdiction of the People of Kahnawá:ke. The time has come to implement regulations that protect ALL of the people."

In this spirit, the MCK feels that the general population needs to have input in this issue. Further information will be forthcoming in the next few days.

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