



Semper WiFi brings blazing fast Internet to Kahnawà:ke

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By Jordan Standup
Freelance Writer

Kahnawà:ke's newest Internet service provider Semper WiFi opened in January. The company is owned by Gary Jacobs, Parker Jacobs and Jay Dearhouse.

The name is a clever play on the United States Marine Corps' motto "Semper fidelis," which is often shortened to "Semper Fi."

It's fitting considering that both Parker and Jay are USMC veterans.

"We were originally looking at a name like 'Prime Wireless' or



Semper Wifi promoting their services to the public.

something generic like that. We jokingly threw out 'Semper WiFi' over Parker's kitchen table and initially thought it was too silly to use. A day later we both decided it was silly, but awesome so we went with it," they said.

Their partnership began back in May 2015.

"We use towers to broadcast out from central locations to the home or business user. This allows us to stay with current technology but not hindering us by having to string up infrastructure all over telephone poles in the village," they explained.

Semper WiFi has a tower and two satellite locations broadcasting Internet in the village. The result? Blazing fast Internet.

"We also have expansion phase

two in the works which, if approved by the locals, will allow us to bring the outskirts of Kahnawà:ke reliable high speed bandwidth," they said.

They acknowledged Kahnawà:ke's leader in economic development.

"Tawatohni'saktha has been an amazing asset for us. Their Business Services Officer helped us with our massive business plan when we were starting up, allowing us access to grants and funds that if not received, would have had us fail in our infancy stage," they said. "Tawatohni'saktha has also continued to assist us with services and direct funding that allowed us to open with the amazingly fast and reliable product we wanted to. If we had not received the aid they

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Business Services Success Story

Legendz Barber Shop offers cool cuts and sharp shaves



Another happy customer.



Sheridan Ross gives this little guy a trim.

**By Jordan Standup
Freelance Writer**

Legendz Barber Shop officially opened on January 7, 2017 and owners Sheridan Ross and Keith McComber have been pleased with the response.

The shop is located in Plaza 138 and offers men's grooming services, gentlemen's cuts, trending cuts, hot towel shaves, beard grooming and kids cuts.

"Well first, I love beards; nicely groomed beards. I look at beards on Instagram all the time and I got Keith to grow a beard," Ross said.

What made the couple decide to open their own business?

"I was unemployed last year and trying to find an administrative job in the community. I have over 20 years of experience in office administration. Unfortunately for me at the time, quite a bit of community members like administration work, too," Ross explained.

She half-jokingly suggested to her partner that she should go to school to become a barber.

"To make a long story short, I

found a school in Montreal; off I went and now here I am owning a barber shop," she said.

She attended Ecole de coiffure International four days a week for four months.

"While I was in school, I started to research on barber shops and went to hair/barber expos," Ross said.

When she finished school, she set up a barber station in her home for eight months and offered free cuts to family and friends while her shop was under construction.

"Once I was officially accepted into the barber school, I knew I was going to need Tawatohnhi'saktha's assistance. I was eligible for their financial assistance/loan because I put the time in a few years back in their 10-week business program," she said. "They helped me financially for sure. My Business Services Officer set me up with an accounting system to keep track of the business finances.

The shop also received financial assistance for advertising from Tawatohnhi'saktha.

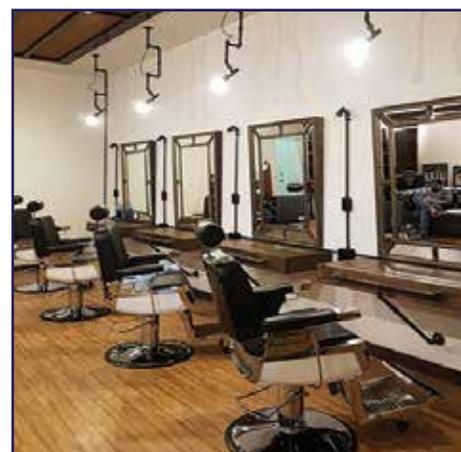
"Advertising can be costly and what they provided me with has

been of great value to us," she said.

The response from clients has been great.

"We have been told by clients how happy they are that they don't have to go out of town anymore. We have received positive feedback from our clients on our cuts and hot towel shaves and our friendliness," Ross said.

"I need to thank Kawennase McComber, she took the certified barber from the same school. She's been with me since we opened and definitely is part of our quick success today," Ross concluded.



Legendz Barber Shop.

Employment & Training Success Story

Jenny Myiow Lahache adds welder to her resume



Jenny on-the job.

By Jordan Standup
Freelance Writer

The next time you think you have a busy schedule, think about Jenny Myiow Lahache.

The single mom has spent the last two months working as a full-time welder at Inox-Tech in Saint-Constant and she has also been working part-time as a massage therapist since 2014.

