

2003 Kahnawà:ke Membership Law (KML)
2010 Summarized Version

This is a summarized version of the 2003 Kahnawà:ke Membership Law. The intent of the Law is unchanged. Some text is re-worded and the order is not the same as the 2003 Law – the order has been re-grouped. Summarized sections of the Law are identified in each text box with a capital S followed by the section number, if a person wishes to read the actual Law along with this summarized version. This summarized version is color coded with three colors: Law content is in yellow text boxes; Law administration content is in the blue text boxes; Content that helps to understand or apply the Law is in the green text boxes. The 2003 Kahnawà:ke Membership Law can be located on the kahnawake.com web site under services, public documents. Read numbered text boxes from left to right.

1. 2003 Kahnawà:ke Membership Law

Enacted by Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke on 10 Kentenhkó:wa/November 2003, came into force in 27 Seskehkó:wa/September 2004 and was amended on 2 Onerahtókha/April 2007.

The Kanien'kéha version, verified by Elders of the community, is the final authority if there is dispute between the English and the Kanien'kéha version of the Law.

2. 2003 Kahnawà:ke Membership Law

Preamble key words and phrases:

Refer to rights with words/phrases like collective, self-determination, fundamental human rights, International principles of human rights, natural justice, no intent to take away or diminish rights of the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation.

3. 2003 Kahnawà:ke Membership Law

Preamble key words and phrases:

Refers to goals like survival, replace foreign laws and authorities, defend the community. It references the Law's development to a lengthy period of consultation and discussions that demonstrated an expression of will. Development included values described in the 1998 Elder's Declaration on Membership – Entsitehwahárahne.

4. 2003 Kahnawà:ke Membership Law (KML)

Preamble key words and phrases:

Refers to principles of consent, dignity, compassion, peace, security, and rejection of individualism. The Law's jurisdiction states this is paramount to laws, regulations and policies of other foreign government concerning membership of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke.

5. *The KML provides procedure and determine criteria for Purpose S.2*

Who is a Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke member at birth;

Who is entitled to apply as a Member;

Who is eligible to apply as a Non-member Resident.

6. *General provisions S. 25 of the KML*

The 1981 Moratorium and the 1984 Mohawk Law concerning membership no longer apply in the community from September 2004 (but are referenced as markers in the Law).

The MCK will provide funds, after approving a budget, for the implementation of the Law.

The Council of Elders may extend any time periods or deadlines by resolution.

7.

Kahnawà:ke is made up of Kanien'kehá:ka members, non-Kanien'kehá:ka members and non-members residents who have responsibilities and obligations written in the law.

8. *Definitions S.4*

Member: means a member at birth or a person who has been confirmed as being a member of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke, according to the criteria and procedures in this Law, and the Regulations, provided the person's membership has not been revoked.

9. *Definitions S.4*

Kanien'kehá:ka lineage: means direct descent from a Kanien'kehá:ka ancestor, verified by proof acceptable to the Registrar, the Council of Elders or the Membership Review Council.

10. *Definitions S.4*

Indigenous: means persons of an Indigenous Nation that is indigenous to what is currently known as Canada and the United States of America.

Indigenous lineage: means direct descent from at least four (4) indigenous great-grandparents, verified by proof acceptable to the Registrar, the Council of Elders or the Membership Review Council.

11. *Definitions S.4*

Instatement: means confirming for the first time, a person to be a member of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke in accordance with this law. (Example: someone who has lived elsewhere all their lives, returns to Kahnawà:ke and meets the 4 great grand parent criteria and is registered as a Member).

12. *Definitions S.4*

Reinstatement: means confirming the membership of a person who was previously removed from the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry. (Example: A Mohawk women who married a non-Native after 1951, was stripped of her rights to be a Mohawk by the Federal Government Law administered by this community acting under the Indian Act. Then this Mohawk women is a widow, and applies for her membership and is reinstated under this Law).

13. *Entitlement of Members S. 15*

If you are a member, you have entitlements and privileges, through these benefits and services:

- Live and be buried here,
- Receive housing assistance,
- Vote for our leaders and run for/hold a position of leadership,
- Own/transfer land on our Territory to other members,
- Own/operate a business,
- Receive education services and services from social, health, welfare and economic departments/programs of the MCK.

