



Kahnawá:ke Ratítsénhaiens

Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke

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Enhsakotò:kénhte Nitiotié:ren Tsi Ietsenhaiéntákhwa

Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

Holiday Train to visit Kahnawá:ke!

For immediate release

(Kahnawá:ke – 16, Kentenhkó:wa/November 2005) Canadian Pacific's famous Holiday Train will make its first-ever Kahnawá:ke appearance at Adirondack Junction on Monday, 28 Kentenhkó:wa/November at 7pm. The brightly decorated 13-car freight train travels across Canada (and into the United States) encouraging the collection of food and money (and raising awareness) for local food banks.

The one-hour stop will include a concert by Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame member Tracey Brown.

The Kahnawá:ke visit is being coordinated through the Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke. The Kahnawá:ke Christmas Basket Committee will coordinate collection and distribution for the local (Kahnawá:ke) food bank.

As well, Canadian Pacific will donate \$1,500 to the Kahnawá:ke Christmas Basket campaign.

"Kids of all ages – including those my age – will be thrilled to see the Holiday Train!" said Committee member Peggy Mayo. "This is a wonderful initiative in so many ways. Those who need a helping hand will benefit and all Kahnawá:kehró:non will share in the joy of the season."

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For more information, please contact:

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Backgrounder: Kahnawá:ke Christmas Basket Committee

The Kahnawá:ke Christmas Basket Committee has been in existence since the 1930's. Its function is to collect non-perishable food items, monies for food vouchers and new toys for distribution to disadvantaged Kahnawá:ke families.

Last year approximately 135 families discreetly received "Christmas Baskets." This number is far less than the nearly 500 families who received assistance in the early 1990's, but the service remains an important part of the community fabric.

The current committee members are Peggy Mayo (who has been an active member since 1978), Nancy Goodleaf (1988) and Hilda Hannett (early 1980's). All are volunteers.

Others assisting in the Holiday Train visit

As well as the MCK and Kahnawá:ke Christmas Basket Committee, the Kahnawá:ke Peacekeepers and the Public Works Unit are offering their assistance. Community members who wish to offer assistance or volunteer should contact Samantha Montour at the MCK, telephone (450) 632-7500, extension 360.