“What I like best about my job is that it’s very challenging, it’s TIG welding, which is really precise. It’s nothing like we did in school, so it’s really stimulating; I really enjoy that,” she said. “I’m learning really quick. I’m learning more than just an average job.”

Myiow Lahache also enjoys her co-workers.

“They’re amazing. They’re really supportive. They’re teaching me really good stuff that I don’t think you’ll get in any other job. They really want me to excel,” she said.

Myiow Lahache actually began welding six years ago, until she got pregnant with her son. She recently decided to complete the course, which took her about 10 months.

She accessed Tewaohnni’saktha’s services in order to obtain both her massage therapist and welding certifications.

“For massage school, it was four-months intensive training,” she said, noting that she also took a handful of others courses, including chair massage and deep tissue massage.

As a massage therapist, she does house calls and brings her table to her client’s home.

“I issue insurance receipts and all,” she noted.

There were some bumps in the road along the way, but she was determined to overcome them; and she did.

“Some challenges along the way were finding help with my children. I’m a single mom, so there were some financial problems,” she admitted. “It was basic stuff like paying bills, going to school, keeping my head in the game and focusing on where I’m going with all of this.”

Myiow Lahache said Tewaohnni’saktha was ‘an immense help.’

“I actually wouldn’t have been able to do this program if it was like ‘Jenny, you’re on your own, go figure out a way to take this program’ I would not have been able to do it,” she explained.

She specifically noted Angie Marquis, Employment Counselor, who she described as ‘awesome!’

“She always figured out a way to help me and was always making suggestions and was very supportive of all my ideas,” Myiow Lahache said. 🙌

Visit www.tewa.ca and check out our **Workforce Development Employability Programs**



Tourism Kahnawà:ke Activities



*By Kimberly Cross
Tourism Development Agent
Kahnawà:ke Welcome Center
(KWC)*

Maple food week

Tourism sponsored this year's Maple Food week from March 24 to April 2. Eleven 11 businesses participated with a variety of specials; Xavier's steak and wine, Kambry's Smoothies, Robbie's Smokehouse, Bayview, Messy Kitchen Catering, Aromatic Spirit, Eagle's Nest, McComber's, Iron Horse Wear House, Rover's & Daisy's & Mohawk Market. The Giant Colon event also had a maple breakfast fundraiser for the Iakwahwatsiratatie Language nest. The language nest also held a second fundraiser called the Wáhta breakfast at the Moose Lodge. We would like to thank the businesses as well as consumers who tried out these specials and made our event a success.

Guided Tours

Seventeen (17) Kahnawa'keró:non

are now Kahnawà:ke tourism's Tour guides. Get ready to see them walking around town this summer with our visitors! "We had a great response by individuals from the community. Our goal is to be able to offer 1-hour guided tours of Kahnawà:ke in French and English year-round" – Kimberly Cross. On April 4th, the KWC offered a tour guide information session with nine (9) guides in attendance. The importance of the session was to introduce the guides to one another, to create a network and working relationship between them. It also



provided the time for the KWC staff to go over the new application procedures, contracts, pay scales, and the tour guide handbooks. Some comments from our info session when the tour guides were asked "What do you think is the most important part of giving guided tours?" "providing relevant information, answering questions and being pleasant", "to teach

'visitors' about our community, and spark their interest in investing in local projects and activities", "being historically accurate, informed, engaging with clients", "to relay the proper message about our people, how we live today and our backgrounds", "giving a different view to the visitors"; "making your guests feel welcome and important"

KWC stats

During the 4th quarter the KWC had a total of 83 visitors & 3 planned guided tours of Kahnawà:ke. With the winter months usually being our quiet time, we had an influx of activity from future visitors planning their summer visits.

Upcoming:

Make sure to look for Tourism in the next couple of months for the Strawberry Food Festival, the grand opening of the Saint Kateri Interpretive Center, information on how to book your visits though the KWC, the Walking with our sisters memorial, at the Echoes of a Proud Nation Powwow, & more! Don't forget to promote your events with us! 🌸



A Kahnawà:ke Tour Guide Experience



By Herb Rice
Tour Guide

I applied to be a tour guide because I thought it would be fun and an opportunity to correct misconceptions that many people have about Kahnawà:ke. For example, a person once told me that he thought Kahnawà:ke was the French version of Caughnawaga.. and the name was changed to comply with Bill 101.

My hopes for this summer is that

we have large numbers of tourists and that we can enlighten them not only about the history and culture of Kahnawà:ke but also about life within our community.

They always seem to ask what is different about Kahnawà:ke. I always start a tour in front of St-Francis Xavier church. I point to the castle next to it and ask them to guess what it is. Guesses usually include hotel, monastery or museum. They are always surprised that it is a private residence.