14. *Definitions S.4*

Non-member Resident: means a person who has been confirmed to have permission to reside within the Territory and to receive those privileges as provided in this Law, provided the person's permission to be a non-member resident has not been suspended or revoked.

15. *Privileges of Non-members Residents S. 16*

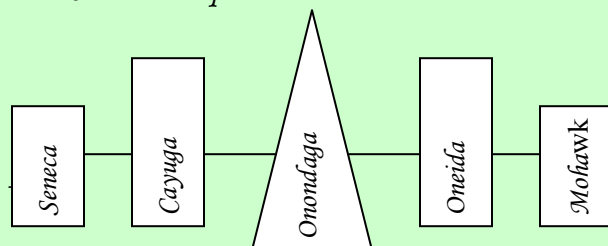
- Reside within the Territory
- Receives such services to the extent they are available, that are necessarily associated with residency. The Council of Elders will decide any disputes that may arise as to whether a particular service is, or should be, available to a non-member resident.
- There may be fees or charges for the services.

16. *Membership S. 10*

A person is a Member at birth if identified as Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and:

- Is born of 2 members,
- Has 4 or more Kanien'kehá:ka great-grandparents,
- Has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process.

17. *6 Nations Iroquois*



The Hiawatha Belt symbolizes the 5- Nations Iroquois Confederacy gathered by the Peacemaker, Tękanawitha. Tuscarora makes the sixth nation.

18. *Membership S. 10*

A person is a Member at birth if identified as Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and:

- Is born of 1 member,
- Is born of a person who is one of the 6 Nations (With proof verified by the Membership Registrar),
- Has 4 or more great-grandparents of one of the 6 Nations,
- Has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process,
- Is not on another Indigenous community membership list.

19. Membership S. 10

A person whose name is not on the Mohawk Registry because of marriage to a non-Indigenous person before May 22, 1981, but who meets membership criteria under this Law, can apply to be instated.

20. Definitions S.4

Respect Mother Earth: refers to a concept, which mirrors our attachment to earth as our supreme giver of life; as giver of all our nourishment and our needs, The symbolic term Mother Earth is central to our belief and life system and plays an integral role in Kanien'kehá:ka society.

Rotinohsonnión:we: means the People of the Longhouse who are of the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation, also known as "Haudenosaunee."

21. Responsibilities of Members S. 17

- Honour the customs, traditions and must comply with the codes, laws and regulations of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke,
- Respect Mother Earth,
- Contribute to the preservation and advancement of the community of Kahnawà:ke, the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation and the Rotinohsonnión:we People,

22. Responsibilities of Members S. 17

- Has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process,
- 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 Kahnawà:ke.

23. Application for Membership S. 11

Every child, through their parent or guardian is *eligible* to apply to become a member at birth if identified as Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and:

- Is born of one member and of the other person who has Indigenous lineage,
- Has 4 or more Indigenous great-grandparents,
- Has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process,
- Is not on another Indigenous community membership list.

24. Application for Membership S. 11

Every child, through their parent or guardian is *entitled* to apply to become a member at birth if identified as Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and:

- Is born of 2 members, one who denies filiation with the child,
- Has 4 or more Kanien'kehá:ka great-grandparents,
- Has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process,
- Is not on another Indigenous community membership list.

25. Application for Membership S. 11

Every child, through their parent or guardian is *entitled* to apply to become a member at birth if identified as Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and:

- Is born of one member and of the other person who is a non-member resident with *some* Indigenous lineage,
- Has 4 or more great-grandparents with Indigenous lineage,
- Has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process,
- Is not on another Indigenous community membership list.

26. Application for Membership S. 11

A person who is not born of 2 members is *eligible* to apply for membership of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke at the age of 18 years if:

- Has 4 or more Kanien'kehá:ka great-grandparents,
- Speaks or is committed to learning Kanien'kéha,
- Respects Mother Earth and has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process,
- Has and maintains ties with the community,
- Honours the customs, traditions and must comply with the codes, laws and regulation of the community.

27. Application for Membership S. 11

In the event of a dispute, the Council of Elders will decide whether a person's great-grandparent(s) were, for the purposes of this Law, a Kanien'kehá:ka.

