

# **Membership Law Review Amendments for CDMP February 28, 2013**

## **INTRODUCTION FOR QUESTION 1 & 2**

Why KML needs to be amended

- 1981 – 2003 Develop Law
- 2003 KML
- 2007 SDU Report
- 2007 COE Suspension
- 2008 ODS Report
- 2010-11 KML Survey

See Membership Reports on website: [kahnawakemakingdecisions.com](http://kahnawakemakingdecisions.com)

## **INTRODUCTION for QUESTION 3**

Note: The Membership Department will review what is currently in the Membership Law and ask whether this should stay the same or change. For more detailed amendments to be considered, see The Kahnawà:ke Membership Law Conceptual and Operational Issues Report and the Summarized Version of the Kahnawà:ke Membership Law.

Other areas for amendment can be raised in CDMP discussions.

## What needs to be amended?

General areas of the Membership Law to be discussed:

1) Who can be a member? What are the criteria to become a member?

- 4 or more Kanien'kehá:ka great-grandparents  
Or, Iroquois or Indigenous great-grandparents
- Need definition of great-grandparent
- Automatic for a person born of 2 members or 1 member parent and other of Iroquois confederacy with verifiable proof
- Is married to or living in a common-law relationship with a member
- Maintains ties with community
- Honors customs and tradition, comply with codes, laws and regulations of Kahnawá:ke
- Requirement for a Clan or obtain a Clan
- Committed to learning Kanien'kéha
- Respects mother earth

2) Who decides who will be a member?

- Registrar: decides automatic members
- Council of Elders: decides all applications
- Or, is another body needed

3) Suspension or Revocation of KKR membership (benefits and services)?

- Married, or marries, a non-Indigenous person after May 22, 1981
- Commenced, or commences, after May 22, 1981, a common-law relationship with a person who has no Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage
- Person renounces their membership or non-member residency

#### 4) Rights and Responsibilities of Members

- Honor customs, traditions, and must comply with codes, laws and regulations of Kahnawá:ke but not limited to the Kanien'kéha law
- Respect Mother Earth
- Contribute to the preservation and advancement of the community of Kahnawá:ke, the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation and the Rotinohsonnión:we people
- Is identified as having, or is willing to avail themselves of the established Kahnawá:ke process of affiliation in seeking a Kanien'kehá:ka clan
- Respect and protect children, persons, personal property and lands within the Territory
- Respect and encourage the use of Kanien'kéha and Kanien'kehá:ka culture
- Maintain ties with the community of Kahnawá:ke

#### 5) Non-Member Resident

- Residency approval by Council of Elders
- May be subject to reasonable fees or charges
- Receive services such as water, hydro, garbage pickup
- Should residency for non-Members be in Membership Law

#### 6) Appeal mechanism

- Membership Review Council mandate to recommend only
- Other appeal body
- Court of Kahnawake

#### 7) Other Issues

- Preamble and purpose
- Family ties