We then proceed to the tour and I always ask if there is anything specific that they want to see.

So basically, we are trying (in a polite, professional and helpful manner) to help people to understand Kahnawà:ke.

We also want them to have a good and educated experience..so that they will want to return and bring others with them. 🙌

Semper WiFi

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If we had not received the aid they provided, our network would have to have been built with a lower tier of equipment and affected the quality of service that we wanted to provide, and do!”

Community feedback has been amazing.

“The community has been extremely supportive. They appreciate two young locals who are also veterans starting up from nothing and providing a reliable services that’s greatly in demand,” they said. “Our opening went pretty well despite being right after Christmas and had been picking up since with word of mouth and testimonials of our great service being spread. Some early adopters are our biggest fans and have been selling us quite awesomely!” 🙌

LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY!



SHOP
KAHNAWAKE

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Coordinator/Editor:
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Contributing Writers:
Allison Jacobs
Kimberly Cross Zacharie
Coreen Delormier
Herb Rice
Jordan Standup

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Cheryl Delaronde

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We welcome:

Nadine Montour, Employment Counsellor, to the Employment and Training Team!



Nadine Montour.

*By Allison Jacobs
Interim PR/Communications*

On March 13, 2017, Tawatohnhi'saktha welcomed the newest member of the Employment and Training Division Team.

Nadine Montour was the successful candidate to fill the position of Employment Counsellor; a position held by Gene Montour who is retiring after 20 years as Counsellor.

“She:kon. I am very pleased to be joining the Employment & Training team here at Tawatohnhi'saktha. I have worked with multitudes of students in Kahnawà:ke and at Concordia University that span many years and levels of education and experience which has been most valuable. The opportunity to work with a diverse population of students from various nations across Canada has been such a privilege and truly rewarding experience. Transferring those skills and learning here to Tawatohnhi'saktha Employment and Training division is very exciting and I am looking forward

to supporting the community with their employment and educational journey's' says Nadine Montour

After graduating from the Kahnawà:ke Survival School, Nadine went on to attain a DEC in social services from Dawson College followed by a BA of social work from Carleton University. Her work experience includes School Counselor at KSS for 9 years, Post-Secondary Counselor at the KEC for 10 years and her most recent role as the Coordinator of Concordia's Aboriginal Student Resource Centre for the last 5 years.

Nadine has a solid background and strong work ethic and experience in providing people services; a perfect fit for our organization. She also has strong management skills which will be an asset to the team. 🌸

Employers share their job opportunities with the community!

*By Coreen Delormier Workforce
Development Officer*

In an effort to assist Employers in their hiring efforts, and in turn create awareness among the community of jobs that are available, we recently carried out information sessions with JFK Quarry, Air Canada and The Kahnawà:ke Peacekeepers. In December, JFK Quarry was looking to recruit Class 1 Truck Drivers for their Concrete Division and their anticipated spring arrival of a few more concrete trucks. Nine (9) participants attended the session and a total of 13 people

applied. Of those who applied and met the requirements, 2 received employment in January and they are anticipating hiring more Class 1 truck drivers in the months to come.

In January, we met with Air Canada about a recruitment campaign for Flight Attendants as well as other positions with the airline. The information session was held at Tawatohnhi'saktha with an Advisor from Air Canada's Diversity and Official Languages division and, as well, an Indigenous Flight Attendant. Thirty eight (38) people attended and approximately
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Air Canada Representative shares job opportunities on the noon hour talkshow.

Horne is proud to be Financial Administrator at KSCS



Kawerine Silver Horne.

*By Jordan Standup
Freelance Writer*

Kawerine Silver Horne kicked off 2017 by becoming the new Financial Administrator at Kahnawà:ke Shakotii'a'takehnhas Community Services.

Horne worked hard to get to where she is today and she recently took a

quick look back at her journey.

“I started working for KSCS right after the holidays in early January,” Horne said.

She takes a great deal of pride in her job at an integral community organization.

“I enjoy knowing that I am working somewhere that aims to care and help our community,” she explained.

The young Kahnawa'kehró:non has plenty of training in her field and is more than qualified for her job. Horne graduated from the Accounting Program at the Nova Career Centre in Chateauguay.

“I have also done other types of schooling, such as CEGEP and a Travel and Tourism Program at (Collège) April-Fotier,” she added.

Horne admits that there were some challenges to overcome along the way, but no matter what happened, she never gave up.

“I think the most challenging thing was to stay motivated and keep going to class. There were a lot of stressful times where I just

didn't want to go back, but it was in my best interest so I stuck to it and finished my program,” she proudly asserted.

