

Greetings,

My name is Mike Delisle from the Mohawk Community of Kahnawá:ke and I am the Grand Chief of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawá:ke (MCK). The MCK provides direct administrative/operational services for a number of programs, including housing, roads and infrastructure, finance, policing, a community insurance plan and much more. In this context I will present some of the socio-economic benefits of the St. Cyprien wind farm.

My community, through Kahnawá:ke Sustainable Energies (KSE), is currently developing this project in the nearby community of Saint-Cyprien-de-Napierville. This wind energy project is in line with our traditional values of respect for our Mother the Earth and planning for the future generations. This is an important project that will generate significant funding for our community over the course of 20 or more years.

We have worked very hard to diversify our economy. Including developing mechanisms that can support our services and infrastructure and all the unmet needs in our community such as language, culture, youth, elders, sports, and the list goes on. This project will have far reaching benefits to our community members both in terms of direct service delivery to community members and economic development for the community as a whole. From this project, the MCK will have an estimated additional \$1.5 million in annual funding to apply to direct service delivery.

Among all of the priorities for the MCK, there are some critical areas where we do not receive core funding and new revenue would be beneficial;

- **Language and Culture Programs**

- Traditional values are very important to the community of Kahnawá:ke. In order to preserve and grow our language, culture and traditional practices within the community there is a need for significant investment. The unfunded annual cost of language and culture programming for the MCK is approximately \$550,000.

- **Youth Programing and Initiatives**

- Programs and projects designed to help the children of the community reach their full potential are constantly evolving with each generation. Their diverse interests and needs demand a wide range of opportunities for them to learn and grow. An investment into the youth of Kahnawá:ke is an investment into the future of Kahnawá:ke. The unfunded annual cost of youth programming for the MCK is approximately \$150,000.

- **Sustainable Waste Management System**

- This infrastructure project is in the final stages of being scoped out. The project would introduce a new Eco-Center to the community as well as a three bin system to separate household waste streams. Not only will this project save the community dollars with a more efficient sustainable waste management system it will be a source of pride for the 1,000+ households in Kahnawá:ke. This project will require an investment of \$300,000 from the MCK.

- **Community Arena**

- Sports and athletics are woven into the fabric of the community of Kahnawá:ke. From a very early age, families take tremendous amount of pride in the accomplishments of our athletes. The community arena, which houses lacrosse and hockey for all ages, is in need of re investment as the building is over 25 years old. Such activities are integral in building relationships with our neighboring communities. The unfunded annual cost of maintenance of the existing arena for the MCK is approximately \$100,000. The estimated investment required for a new arena is approximately \$1.5 million.

I take a tremendous amount of pride in my community. Seeing the results of investments from the MCK benefit my fellow community members makes for a very fulfilling career. The types of investments identified above are critical to the social fabric of our community and are in line with our community vision and the mission of the MCK. The KSE wind-farm project in Saint-Cyprien-de-Napierville is a game-changer for the community of Kahnawá:ke and will benefit over 7000 people.

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