28. Application for Membership S. 11

A person who has Indigenous lineage but who has little or no Kanien'kehá:ka lineage may apply to be confirmed as a member if:

- Is married or living in common-law relationship with a Member,
- Speaks or is committed to learning Kanien'kéha themselves and as well for their children,
- Respects Mother Earth and has a clan or will get a clan affiliation following the Kahnawà:ke process,
- Has and maintains ties with the community,
- Honours the customs, traditions and must comply with the codes, laws and regulations of the community, and committed to raising their children to do this as well.

29. Application for Membership S. 11

The Council of Elders will review applications described in text box # 26 & 28, and in the event an application is approved, the Council of Elders may impose reasonable conditions, limitations or restrictions on the member that they deem appropriate.

30. Definitions S.4

Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry:

means the list of members and the list of non-member residents maintained by the Registrar after the enactment of this law and, for greater certainty, does not mean any lists kept by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Canada) or any other foreign government.

(Replaces the Mohawk Registry of 1984)

31. *Application for Membership S. 11*

When the Council of Elders confirm a person's membership, the Registrar will be advised to make amendments to the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry.

Membership entitlements are not transferrable to another person or entity.

32. *Definitions S.4*

Adoption: means the act or acts of accepting the child of another person as one's own child.

Age of Majority: means 18 years of age.

Child: means a human being who has not yet reached his or her age of majority.

33. *Definitions S.4*

Dependent child: means a person who has reached his or her age of majority but who, as the result of physical or mental limitations, lives with and is cared for by a member parent or parents.

Normally resident: means that a person maintains their permanent home in Kahnawà:ke and includes persons who may be absent for a period of time but who return to Kahnawà:ke on a regular basis from their place of employment, training or schooling and also includes persons who do not reside in Kahnawà:ke due to housing shortages.

34. *Adopted Children S. 13*

An adopted child is a Member from the date of adoption until 18 years old if:

- Has 4 great-grandparents with Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage
- Normally resides in the Territory

At 18 years old, he/she reaffirms a Member's Pledge within a year of turning 18 years old or their membership can be revoked.

35. *Member's Pledge S. 19*

A person who is eligible to be instated or reinstated as a Member will affirm a Member's Pledge as provided in the Regulations, that affirms:

- He/she will respect the responsibilities of a Member as set out in the Law,
- He/she will respect all conditions, limitations or restrictions if any associated with membership.

36. *Adopted Children S. 13*

An adopted child of a Member(s) who has *some* Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage is entitled to live here with his/her adoptive parent(s) and receive educational services until 18 years old when he/she must apply for membership (instatement, reinstatement) or non-member residency permission.

37. *Adopted Children S. 13*

An adopted child of a Member(s) who has *no* Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage is not eligible for membership.

If the child is adopted prior to 2003, he/she can live here with his/her adoptive parent(s) and receive educational services until 18 years old, when he/she may apply non-member residency permission.

38. *Adopted Children S. 13*

If the child has *no* Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage and is adopted after 2003, he/she is not eligible to be a Member or to be a non-member resident.

39. *Non-member Residents S. 14*

A person is eligible to apply to the Council of Elders for permission to be a non-member resident if the person:

- Has *some* Kanien'kehá:ka lineage,
- Maintains family ties within the community,
- Has made positive contribution to the community.

40. *Non-member Residents S. 14*

A person is eligible to apply to the Council of Elders for permission to be a non-member resident if the person has Indigenous lineage but no Kanien'kehá:ka lineage and is:

- Man or woman married to or living in a common law relationship with a member or
- Working within the Territory or
- Is attending an educational facility in or near the Territory.

41. *Non-member Residents S. 14*

A person is eligible to apply to the Council of Elders for permission to be a non-member resident if the person:

- Was adopted by a Member(s) prior to 2003 and has no Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage,
- Is 18 years old and has been normally a resident within the community since the date of adoption,
- Has/maintains family ties within the community.

42. *Non-member Residents S. 14*

A person is eligible to apply to the Council of Elders for permission to be a non-member resident if the person:

- Has no Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage but who was raised in the community and who maintains family ties with the community.
- Non-Indigenous spouse, man or woman, married to a member before 1981 Moratorium and still married.

