

## *Statement of understanding and mutual respect*

*K*ahnawake and Québec, recognizing the importance of cooperative endeavours and wishing to maintain a constructive relationship on the basis of their respective principles and concepts found in the Two Row Wampum and in Government Policies on Aboriginal matters and in particular in the National Assembly Resolution of March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1985, reaffirm their commitment to the Statement of Understanding and Mutual Respect which they have signed on the 15th day of October 1998. They therefore renew their agreement to the following declaration of reciprocal political commitment.

*Kahnawake and Québec, as represented by the undersigned, favor the route of discussion and negotiation for concluding and signing agreements that will be negotiated in various fields of jurisdiction.*

*With a strong sense of their respective culture, language, custom, laws and traditions, Kahnawake and Québec agree to negotiate with mutual respect for their national identities and each other's history and territorial occupation.*

*Kahnawake and Québec further agree to participate as partners in various Kahnawake economic development ventures. Québec also agrees to develop financial and fiscal arrangements that would provide for Kahnawake's long term economic stability.*

*To accelerate the negotiation process and bring it to a rapid conclusion, Québec and Kahnawake each have already appointed negotiators and concluded a framework agreement with a view to the rapid conclusion of sectoral agreements in the various fields of mutual interest.*

*To insure continued understanding and mutual respect, Kahnawake and Québec recognize the importance of regular communications between their respective representatives, including at the highest level, and commit to meet on a regular basis and whenever necessary.*

*Nothing in this declaration prevents Kahnawake from continuing to exercise its prerogatives to conclude agreements with any other government, in the application of its jurisdiction through its legal institutions, and in accordance with its priorities.*

*Signed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2009.*

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*Michael Ahrihrhon Delisle Jr.  
Grand Chief  
Mohawk Council of Kahnawake*

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*Jean Charest  
Premier Ministre  
Gouvernement du Québec*

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*Pierre Corbeil  
Ministre responsable  
des Affaires autochtones  
Gouvernement du Québec*