



TEWATOHNI'SAKTHA

KAHNAWÀ:KE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Quarter 2 - July to September 2023

Tewaohnhi'saktha Board of Directors Election 2023

Tewaohnhi'saktha held its 2023 Board of Directors Election to fill two seats on Saturday, September 30th, 2023. The nominations were vetted by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke on Monday, September 18th. Electoral Officer, Herb Rice confirmed the results later in the day with the successful candidates being Charles 'Chuck' Barnett and Barbara McComber.



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Newly hired Executive Assistant to the Executive Director and Director of Operations

Onboarding and training for our newly hired Executive Assistant to the Executive Director and Director of Operations, Andrea Moore. Welcome aboard Andrea!



Clients Obtained Jobs

21 

New clients

104 

Clients served

Job Creation

In the last three months, with the support of Business Services, two (2) new businesses were able to create 10 part-time jobs and 4 full-time jobs.

10 

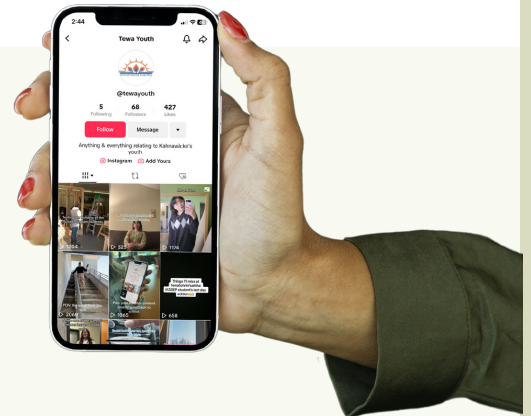
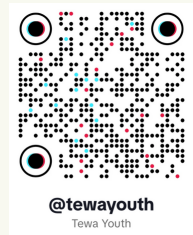
Part-time jobs

4 

Full-time jobs

Official TikTok launch in July

Tewatohnhi'saktha launched a youth TikTok in July! Follow the page at [tewayouth](https://www.tiktok.com/@tewayouth) for fun content catered towards the youth in the community!



Lemonade with a Counsellor

The Tewatohnhi'saktha's Workforce Development team held Lemonade with a Counsellor back in July. The session promoted all Workforce Development programs, services, and more!



19 clients who graduated, received services or training



GRADUATED FROM	NOW EMPLOYED
DEP program at CVCEC	Carpenter at Patton's Structures
Esthetician DEP Laurier MacDonald Vocational Centre	SL Beauty
X2 Ironwork DEP program	X2 MBC as an Ironworker
Computer Support & Networks DEP program at PEC	Mystic Pines as a Cashier
Carpentry Work Study Program Laborer	AD Tree Cutting Services
Auto Mechanics DEP	Diabo's Auto as a Mechanic

CLIENTS WHO RECEIVED TRAINING OR SERVICES	NOW EMPLOYED
Resume help and mock interview	Sports and Recreation as an Indeterminate Maintenance Worker
Resume/letter of intent help, & mock interview	Kahnawà:ke Survival School as a Maintenance Worker
Completed a 39-week Skills Link as an Administrative/Design Assistant	Receptionist at Step by Step Child and Family Center
Accessed 12 months of our Self-Employment Assistance Program	Self-employed operating her Sugar Mama Creations business
Completed 6-week training at AP Career College	Cleaning Business Owner
26-week Skills Link	Employed at Simple Pleasures
Participated in Jobs Creation Initiative doing a work measure at Cross the River Creative as an Executive Assistant	Still employed at Cross the River Creative
Completed Manicures, Pedicures and Artificial Nails course at LaSalle College	Now employed doing nail art at Pearl Spa Beauty & Wellness
Online Teacher Aide Course at Stratford Institute	Now employed as Classroom Teacher at Karihwanoron
Completed a Skill Link work measure	Now self-employed doing freelance media/communications work
Head Barista/Social Media Coordinator at Tóta Ma's Café	Classroom Assistant at Karonhianónhnhha
Completed a Skills Link work measure	Dearhouse Farms as a Senior Apprentice

Builders of the Future Program Launched

The Builders of the Future Program is a unique vocational program that offers students the opportunity to study in Carpentry, Electricity and Plumbing Competencies at the First Nations Regional Adult Education Center (FNRAEC) in Kahnawà:ke. The program will be offered to Kahnawa'kehró:non on an annual application basis for the next four years. Each program cohort will accept 8 students. This 4-year program will expose students to 3 trade programs, with the end goal of having students enter directly into the workforce or return to

school to complete the full DEP in the trade program of their choice upon completion.



Each program cohort will be 6-months long. Students will gain approximately 600 hours of study in Carpentry, Electricity and Plumbing competencies, followed by potential work placements in these fields.

