



JULY 2025 | VOLUME #32

# KAHNAWÀ-KE TOURISM

Cultural Exchange with Arashi Daiko | New Team Member | Celebrating Indigenous Art | Akwesasne Art Market | Corn Fest | Back to School Jamboree | Tours | Ionkhinèn:rine Program Wrap-Up | 2025 Pow Wow | Donor Tours



## KICKING OFF SUMMER WITH COMMUNITY

July 5<sup>th</sup>, St-Constant

On Saturday, July 5th, we took part in Maison de la Jeunesse's summer kick-off event in St-Constant. We hosted an information table and a wampum bracelet-making activity, giving guests a chance to learn about our culture in a fun and meaningful way.

The day was filled with sunshine, laughter, and delicious food shared among youth, elders, and newcomers—many of whom were immigrants attending through Maison Internationale de la Rive-Sud. It was a true celebration of summer, where stories were exchanged, friendships formed, and valuable connections made.

We're so happy to be part of events like this that bring people together and spark positive, lasting connections.





## CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH ARASHI DAIKO

### July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

On Friday, July 11th, we hosted a vibrant cultural exchange workshop with the talented Taiko drum group from Montreal, Arashi Daiko. The workshop took place in the green space at Orville Park, under the shade of the trees—making the experience all the more memorable.

The drummers set up their practice drums right on the grass and invited everyone to join in the rhythm and energy of Taiko drumming. With lots of laughter, encouragement, and teamwork, we worked hard together to learn a short piece. It was a full-body workout, and by the end, we were proud to perform alongside them—giving our best in this powerful, skillful art form.

After the workshop, we gathered at the Kahnawà:ke Legion Hall to enjoy a delicious meal provided by TLC Catering, featuring beautiful mini blueberry and strawberry cornbreads as the centerpiece.

To end the evening, the Arashi Daiko team joined us at the Pow Wow grounds for the Smoke Dance competition and social hosted by KORLCC. It was exciting to witness their enthusiasm and to look forward to their performance on Saturday evening. Seeing firsthand the effort and teamwork they bring to their craft made it even more special.

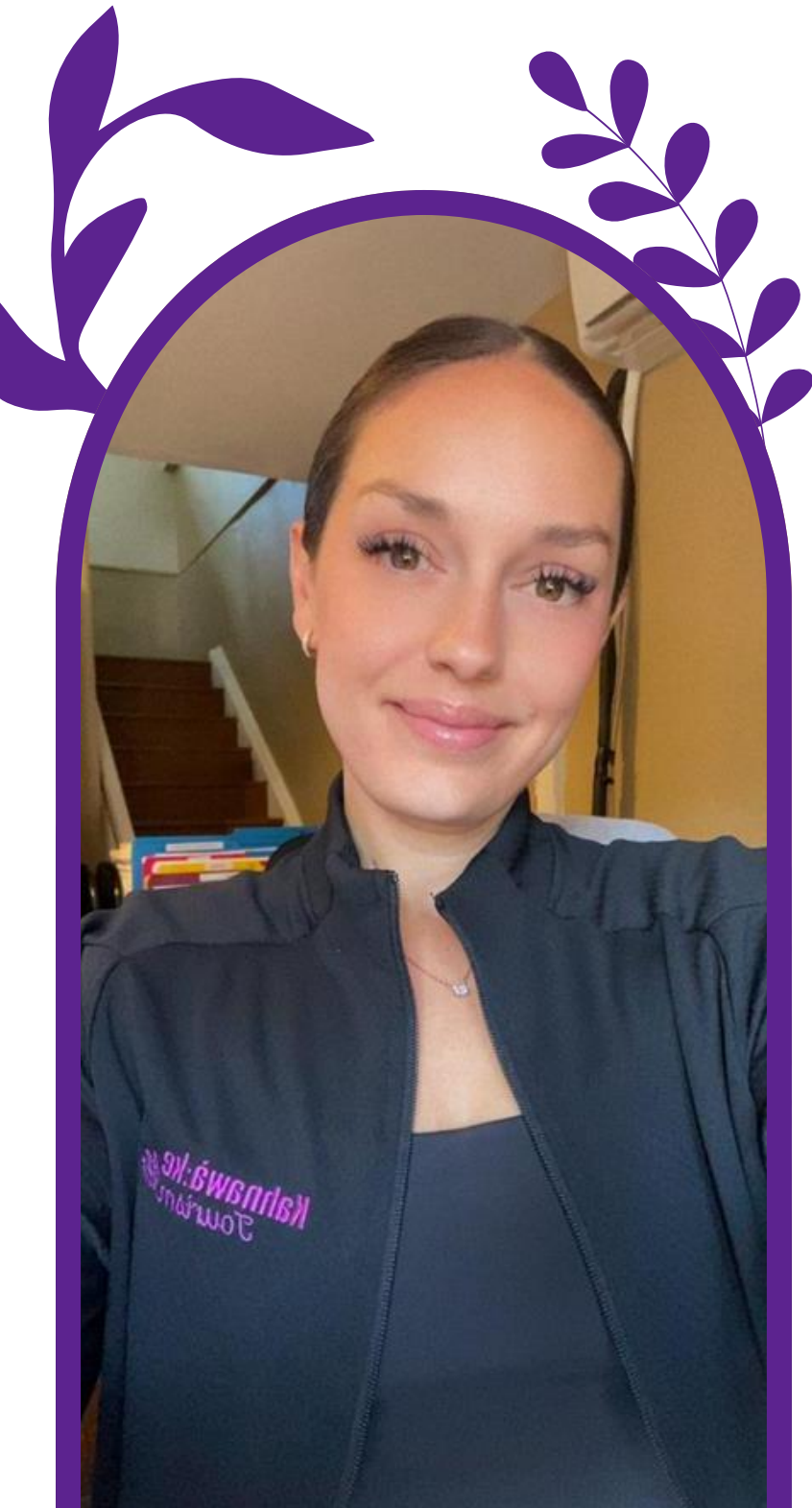
We are always grateful for opportunities like this to welcome guests into the community and share in meaningful cultural exchange.



