

## **Harvest Fair**

On Sunday, October 22, 2023, from 11h00 to 17h00, Kahnawà:ke Tourism, in partnership with Brooke Rice, hosted the second Harvest Fair at the Golden Age Club and Orville Standup Memorial Park. Due to the rain, the event moved indoors thanks to the generosity of the Golden Age Club. The event brought in 451 visitors who enjoyed the various vendors such as the tie dye station and kastó:wa making demo, as well as an outdoor hide workshop and open-fire cooking 'by professional Indigenous chef, Tawnya Brant. The food vendors in attendance were The Rail Coal Fire Bistro. Rezican Tacos, AT Sush, and Eric McComber cooking fresh perch. The Golden Age Club members also provided corn soup.

We're thrilled to report that this year's Harvest Fair was a great success, with a surprise appearance by the Ainu, an Indigenous group from Northern Japan, participating in Bishop University's student exchange program. The traditional dancers performed and shared their culture with our community. As a gesture of appreciation, our local Kahnawà:ke men's traditional smoke dancers performed right after. We also want to express our gratitude to the Inuit throat singers who made an impromptu appearance. The mutual respect and admiration for each other's cultures were palpable.

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The food festival is an integral part of our overall tourism strategy, which we introduced in 2016 to showcase the significance of our traditional foods that align with our cycle of ceremonies. These festivals are a costeffective, enjoyable, and respectful way to share our culture with both locals and visitors, without disrupting the environment. We strive to ensure that all ages is involved in these events,

We extend our gratitude to the Caisse Populaire Kahnawà:ke and The Rail Coal Fire Bistro for sponsoring this event. Without their generous contributions and support, this event would not have been possible. We would also like to thank all the local businesses and larger enterprises, vendors, demonstrators, and visitors for making the Harvest Fair a huge success!

# IONTKAHTHÓHTHA ART SHOW

On October 4-8, 2023, the Iontkahthóhtha Art Show was held at the Knights of Columbus. Organized by the Kahnawà:ke Language and Cultural Center, the exhibition showcased Indigenous Art from across Turtle Island.

Kahnawà:ke Tourism offered their assistance in coordinating the event. We would like to thank Scott Berwick for reaching out and allowing us to participate in this event and we look forward to any future collaborations.

# **BIENVENUE QUÉBEC**

From October 29 through November 1, 2023, Tourism Public Relations Officer Kyah Montour attended the Bienvenue Québec (BQ) conference which was held in Trois-Rivières, Québec. The annual BQ conference gives tourism operators ('sellers'), and travel agencies ('buyers'), the opportunity to meet and discuss new tourism avenues prospected for the coming season. Alongside our partners Tourisme Montérégie and **Tourisme** Autochthone Québec, we were given the opportunity to represent the Montérégie (southwestern Quebec region), with a special showcase on Indigenous tourism. Kyah and Kimberly Cross. Tourism Development Manager, set up the moccasin display which

drew the crowd in with its striking array of beautifully crafted pieces which also honor the children who never made it home from residential schools. Also featured was the building model of the coming multicultural arts building showcasing the breadth of the project being undertaken. Chef Ryland Diome, of Screaming Chef Cuisine, also made an appearance having specially prepared corn relish and fresh strawberry mint juice for the BQ participants' luncheon. These paired with the beverages brought in from Kahnawà:ke Brewing Co. had guests excited about the current tourism offerings and excited for the future of Kahnawà:ke Tourism!

## **CULTURE TOURS**

September 30th and October 1st. Kahnawà:ke Tourism participated in the 2023 edition of Les Journées de la Culture where we provided free guided tours of the Language and Cultural Center from 11h00 to 15h00. The event brought in 11 visitors to the museum to view the Moccasin Display and to take in the panels of the museum. Our tour guides were also in attendance to answer any questions and to provide information. The visitors found the Moccasin Display the key point of interest and were greatly impacted by the information and the history of the display.

## **VISITORS STATS**

The Welcome Center had 73 visitors for the month of October! Visitors came from Canada, United States of America, Australia, Bangladesh, Switzerland,

Mexico, Netherlands, Ukraine, South America,

Central America.

and France.

# TOURS

The Kahnawà:ke Welcome Center greeted 10 tour groups from various destinations. Staff welcomed from Centre guests the for Indigenous Environmental Resources, the English Montreal School Board, Tourism Montérégie, National Geographic France, St. Georges Elementary, Mountain View High School, Coveo Solutions, Loyola High School, The Study, and two (2) groups from Indigenous Tourism Québec who participated Familiarization Tours.

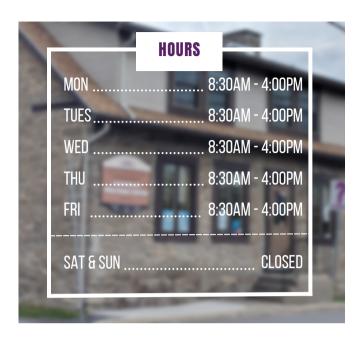
The groups visited the Saint Francis Xavier Mission, the Kateri Interpretive Center, Kanien'kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitióhkwa Language and Cultural Center, and the historic village tour of Kahnawà:ke. The school groups also participated in lacrosse workshops at the Kahnawà:ke Youth Center and visited Mohawk Trial Longhouse to learn about traditional storytelling. Meals were catered at the Legion Branch 219 or Mohawk Trail Longhouse. Other groups dined in at the Kahnawà:ke Brewing Co. for a nice lunch before heading to local boutiques within the community.



The next episode of Kwakaratón:ni is being recorded! Check the page next week for an update from the Kahnawà:ke Tourism team.

# EPISODE 1 WELCOME TO KAHNAWA: KE TOURISM EPISODE 2 MEET OUR TOUR GUIDES EPISODE 3 BEING CONSCIOUS OF OUR COMMUNITY

# KAHNAWÀ: KE WELCOME CENTER HOURS





The Kahnawà:ke Welcome Center is open from Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:00pm. Our visitor center is located on 1 River Road, Kahnawà:ke QC, J0L1B0.

## **CLICK HERE TO BOOK A TOUR!**

# SHOP KAHNAWA:KE

Shop Kahnawà:ke Gift Certificates are now available for purchase at the Welcome Center! Gift certificates can be given as a gift for that special occasion and can be redeemed in over 100 business locations in Kahnawà:ke. Visit the Shop Kahnawà:ke Facebook page and website for more information.

### VISIT OUR NEW SHOP KAHNAWÀ:KE WEBSITE!

www.shopkahnawake.com







# **CHECK OUT OUR VIRTUAL TOURS ONLINE**



www.kahnawaketourism.com/pages/virtual-tour Q



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