



# Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### CAUSE OF RECENT FIRE CONSIDERED TO BE ARSON

#### *Police Investigation Continues*

**AKWESASNE TERRITORY** – A fire that occurred in the early morning hours of Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> looked into by a Fire Department Investigator, was determined to be suspicious in nature and classified as arson. Fire damage was limited to the Fish Fry restaurant at Thompson's Fish Fry/Bait and Tackle Shop located on State Route 37 in Akwesasne. The Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department responded to the call at approximately 3:30 AM and got the fire under control within three hours.

Nobody was injured as a result of the fire nor was any damage reported to the other portion of the building or to adjacent buildings. No estimates as to the extent of the damage have yet been determined, but it appears that the building had no structural damage. The Mohawk Tribal Police report indicates that the fire was reported by a neighbor of the restaurant.

"We are continuing the investigation into the fire," stated police chief Andy Thomas. "We will make every effort to apprehend the individual or individuals responsible for the fire." The owner, Harvey Thompson, is prepared to offer a cash reward to anyone who provides information leading to the successful prosecution of the person or persons responsible for this crime. The exact amount of the cash reward has not yet been released. Anybody having information about the fire should report it to the Tribal Police Department at 518-358-9200.

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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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