



For Immediate Release: May 16, 2024

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council Political Update: May 16, 2024

Elected Council attends Mental Wellness Conference

Six Nations Elected Council was on hand for the Mental Wellness Conference at the Gathering Place.

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill provided the opening words before some great conversations were held on such an important topic in the community.

"I would like to express my deepest appreciation to our dedicated Mental Health and Addictions team for their tireless efforts for the wellbeing of our community," Chief Hill said.

Pay it Forward Day a Success

Sunday April 28 was a great day to spread some cheer to the community as part of Pay-it-Forward Day.

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill shared small acts of kindness, handing out coffee, flowers, doughnuts, and cookies to community members.

"It was great seeing so many people in our community out and about," Chief Hill said.

Community Awareness Kicks Off

The Kick off for Community Awareness Week was a resounding success with the First Responders Brunch on May 1.

Elected Council served the food and had great conversations with the brave emergency responders who put their lives on the line every day to ensure our safety and wellbeing in our community.

Activities are going on almost every day. For more information about Community Awareness Month, and a list of events, look at the Community Awareness Month Booklet, or listen to the updates on the Chief and Council Radio Show.

Chief Hill meets with Brantford 's Mayor

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill met with Brantford's Mayor Kevin Davis and City of Brantford CEO Brian Hutchings to address critical issues concerning Six Nations and the Brantford area. The February 23, meeting focused on ensuring that Six Nations could use the lands they own in the Brantford area without being burdened by taxes, as well as finding common ground for mutually beneficial arrangements.



The meeting also tackled the matter of outstanding amounts owed by Brantford to Six Nations, specifically regarding financial obligations related to municipal infrastructure on Six Nations lands near the historic Mohawk Chapel. In addition, the leaders coordinated an effort to approach the provincial government to advocate for a correction in the government's consultation policies, emphasizing the need to align with the Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) process.

After the meeting, Chief Hill expressed optimism about the potential positive outcomes stemming from their joint efforts.

Community leaders meet with Ontario's Minister of Indigenous Affairs to address concerns

In a surprise meeting on February 23, community leaders, including Sherri-Lyn Hill, and Brantford Mayor Kevin Davis joined forces to address concerns with Ontario's Minister of Indigenous Affairs, Greg Rickford.

The main focus of the discussion was the province's consultation policies, which were deemed conflicting with the community's accountable Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) Consultation and Accommodation Policy (CAP) process.

During the meeting, Chief Hill urged Minister Rickford to intervene and halt the provincial government's imposition of consultation policies that contradicted the SNGR CAP process. The CAP process, designed to represent all members of the community equally in matters of consultation, has become a cornerstone for ensuring fair and inclusive decision-making. Minister Rickford was encouraged to work collaboratively with the Chief Hill and Mayor Davis to find common ground and address the discrepancies in consultation policies. The meeting concluded with a commitment from the Minister to further review the concerns raised and explore potential solutions that align with the principles of fairness and inclusivity laid out in the SNGR CAP process.

Grade 6 class visits the council chambers

Six Nations Elected Council and Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill welcomed a group of curious students from the Oliver M. Smith Elementary School (OMSK) to the council chambers.

The Grade 6 class showed an enthusiastic interest in learning about how Chief Hill and Elected Council work to govern the community. The students asked many questions and showed a keen desire to understand the mechanics of governance at work. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were impressive, and it was clear that they were eager to learn and participate in shaping the future of their community.

The visit concluded with a pizza lunch, and members of Elected Council left feeling inspired and hopeful for the future of the community.

"The students are the future leaders of their community, and their eagerness to learn and participate is a beacon of hope for a brighter tomorrow," Chief Hill said.



Leadership Advocacy Council meets with Premier and Ministers to discuss Indigenous issues

The Leadership Advocacy Council met with Premier Doug Ford and provincial Ministers at Queen's Park to discuss a range of issues related to Indigenous communities.

Organized by the Chiefs of Ontario, one of the major topics discussed was the Metis issue. The Premier expressed his agreement to write a letter to the federal government requesting a halt to advancing Bill C-53.

This move is significant as it will help to make the case that recognizing false Metis claims threatens First Nation rights.

During the meeting, Premier Ford reiterated his commitment to supporting First Nations, stating that he is the most supportive Premier Ontario has ever had.

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill said the Leadership Advocacy Council plans to hold him accountable to this standard, and will continue to work with the government to ensure the needs and concerns of Indigenous communities are properly addressed.

The meeting with the Premier and Ministers was a productive one, and the Leadership Advocacy Council looks forward to continuing to work closely with the government to improve the lives of Indigenous peoples in Ontario.

Chief's office meets with the Ministry of Infrastructure

Local officials are making efforts to extend a water main from Nanticoke to the Six Nations of the Grand River, Haldimand County, and Norfolk County.

According to sources, the Mayor of Haldimand County and the Mayor of Norfolk County have been working closely with relevant authorities to make this a reality. Recently, a virtual meeting was held between the Chief's office, both mayor's offices, and the Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministry of Infrastructure, Amarjot Sandhu. This meeting led to a meeting request from the Minister of Infrastructure, Kinga Surma.

During the meeting, officials discussed the challenges of obtaining funding for water infrastructure within the area and explored the possibilities of a joint water infrastructure project. Minister Surma assured officials that she would take their information back and explore ways to have funds flow for a joint project. Going forward, officials will work with Mike Montour, the Director of Public Works, and recommend the most appropriate next steps to council.

Chief Hill makes welcoming remarks at Brant Eco Conference

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill made opening remarks at the 10th annual Brant Eco Conference to promote and discuss conservation and sustainability.

The event was hosted by the Brant Rod and Gun Club, invited various environmental groups, including Two Row on the Grand, to participate in the conference. The conference featured welcoming remarks by an esteemed member of the community, who were invited to speak by the Brant Rod and Gun Club.



The event was attended by notable figures such as Brantford Mayor Davis, Brant County Mayor Bailey, MPP Will Bouma, and MP Larry Brock. The organizers were grateful for the attendance of all the participants and expressed their appreciation for their support. The conference provided a platform for discussion and collaboration on important ecological issues, and attendees left with a renewed commitment to conservation and sustainability efforts in their community.

Chief Hill is always open to speak with the community

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill told Elected Council and wants to remind the community that she is always available to speak.

She said it's important for community leaders to engage with the community and listen to their concerns and ideas. Chief Hill wants to let community members know that she is open to discussions. This kind of open and transparent communication can lead to a stronger and more united community.

-30-

Media Contact: Darryl Smart
Public Relations Coordinator, 226-387-0826
1695 Chiefswood Road, P.O. Box 5000. Ohsweken Ontario N0A 1M0