“I also worked throughout my schooling and it was an obstacle to balance my school life, work life and have a social life,” Horne said.

When asked what services she asked through Tewatohnhi'saktha, she answered, “mostly funding. I also used the website a lot to find different jobs in my field.”

She also said that Tewatohnhi'saktha helped by providing information on career development, as well as assisting her in editing her letters when she applied for jobs, which was particularly helpful.

“Angie Marquis helped me when I was trying to figure out what I wanted to do,” Horne said. “Throughout the years, I've changed my career path so many times. Kara Paul helped me get a job placement. Coreen Delormier would send me different job leads to apply to, which was helpful.” 🙌

Air Canada job opportunities

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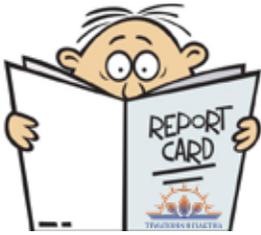
18 applied.

In February, we worked with the Kahnawà:ke PeaceKeepers to prepare an info session for 9 positions they were looking to fill. In total, 32 people attended the session; the session was aired live on Tewatohnhi'saktha's Facebook page in an effort to reach others who may not have been able to attend. The info session was a great success and the Kahnawà:ke PeaceKeepers received 51 job applications!

Information sessions are very interactive and beneficial as people have an opportunity to learn first hand about the job, the business or organization and the job expectations. People also get an opportunity to meet the employer. Those who attend gain a better understanding and can make a well-informed decision about applying. In some instances, people decided that the position was not for them and were offered additional support and services from Tewatohnhi'saktha.

If you are looking to find work and need help with Job/Career search, we are also here to help you start searching. We will continue to work with Employers in and surrounding Kahnawà:ke and hope to offer more sessions as well as recruitment fairs.

If you are an Employer and you are interested to meet with our Workforce Development Officer, Coreen Delormier, for your next recruitment campaign, please contact her at coreen.delormier@kedc.biz or 450-438-4280 ext. 227



Each Division of Tewatohnhí'saktha set targets at the beginning of each year and track their progress over a 12 month period (April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017). This final report confirms if we have met our target, exceeded or fell short.

Revenue Generation

Billboard and other Leases	Target: \$127,671	Actual: \$127,671
Cell Towers	Target: \$86,547	Actual: \$86,547
Meeting Room Rentals	Target: \$22,000	Actual: \$22,929
Kahnawà:ke Business Complex	Target: \$95,961	Actual: \$109,905
Kahnawà:ke Office Complex	Target: \$399,933	Actual: \$367,425*

*This target was not reached as monies were reinvested in building /land improvements.

Note: Self-generated funds are used to finance the 41% of Tewatohnhí'saktha's operations that are not financed by any government agency.

Employment & Training

Clients that attained jobs / unsubsidized	Target: 35*	Average: 32**
Clients that attained jobs / subsidized	Target: 25*	Actual: 47**
Dollar Value of Services and Programs offered to Clients	Target: \$1,4 Million	Actual: \$1,1 Million

*Target set for every quarter **Average full-time equivalent jobs = 39 hrs per week per quarter (13 weeks)

Note: This past year we were able to reinstate the Self-Employment Assistant Program; a program that provides a wage subsidy to new business start-ups in their first year of operation. We also initiated two new programs; Transitions Program, helping vocational graduates transition into the workforce and the Options Program that helps people explore education and employment options. Workforce Development is another initiative; introducing employers to our workforce and trying to match people to the job opportunities available; Employers such as Air Canada, JFK Quarry and the Kahnawà:ke Peacekeepers have all participated thus far.

Business Services

Number of New Business started or expanded	Target: 7 Micro, 3 Small, 1 Medium and 2 Expansion
	Actual: 7 Micro, 5 Small, 1 Medium, 1 Large and 4 Expansion

Micro = 1 employee Small = 2-5 Employees Medium = 6-10 Employees Large = 11+ Employees

Number of jobs created by new businesses or expansions	Target: 26	Actual: 35*
*(Includes: Part-Time PT & Full-Time FT)		
New Loans from the Tewatohnhí'saktha Business Loan Fund	Target: \$250,000	Actual: \$96,976
Interest on Loans from the Tewatohnhí'saktha Business Loan Fund	Target: \$45,834	Actual: \$43,547

Dollar Value of Business Products granted to clients	Target: \$242,000 + \$467,500** = \$709,500*
	Actual: \$206,976 + \$435,516** = \$642,492*

*(Products Incl. Business Assistant Fund, Marketing Fund and Professional Services)

** (Tewatohnhí'saktha Business Contribution Fund—Grant Program)

Note: This past fiscal year we were able to provide loans to 9 businesses; 4 of which were new business ventures.