

Statement of Understanding and Mutual Respect

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec entered into a *Statement of Understanding and Mutual Respect* on the 15th day of October 1998. Recognizing the importance of cooperative endeavours and wishing to maintain a constructive relationship, the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec hereby renew this relationship through the present *Statement of Understanding and Mutual Respect*.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec commit to working together to peacefully coexist, respecting each other's unique perspectives and striving for mutual understanding. The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec commit to negotiating the implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* in the context of their unique relationship.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec commit to conducting themselves in accordance with the spirit and intent of the present *Statement of Understanding and Mutual Respect*. The parties will favour the route of discussion and negotiation to conclude and sign agreements to facilitate peaceful and respectful coexistence and resolve conflict.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec further agree to negotiate financial and fiscal arrangements necessary to the implementation of agreements and to facilitate Kahnawà:ke's long term economic sustainability.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec agree to sign a mutually acceptable *Framework Agreement* that prescribes the procedure for negotiating agreements in areas of mutual interest. The Gouvernement du Québec and the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke will ensure agreements are concluded diligently.

To ensure continued understanding and mutual respect, the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec recognize the importance of regular communications between their respective representatives, including those at the highest level. The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec commit to meeting on a regular basis as well as whenever necessary. The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec will ensure that the relevant authorities are engaged in tending to their relationship and resolving substantial issues and conflicts.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec intend to hold annual meetings between the Grand Chief of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the premier ministre du Québec to reinforce relations and establish and renew commitments. They commit to holding such meetings within the first six (6) months following an election in Kahnawà:ke or in Québec. In addition, the Grand Chief of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the premier ministre du Québec will set and review joint political priorities and address issues as required.

The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and the Gouvernement du Québec may agree to include other governments and entities in discussions when necessary for the conclusion of agreements pertaining to areas of mutual interest.

Nothing in this declaration prevents the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke from entering into agreements with any other governments and/or other entities.

Signed on the _____ day of _____ 2024.

**For the Mohawk Council of
Kahnawà:ke**

Original signed

Cody Diabo
Ohén:ton Í:rate ne Ratitsénhaienhs

At

This _____ day of _____ in the
year 2024

Original signed

Jeffrey Diabo
Ratsénhaienhs

At

This _____ day of _____ in the
year 2024

For the Gouvernement du Québec

Original signed

François Legault
Premier ministre du Québec

At

This _____ day of _____ in the
year 2024

Original signed

Ian Lafrenière
Ministre responsable des Relations avec
les Premières Nations et les Inuit

At

This _____ day of _____ in the
year 2024

Original signed

Simon Jolin-Barrette
Ministre responsable des Relations
canadiennes

At

This __ 6 __ day of __ February __ in
the
year 2025