



St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

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TRIBE SCHEDULES TELEPHONE SURVEY

Shall the CBSA Return to the Customs Facility on Kawehno:ke?

Akwesasne Territory. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe will be conducting a telephone survey during the week of November 9, 2009 to find out the opinions of community members regarding the Canadian Customs possibly returning to their facility on Kawehno:ke. The Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) has agreed to several concessions as follows:

1. Hire an Aboriginal Liaison Officer at the Port to serve as the initial contact for community complaints, making the complaint process more convenient and transparent. They are willing to hire an Akwesasronon, but that will take time since that person will first have to become a CBSA officer. They have agreed to a joint hiring committee with equal representation from MCA and CBSA
2. Recruit First Nation People to work at the Port. They have identified four individuals, going through training right now and willing to relocate to the Cornwall Port. CBSA will also work with the Akwesasne Employment Resource Center to establish a recruitment program for Akwesasronon to become CBSA officers to work at the Port.
3. They have agreed to begin implementing a Cultural Sensitivity Training Program and have accepted the format that the Akwesasne Leadership Task Force presented to them. It will be a three-day training program.

The telephone survey will be conducted by college students from SUNY Potsdam under the direction of the Tribe's Public Information Office. The students will conduct the surveys in the evenings during the week of November 9 – 13. They will be collecting a random sample of the population, so they will not be contacting every household in the community. The students will identify themselves and the purpose of the survey.

Community members are encouraged to participate to make their views known. The survey is very simple and should take approximately two minutes. The questions on survey are as follows:

Question 1.

Do you want the CBSA operation to return to the customs facility on Kawehno:ke?

Question 2.

If yes, should CBSA employees be allowed to return to carry out their duties as armed officers at the customs facility located on Kawehno:ke?

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The St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council is the duly elected and federally recognized government of the St. Regis Mohawk People.

Helping Build A Better Tomorrow

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