43. *Definitions S.4*

Member of a Liturgical Society: includes leadership position held within well recognized religious orders currently established within the Territory, such as, but not limited to, priests, nuns, ministers, preachers and other similar members.

44. *Non-member Residents S. 14*

A person is eligible to apply to the Council of Elders for permission to be a non-member resident if the person is a member of a liturgical society established within the Territory.

45. *Oath of Respect S. 19*

Any person who is eligible for non-member resident permission will affirm an Oath of Respect as provided in the Regulations that affirms:

- He/she will respect the non-member resident obligations set out in the Law and
- He/she will respect all conditions, limitations or restrictions associated with being a non-member resident.

46. *Law Administration: Registrar S. 5*

Upon Law enactment, a suitable person will be appointed as Registrar by MCK for purposes of this Law, effective until:

- It is revoked by the MCK,
- The Registrar resigns,
- The Registrar is unable to perform his/her duties under this Law.

47. *Law Administration: Registrar S. 5*

The Registrar must be:

- Mature and of good character,
- A member of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke,
- A person who normally resides within the Territory.

418 *Law Administration: Registrar S. 5*

The Registrar will:

- Maintain and administer the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry and the non-member resident list, and perform any duties related thereto.
- Act fairly and in accordance within the provisions of this law and the Regulations.

49. *Law Administration: Registrar S. 5*

The Registrar will:

- Ensure that all information is held in confidence, and not divulged, discussed or released to any person or authority, except with permission of the person to whom the information relates, as necessary to verify a person's eligibility for benefits and services, and that is required by access to information laws as applicable within the Territory or in accordance with this Law and the Regulations.

50. *Law Administration: Registrar S. 5*

The Registrar will ensure the information contained in the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry is safeguarded from loss, destruction, tampering and unauthorized use,

51. *Law Administration: S. 12*

Those not listed on the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry and who are eligible to apply for membership, may apply, using the form and following the Regulation procedures, to the Council of Elders, with a copy given to the Registrar for instatement or reinstatement as members.

52. *Law Administration: Registrar S. 5*

The Registrar will make available for review by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and Members of Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke any names of additions or removals from the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry.

453 Law Administration: Non-Member Resident List
S. 6

The Registrar will keep and maintain a list of names, address, and telephone number of those persons who have been given permission to be a non-member resident and record any conditions attached to the permission. This information will not be considered part of the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry.

54. Non-Member Resident List S. 6

A person who has no Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage, but whose name was on the 1984 Mohawk Registry because of marrying a member before May 22, 1981, will automatically be placed on the non-member resident list by the Registrar if:

- They are still married and living with that spouse in the Territory,
- They are widowed and they are still residing in the Territory.

55. Definitions S.4

Elder: means an adult person who is a Member of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and who has gained and continues to hold trust, respect and confidence of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and who has a good knowledge of the customs and Kanien'kéha of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke.

56. Council of Elders (COE) S.8

The Council of Elders are:

- Appointed by the community of Kahnawà:ke and enacted by this Law,
- A group not less than 9 and not more than 15 Elders who are normally residents in Kahnawà:ke, and are selected following procedures in the Regulations.

57. Law Administration: Council of Elders (COE) S.8

The COE will:

- Review decisions made by the Registrar,
- Review and decide applications for instatement, reinstatement or for permission to be a non-member resident,
- Review and decide applications to suspend or revoke a person's membership or permission to be a non-member resident.

58. Law Administration: Council of Elders (COE) S.8

The COE will:

- Enact Regulations as provided in this Law,
- Oversee the function of the Registrar,
- Perform its duties in accordance with this Law and the Regulations,
- Respect the principles of fairness, dignity of the person, compassion and consensus in performing its duties, conducting its meetings and making its decisions.

59. Law Administration: Council of Elders (COE) S.8

The COE will:

- Be remunerated (paid) for their services as determined by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK),
- Submit an annual budget for MCK approval.

The MCK will provide funds to the COE for an office and support staff as required in order to perform its duties.

60. Law Administration: Council of Elders (COE) S.8

The COE will create and maintain a record of its proceedings, any decisions it makes and the reasons for its decisions.