S.T.E.A.M Camp

Tewatohnni'saktha launches its first S.T.E.A.M Camp for Youth aged 12 to 14 years old with funding in part from Des Cultures Renewable Energy. S.T.E.A.M stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. The Up & Atom Science camp is the first of four-sessions that will run until summer 2026, and possibly longer. The overall objective of this initiative is to encourage and better prepare Kahnawà:ke's youth in achieving greater participation and success in the S.T.E.A.M. fields in academia and the labor market.

This one-week camp introduces youth to different S.T.E.A.M. related careers in and around the community. The camp will include fun day trips to expose youth to the various fields. "It's an exciting initiative, that will hopefully result in more Kahnawà:ke youth going into S.T.E.A.M related careers! This is

only the first session, each year we'll build and grow, creating opportunities for youth to explore the field of S.T.E.A.M.," said Emily Rice, Workforce Development Counselling Services Manager, who is overseeing the project.



"It is a great honor to be part of this youth educational project! The seed of the S.T.E.A.M. Camp project was planted as early as 2018, at the birth of the Des Cultures Renewable Energy Partnership. And here we stand, 5 years later, assisting at the birth of this seed as one of many examples of our solid, collaborative and long term relationship," said Jean Roy, President, Des Cultures Renewable Energy.

Staff Updates

NEW HIRE



DRAKE D'SOUZA

Workforce Development Coordinator

Drake's primary role will be to coordinate the Builders of the Future Program, with support from Interim Program Manager, Katsistohkwí:io Jacco. He will also be responsible for coordinating other training programs and initiatives for the community.

Drake recently graduated from John Molson School of Business with a Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing and brings several years of experience in coordinating unique programs for students at McGill University. Thus, we are excited to have him on our Workforce Development Team.

NEW POSITION

RACHEL LEBORGNE

Business Services Loans Officer

Rachel Leborgne has been hired as the new Business Services Loans Officer. Rachel has been with Tewatohnhi'saktha since February 2021 as Client Support Clerk for Workforce Development, and brings to the Business Services team her experience in administrative support, client data management, and customer service.



70 students hired under the Kahnawà:ke Summer Student Employment Program!

The Kahnawà:ke Summer Student Employment Program (KSSEP) saw its twenty third year in the summer of 2023. A record number of 133 employer applications for summer student positions were received this year. A variety of high-quality positions were made available to students, ranging from the typical seasonal positions such as Onake Camp Counsellors and Heads Up Facilitators at Tawatohni’saktha, to brand new positions such as a Digital Marketing Intern with Laflesche and a Project Assistant for the North American Indigenous Games through the Sports and Recreation Unit at the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke. The KSSEP received many new requests for innovative and unique positions in 2023, which



is indicative of Kahnawà:ke employers’ commitment to investing in our youth through training them to not only apply their studies in a practical setting, but to shape their professionalism and enhance their skills in specialized fields. The KSSEP invested \$256,442.17 and once again has been instrumental in positively contributing to Kahnawà:ke’s workforce, which is evident through the amount of connections that the program facilitated between employers and high achieving students, who are now currently participating in the Mentor-A-Student Intern (MASI) Program in Fall 2023.

70	6	32	16	16
Total jobs filled	Part-time High School	Full-time High School	CEGEP	University

Heads Up Summer Camp

Two sessions of the Heads-Up Summer Program camp were completed. It was the first time since 2019 the summer camps took place at full participation with 16 campers per group. The program offers the youth the chance to learn many life-skills and business skills as well as career exploration including a 3 day employee for a day session.



Additional New Hires and Title Changes

- On-call Receptionist - Sydney Ross
- Director of Operations - Marissa Leblanc
- Client Services Manager - Emily Rice
- Business Loans Officer - Rachel Leborgne
- Interim Tourism Office Manager - Jordan Diabo
- Tourism Public Relations Officer - Kyah Montour
- Tourism Events Coordinator - Bronwyn Johns
- Tourism Development Advisor - Kimberly Cross
- Indeterminate Graphic Designer - Bria Cross
- Indeterminate Tóta Ma's Café Manager - Keanna Goodleaf



Tewatohnni'saktha Podcast

The creation of the Tewatohnni'saktha Podcast series has officially launched in October! The first episode topic was the history of Shop Kahnawà:ke and the ongoing program. To listen visit tewa.ca/podcast



Entrepreneurship Training Course

The Entrepreneurship Training course began with +25 participants! The next course will be in the Fall of 2024. To learn more about the course visit Tewa.ca/entrepreneurship



2024 / 2025 Kahnawà:ke Directory

The Kahnawà:ke Directory has been updated with Tewatohnni'saktha's programs and services as well as Kahnawà:ke businesses. This directory is compiled, printed, and distributed by The Eastern Door in partnership with Tewatohnni'saktha.



