



Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

Chief Barbara A. Lazore
Chief James W. Ransom
Chief Monica M. Jacobs
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PRESS RELEASE

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FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKES DELIVERY OF NEW FIRE TRUCKS

USDA Provides Grant and Tribe Assists with Funding

Akwesasne Territory. The Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department (HAVFD) took delivery of a second new fire truck on Monday, July 28th. The truck is a Freightliner M2 112, two door cab, tandem rear axle, Cat C13, 415 horsepower diesel “super-tanker” with a 3,000 gallon water capacity. The fire department initially took delivery of another new truck in June on June 18, 2008. Designated as Engine 91, the truck went into service on Saturday, June 28th. The first truck has a 1,200 gallon tank, a 1,500 gallon per minute pump and features integral hydraulic lines for rescue tools (Jaws of Life) used to extricate car accident victims. The first new truck replaces the old Engine 91 that has been in service since 1978. Both trucks were purchased from VRS sales of Round Lake, New York and were built by Toyne, Inc., of Breda Iowa.

These pieces of equipment allow the fire department to fight fires in areas that have no local community water supply. “Since much of the Mohawk Community is rural, being able to carry our own water supply to the site is very important,” said fire chief Norman Peters. “The addition of this new fire truck increases our capacity to meet emergency needs as the community continues to grow.” A fully involved house fire takes about 25,000 gallons of water to extinguish.

The purchase of this new equipment was made possible through a \$453,680 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Facilities Programs. This USDA branch administers programs to develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas. The HAVFD was able to get a grant and loan package to purchase two new trucks with a minimal out-of-pocket expense to the department. The cost of the two trucks was \$628,500. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe is increasing its annual contribution to cover the \$181,000 loan taken out by the department for the purchase and to provide for additional fire-fighting equipment.

Sub-Chief Ron LaFrance was instrumental in preparing the successful USDA grant application. Tribal Chiefs James Ransom, Barbara Lazore and Monica Jacobs were present for the dedication of the new truck, along with USDA representatives Brian Murray, Area Director and Renee L. Hotte, Area Specialist.

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

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