# Introducing

## Iakothahitáhkhe Diabo

### Office Assistant



We are excited to welcome Iakothahitáhkhe Diabo to the Kahnawà:ke Tourism team as our new Office Assistant! Iakothahitáhkhe officially joined us on July 7 and brings with her a strong background from her previous roles at Step by Step and the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK), along with specialized training through Tewatohnhi'saktha. She brings not only experience, but also a fresh perspective, enthusiasm, and a genuine eagerness to support the growth of tourism in our community.

Based out of the Welcome Center office, Iakothahitáhkhe is ready to hit the ground running. In her own words:

*"I am excited to be a part of the Kahnawà:ke Tourism team, where I can contribute to daily operations through administrative support, actively assist in promoting the community and sharing our culture."*

Please join us in extending a warm welcome — Wa'tkwanonhwerá:ton, Iakothahitáhkhe!

## CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS ART AT THE AKWESÁSNE TRAVEL JURIED ART SHOW July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

On Friday, July 25th, we had the pleasure of attending Akwesasne Travel's Juried Art Show at the Akwesásne Casino. This year marked the first time the event was spread over multiple days—and it did not disappoint!

Opening night featured a stunning fashion presentation, with local models showcasing Tisha Thompson's breathtaking porcupine quill corset and corn husk dress—true works of art that beautifully combined tradition and innovation!

The show featured an incredible range of artwork, highlighting the immense talent within our sister communities. One could only image challenging it was to judge, with so many amazing pieces on display! We were excited to see Arihón:ni David take 1st place in the New Media category, and Shannon David win 1st in her category with her beautiful rendition of the Three Sisters.

It was an inspiring and heartwarming event that reminded us once again of the creativity, resilience, and strength of our artists. A big congratulations to all the participants—you make us proud!



## AKWESASNE ART MARKET AT GENERATIONS PARK July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

On July 26th, we attended the Akwesásne Art Market at Generations Park's new amphitheater. The day featured a powerful opening performance by Bear Fox, followed by the Akwesasne Women Singers and a hoop dance by Feryn King. Attendees enjoyed energizing drinks and discussions about the upcoming Kahnawake Cultural Arts Center, generating excitement among community members. The day also included social songs, a smoke dance by the Native North American Travelling College, and local music from Crosswinds. Overall, the event was a success, fostering connection and culture, leaving everyone uplifted and eager for next year.



## Upcoming Events



### CORN FEST

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM to 5 PM



Get ready for a full day of family fun at Corn Fest 2025 sponsored by Playground Cares! In partnership with KSCS (celebrating Strong Man/Strong Woman Day) and Maison Lepailleur, we're bringing the community together for a celebration of culture, creativity, and corn with over 30 artisans to browse!

## Activities

- Bouncy Castles
- Face Painting
- Live Country Band & Line Dancing
- Photo Booth Fun
- Hands-On Workshops:
- Make Corn Husk Dolls
- Butter-Making
- Paint & Plant Your Own Corn
- Candy Corn Making

## Don't miss

- Corn Shucking Contest
- Half-and-Half Draw
- Corn Basket Giveaways with Local Goodies

## Catch us at the Back to School Jamboree!

Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> | Kahnawake Sports Complex

Join Kahnawà:ke Tourism for games, giveaways, and youth info! Play connect-the-dots and test your knowledge with trivia! Learn about:

- Our Youth Leadership Program
- Summer Student Positions
- The New Multicultural Purpose Building: Kanatahkwèn:ke
- Student Job Opportunities

Enjoy both free and for-purchase food options from local favorites! Let's make the end of summer unforgettable — see you there!



### Sports Complex

August 16

11am - 4pm

Inclusion Hour: 11am - 12pm (sensory-friendly time)

Ease into the school year with a day full of fun, featuring a slip and slide, free food, prizes, and back to school tips and tricks!

What better way to start the school year than with a **FREE** event!

Niawenhkó:wa to our sponsors!



## TOURS

With July roaring in the heat, the Kahnawà:ke Tourism team greeted eight private group tours.

### July 4<sup>th</sup>

Saint Francis Xavier Mission Guide Marion guided 28 visitors from tour operator Spiritours for a tour of the museum and Kateri Shrine. The group also participated in a private mass.