A person who is a member of the Membership Review Council is not eligible to be a member of the Council of Elders as a person who is a member of the Council of Elders is not eligible to be a member of the Membership Review Council.

61. Membership Review Council S. 9

The Membership Review Council:

- Is empowered by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, through enactment of the Law,
- Will consist of 3 Elders selected following procedures in the Regulations,
- Will perform its duties according to this Law and the Regulations.

62. *Law Administration: Membership Review Council*
S. 9

The Membership Review Council:

- Will review, when requested, a decision made by the Council of Elders, according to Regulations,
- Will respect the principles of fairness, dignity of the person, compassion and consensus in performing its duties, conducting its meetings and making its decisions.

63. *Law Administration: Membership Review Council*
S. 9

The Membership Review Council will:

- be remunerated (paid) for their services as determined by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK),
- submit an annual budget for MCK approval.

The MCK will provide funds to the COE for an office and support staff as required in order to perform its duties.

64. *Law Administration: Membership Review Council*
S. 9

The Membership Review Council will create and maintain a record of its proceedings, any decisions it makes and the reasons for its decisions.

65. *Definitions S.4*

Regulations: means the Regulations enacted pursuant to this Law, including Regulation No.1 and any Regulation enacted by the Council of Elders in accordance to this Law.

66. *Law Administration: Regulations S. 21*

The Council of Elders will by resolution (official documentation of a decision and the procedure to follow), enact Regulations to implement this Law including form and content for:

- Confidentiality Agreements,
- The Member's Pledge and Oath of Respect,
- Applications for instatement or reinstatement of membership.

67. *Law Administration: Regulations S. 21*

The Council of Elders will enact Regulations to implement this Law including form and content for:

- Applications for permission to be a non-member resident,
- Applications to suspend or revoke a person's membership or permission to be a non-member resident.

68. *Law Administration: Regulations S. 21*

The Council of Elders will enact Regulations to implement this Law including form and content for:

- The rules and procedures to follow at Council of Elder's meetings, in conducting a review or hearings and other Regulations that may be necessary to implement this Law.

69. *Law Administration: Regulations S. 21*

The Council of Elders will consult with the Registrar before enacting Regulations that establish forms required for the Registrar's office.

All Regulations enacted by the Council of Elders must be provided to the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke for approval before they come into effect.

70. *Law Administration: Regulations S. 21*

Copies of all Regulations enacted by the Council of Elders and approved by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke will be provided to the Registrar and will be distributed to members of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke and to non-members residents.

71. *Definitions S.4*

Marriage: means a binding union between two consenting persons with legal capacity that is solemnized by ceremony, law or custom and that gives rise to duties and responsibilities that are enforceable by law.

Common-law relationship: means any intimate personal relationship not solemnized by marriage ceremony, law or custom between two persons who have lived together for not less than 1 year.

72. *Definitions S.4*

Family Relationship: means the bond that exists between a person their spouse, sibling, parent or child.

Non-Indigenous person: means a person who has no Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage.

Person: means a living human being.

73. *Suspending Membership S.20*

The Regulations gives procedure to decide to suspend or revoke a person's membership or permission to be a non-members resident.

74. Suspending Membership S.20

A Member's entitlement to receive benefits and services will be suspended as long as a Member has, after May 22, 1981:

- Married or marries a non-Indigenous person,
- Commenced or commences a common-law relationship with a person who has no Kanien'kehá:ka or Indigenous lineage.

If the non-Indigenous person was raised in the community, residency will not be suspended.

75. Suspending Membership S.20

If a non-Indigenous person is a member because of marriage to a Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke, and was given permission to be a non-member resident through this Law, the residency permission will be suspended pending a review by the Council of Elders of those persons who:

- Are divorced from the Members,
- Ceased cohabitation with the Member.

76. Revoking Membership S.20

A person may have their membership or permission to be a non-member resident revoked if approval was based on information, documents or circumstances that were fraudulent, false or misleading.

77. Suspending or Revoking Membership S.20

Any person may renounce (give up) their membership or non-member resident permission by providing written notice to the Registrar and the Council of Elders. The renunciation will be effective from the date on which it is confirmed by resolution of the Council of Elders.

Copy of the resolution will be sent by registered mail to the person and to the Registrar. The Registrar will remove the person's name from the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry.

