



IROQUOIS CAUCUS

Press Release

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Progress Made on Secure ID Cards

The Iroquois Caucus (Akwasasne, Kahnésatake, Kahnawake, Oneida, Six Nations, Tyendingaga, Wahta) is pleased to announce that progress has been made in regards to its proposed “Secure Identification Card,” in relation to Border Crossing.

On October 24, 2007, the Iroquois Caucus ID Card Working Group met with representatives of The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of State (DOS) in Washington, DC where the Caucus presented their proposed “Secure Identification Card” and a history of our case, including references to the Jay Treaty and other former U.S. court cases. In regards to Security, the DHS representatives did say that the proposed Iroquois Caucus card met or exceeded security standards proposed within the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI).

When the U.S. Department of Homeland Security was asked when a final ruling on land and sea border travel would be made in regards to the W.H.T.I., they could not give a definitive answer, basically admitting that no dates are set in stone....

Until a final ruling can be made on land or sea border crossing, the Status Quo will remain in effect. Whatever documents Iroquois people use now will still be accepted. International Air travel still currently requires a passport.

The Iroquois Caucus next step is to meet with Canada to discuss any issues Canada may have with this card. The Caucus will continue to monitor the progress of other organizations who are also working on similar cards.

The Iroquois Caucus has a responsibility to approximately 100,000 people to ensure they have secure identification, acceptable for US Border Travel and we feel it’s our obligation to those people to continue to work towards that goal.

For more information, please contact the following members of the ID Working Group:

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