



St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

Chief Mark H. Garrow
Chief Randy Hart
Chief Ron LaFrance Jr.
Sub-Chief Stacy A. Skidders
Sub-Chief Shelley Jacobs
Sub-Chief Michael L. Connors

PRESS RELEASE

For release:
Onerahtókha / April 5, 2012

For more information:
David T. Staddon, Director Public Information
Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
Tel: (518) 358-2272 ext. 286

Akwesasne Private Sector Benefits Tribe and Community

Fees Support Programs and Services

Akwesasne Territory — The entrepreneurial spirit is strong in Akwesasne with over 300 businesses in the territory. Not only do these businesses provide jobs and support the local and regional economies, they provide financial support to community members through alcohol, petroleum and tobacco fees paid to the tribe. These fees go to support programs and services in the community such as drug and alcohol prevention, chronic health care, scholarships and residential treatment. Other businesses are not assessed fees. “The Akwesasne business sector remains healthy,” remarked Tribal Chief Mark Garrow. “They are an important part of the community and play a vital role in supporting a variety of tribal programs and services. The community benefits from the relationship between private enterprise and tribal government.”

In 2011, the private sector provided over \$1.8 million in fees, all of which went to community programs and services. “Unfortunately, not all businesses choose to pay the fees,” said Tribal Chief Randy Hart. “This reduces the amount available for community support through the tribe. We want to recognize those businesses that do provide support through our fee structure. They are fulfilling their obligations to both the tribe and the community. We hope that community members and the general public will patronize those businesses that support the community.”

Private businesses also generously support fund-raising activities such as for the Diabetes Center for Excellence, sports teams, cultural activities, the Boys and Girls Club, seniors’ programs and the Christmas toy and food drive. “Without the help of our private sector, a lot of things wouldn’t get done around here,” said Tribal Chief Ron LaFrance. “We have a strong tradition of volunteerism and generosity here in Akwesasne. People are always raising funds for different worthy causes and our local businesses have been very supportive of them.”

Supporting these businesses is important to keeping tribal community programs and services strong. A list of Akwesasne businesses that support tribal programs through fees can be found at www.srmt-nsn.gov/news.

#

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

Helping Build A Better Tomorrow

412 State Route 37
Akwesasne, New York 13655
Phone: 518-358-2272