78. Suspending or Revoking Membership S.20

Membership may be suspended or revoked from a member who commits a material breach (violation) of:

- Any criteria his/her membership is based,
- Any member responsibilities set out in this Law,
- The conditions, limitations or restrictions attached to his/her membership if any,
- Their Membership Pledge.

79. Suspending or Revoking Non-member Resident Permission S.20

Permission to be a non-member resident may be suspended or revoked if a non-member resident breaches:

- Any criteria his/her non-member residency permission is based,
- Any obligations set out in this Law,
- The conditions, limitations or restrictions attached to his/her permission,
- Their Oath of Respect.

80. Enforcement of the Law S. 27

The Kahnawà:ke Peacekeepers have sole and exclusive authority to enforce this Law and the Court of Kahnawà:ke has sole and exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide offences under this Law.

If the Court of Kahnawà:ke finds a section of the Law to be invalid, the decision does not render this Law invalid in its entirety.

81. Offences and Penalties S. 22

Those persons who are not listed on the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry and live in the Territory commit an offence. Upon conviction, the offender is subject to immediate removal from the Territory by the Kahnawà:ke Peacekeepers.

Once removal is decided, temporary stay will be given if:

- The person is the parent or guardian of one or more children under the age of 6 years,
- The decision to remove the person is issued between October 1st and May 1st.

82. Offences and Penalties S. 22

Any person who breaches any other provisions of this Law commits an offence and upon conviction is subject to fines up to \$2000.00, imprisonment for up to 6 months or both.

83. Notices S. 23

All notices will be sent by registered mail and will be deemed to have been received on the date the recipient signs for it.

84. Notices S. 23

If registered mail cannot be used or there is no signature for its release, the Council of Elders through resolution may direct notice be given to publish a summary of the notice for two consecutive weeks in the local electronic or print media. Notice will be deemed to have been received following the date of the second publication.

Notice given by publication will satisfy the notice requirements of this Law or the Regulations.

85. *Law Amendment S. 26*

An amendment may be proposed by either:

- The Council of Elders,
- the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke,
- 100 Members of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke.

86. *Law Amendment S. 26*

A written draft of the amendment must be done by the party who proposed it.

87. *Law Amendment S. 26*

If the Mohawk Council proposes the amendment, the draft will be immediately sent to the Council of Elders for review.

If the Council of Elders proposes the amendment, the draft will be immediately sent to the Mohawk Council for review.

88. *Law Amendment S. 26*

A proposed amendment draft petition submitted by 100 Members must be signed at the office of the Registrar within 1 month of the first name on the proposed amendment. The Registrar will verify each person that signed on the date indicated, the reason why they propose the amendment and that no name appears more than once on the petition.

89. *Law Amendment S. 26*

If the proposed amendment receives 100 signatures in the required amount of time, the Registrar will immediately forward the proposed amendment to the Council of Elders for review.

90. *Law Amendment S. 26*

The proposed amendment(s) draft will undergo an initial review. Only wording and grammatical inconsistencies will be permitted to be changed in the proposed amendment(s), with no change to the spirit or intent of the proposed amendment.

91. *Law Amendment S. 26*

At least 7 Elders or Chiefs as the case may be must accept the proposed amendment or revision of the amendment will be sent for review to the Elders or Chiefs as the case may be.

92. *Law Amendment S. 26*

Elders or Chiefs as the case may be will conduct a second review to accept or reject the revised draft. Acceptance or rejection requires a minimum of 7 Elders or Chiefs as the case may be.

If the revised draft is rejected after the second review, a committee of 3 Elders and 3 Chiefs will be formed to conduct a third review.

93. *Law Amendment S. 26*

The proposed amendment will be rejected if after a reasonable attempt to reach consensus is made by the review committee is unsuccessful.

94. *Law Amendment S. 26*

If the committee reaches consensus on the proposed amendment draft then the finalized amendment draft will be released to the Members of the Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke through electronic and print media for input and questions.

95. *Law Amendment S. 26*

Following 30 days from the draft release to Members, the Council of Elders and the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke will gather to review any recommendations received. Upon agreement, the draft amendment will be affirmed through a resolution of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and shall immediately come into force, unless otherwise specified in the amendment.