



*Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k*

# PRESS RELEASE

## Media Inquiries:

**Joe Delaronde**  
Political Press Attaché  
450- 632-7500 ext 63251  
[Joe.delaronde@mck.ca](mailto:Joe.delaronde@mck.ca)

## Technical

### Contact:

**Winona Polson-  
Lahache**

Chief Political Advisor

## Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

Kahnawà:ke Mohawk  
Territory  
P.O. Box 720  
J0L 1B0

**Tel:** (450) 632-7500

**Fax:** (450) 638-5958

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## MCK deeply saddened by passing of former Chief Martin Leborgne

### For Immediate Release

**(Kahnawake – 3, Kenténha/October 2018)** The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke is saddened to learn of the passing of former Council Chief Martin Leborgne, who entered the spirit world last evening after a brief illness.

Mr. Leborgne served on Council for six terms. He was first elected in 2000. After sitting out the 2002-2004 term, he ran for office in 2004 and was elected for five consecutive terms until this past July.

“Martin was a unique individual who always spoke his mind,” stated Grand Chief Joseph Tokwirot Norton. “He was truly a ‘man of the people,’ as he worked hardest to improve the lives of those less fortunate. He was a very passionate Council Chief and always stuck to his principles. It’s very hard to believe that he was sitting at the table with us just three short months ago. We are deeply saddened by his passing and, on behalf of the entire MCK, I offer deepest condolences to his wife Leatrice, his children and their families, and his many friends here at the MCK and beyond.”

Over the years, Mr. Leborgne worked diligently with the Iroquois Caucus on the protection of hunting rights. He spent many years on the protection and management of the Tioweró:ton Territory. Most notably, he worked on developing accessible and affordable housing programs for Kahnawà:kehró:non, an area he held with passion.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced. Martin Leborgne was 65 years old.

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