Facilities and Managements Highlights

Installed a new bike rack in front of the post office and set up picnic tables in front of the building for public use.

Strawberry Fest

The annual Strawberry Food Fest had 10 participating businesses! For the first time an in person event was held at the Kahnawà:ke Sports Complex on Saturday, July 22, 2023, from 10am to 4pm. Though the weather didn't fully cooperate there were still more than 458 visitors in attendance. Visitors enjoyed some local strawberry cuisine, strawberry drinks and of course strawberries! From strawberry photo props, shirts, drink wear, knitted strawberries, soaps and dog treats, there was something for everyone including furry friends!



Tourisme **Kahnawà:ke** *Tourism*

Green Corn Agricultural Fair

On August 19th, Tourism teamed up with Kahnawà:ke Collective Impact to host the Green Corn Agricultural Fair. It was a nice event to showcase the community's gardening skills. Sturgeon was prepared by Eric 'Dirt' McComber, a local fisherman. The Food Sovereignty Action Team served bite size traditional food samples for visitors to enjoy. Goats and chickens were on site to teach people how to properly care for them.

With 417 visitors in attendance, four (4) participants entered the homemade jam competition, with Tekaronhiahkha:sions Rice winning 1st place for her strawberry jam and 2nd place for her raspberry jam. Dave McComber and members of Iontionhnhéhkwen Wilderness Skills showcased survival skills; everyone enjoyed learning how to make a fire

using different materials. Elaine Delaronde shared traditional plant knowledge with the participants. Compost Council of Canada was also there to talk about the importance of composting.



Kahnawà:ke Tourism attends Echoes of a Proud Nation Pow Wow

Kahnawà:ke Tourism was in attendance at the annual Echoes of a Proud Nation Pow Wow in Kahnawà:ke back in July. The longhouse was displayed at the Pow Wow which was installed by Preston Jacobs. The Tourism booth also showcased the new multi-cultural building display.



Kahnawà:ke Tourism Survey

Kahnawà:ke Tourism conducted a survey that was sent out to local businesses to determine the percentage of sales by visitors. A consolidated report will be public once all of the information is compiled.

Kahnawà:ke Tourism Podcast

Tune into Kwakaratón:ni! A monthly podcast where all things tourism are discussed.

[Click here to listen](#)

Tour stats for Kahnawà:ke Tourism

- 28 private group tours ranging from friends and families to school groups and international indigenous delegates and representatives.
- 158 visitors for the daily guided tours
- 311 walk in visitors

Visitors come from all around the world including Africa, Argentina, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Japan, Kosovo, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States!



Business Success Story Video



Royal Indigenous Apparel

Welcome to Royal Indigenous Apparel! We recently sat down with the inspiring Shirley Meloche. She shared with us what it means to her to pursue her dreams and create this powerful business venture.

[Watch the video here](#)



Business Success Story

Sequoia

PROUDLY INDIGENOUS

Sequoia is an Indigenous bath and body business that creates soaps, candles, lotions, mists, and other items inspired by our culture. Sequoia was founded in 2002 and opened its doors in 2004 at the Kahnawà:ke Business Complex where it remains today and is owned and operated by Michaellee Lazore. “Sequoia was one of the first businesses located in the Kahnawà:ke Business Complex,” Lazore said.

[To read the full story click here](#)



PROGRAMS & SERVICES

PROGRAMS



Achieving Concrete Essentials
 Bookkeeping and Aftercare
 Counselling and Advice
 Meeting Room Rental
 Mentor a Student Intern Program
 Self Employment Assistance



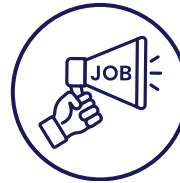
YOUTH

Counselling - Youth Engagement
 Heads Up Program
 Kahnawà:ke Youth Business Fund
 Skills Link Program
 Kahnawà:ke Summer Student
 Employment Program (KSSEP)

TRAINING



Entrepreneurship Training
 I Want to Learn a Trade
 Looking for a New Career
 Training for my Staff
 Vocational Training



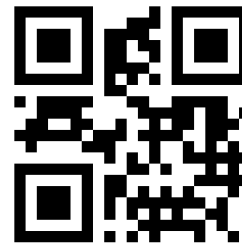
JOBS

Help Applying for a Job
 Looking for a Job
 Looking for a Summer Job
 Job Seekers
 Looking to Hire
 Job Creation Initiative
 Post a Job

FUNDING



Business Assistance Fund
 Business Contribution Fund
 Business Loan Fund
 Marketing Program Fund
 Professional Services Fund
 School/Training
 Wage Subsidy



[Tewatohnhisaktha](#)

[Kahnawà:ke Tourism](#)

[Shop Kahnawà:ke](#)

[Tota Mas Cafe](#)



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