



Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

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PRESS RELEASE

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SWEEPSTAKES SCAM NAMES AKWESASNE MOHAWK CASINO

State and Federal Investigation Underway

AKWESASNE – The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe discovered this week that the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino’s name has been used in an online sweepstakes scam that has victimized numerous people across the country.

A company calling themselves “AKMO Financial” allegedly based out of Calgary, Canada apparently issued fraudulent “prize” checks in the neighborhood of \$4,000 to an unknown number of U.S. residents.

The casino was first alerted to the scam on Sunday, January 27, when a California resident contacted officials to determine if the check they received was real. Since then, the casino has received numerous calls from people across the country, reporting the receipt of counterfeit checks.

The matter has now been brought to the attention of both State and Federal law enforcement investigative units. The New York State Attorney General’s Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have also been notified. Given that this fraudulent company is allegedly based in Canada, international law enforcement agencies have also been notified of the mail and check fraud incident.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Casino’s Bank fraud protection program provides safeguards against such incidents, thus the casino will incur no loss of funds.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of this scam, **DO NOT** attempt to cash the check. Instead, report the incident directly to your local authorities. The details of this investigation have been sent to law enforcement agencies across the country.