### July 10<sup>th</sup>

Tourism Clerk Zye guided 15 guests from KSDPP for a tour of Kahnawà:ke visiting historical sights and attractions throughout the historic village.



### July 14<sup>th</sup>

Saint Francis Xavier Mission Guide Marion guided 48 visitors from tour operator from Spiritours for a tour of the museum, church, and Kateri Interpretive Center.

### July 18<sup>th</sup>

Tour Guide Dwayne guided 25 visitors from the Bavarian American Academy. The group toured the historic village area visiting key sites and destination. The group also toured Saint Francis Xavier Mission, and enjoyed a catered meal by Simple Pleasures while picnicking behind the church.



### July 20<sup>th</sup>

Public Relations Officer Bronwyn, toured 25 visitors from tour operator Collette who enjoyed a maple experience and cultural teachings and stories. The group had a nice breakfast at the Kahnawà:ke Marina catered by Messy Kitchen.

### July 23<sup>rd</sup>

Tourism Clerk Zye guided 10 visitors with Dable Advisory Consulting Services for a tour of the Language and cultural center and a tour of the historic village area.

### July 24<sup>th</sup>

Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada graced Kahnawà:ke and organized a medicine walk with Lauren at Lotus and Sage.

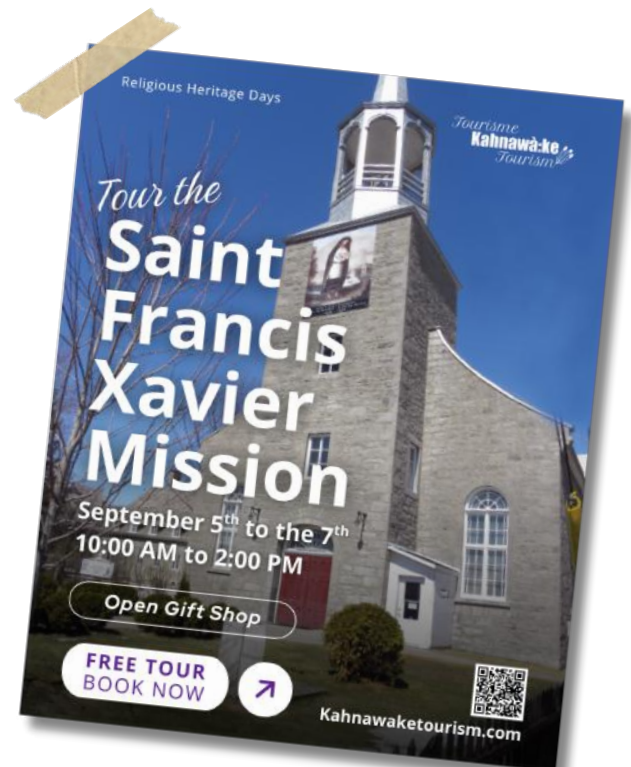


### July 25<sup>th</sup>

Tourism Clerk, Zye, guided 40 visitors from Students on Ice in a tour of Kahnawà:ke and historic village area. The group had spent the morning with the Kahnawà:ke Protection office participating in the tour of the Restoration Bay.

## VISITOR STATS

In July, we welcomed 276 visitors from various countries, including Mauritius, Austria, Tunisia, Algeria, Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Scotland, the Czech Republic, the U.K., the U.S., and Canada.



## IONKHINÈ:RINE PROGRAM WRAP-UP



As July comes to a close, so does the first-ever Ionkhinè:rine Youth Cultural Leadership Program. This exciting new initiative welcomed Kahnawà:ke youth into two immersive two-week sessions filled with hands-on cultural learning and creative exploration.



**POTTERY**

Participants took part in a wide range of workshops including wampum bracelet-making, beaded keychain crafting, pottery, and moccasin making. Each activity was designed to deepen their connection to culture and tradition while encouraging personal expression and leadership.

The program also featured inspiring guest speakers, including Justin Kingsley and Kimberly Cross, who shared valuable insights and stories with the group.



Each session included two field trips outside the community: the first week featured a visit to Droulers-Tsiionhiakwátha National Historic Site, and in the second week, participants explored the First Peoples sections of both the Botanical Gardens and the McCord Museum.

To celebrate the end of each session, families were invited to a closing BBQ held behind the church in the green space, bringing the community together to honor the youth's achievements and experiences.



Níá:wen to everyone who helped make this first Ionkhinè:rine program a success! Congratulations to Olivia Rice and Jayla White on facilitating the first program! They did an amazing job!



## 2025 ECHOES OF A PROUD NATION POW WOW WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

The 33rd Echoes of a Proud Nation Pow-Wow, held July 12–13, 2025, welcomed an estimated 12,000 visitors to Kateri Tekakwitha Island. Despite the extreme heat and a late-day thunderstorm on Sunday, the event ran smoothly thanks to several well-received logistical improvements, including a redesigned parking plan and on-island ticketing that significantly reduced wait times. The Pow-Wow- weekend began with a Friday social hosted by KORLCC and featured a popular Smoke Dance competition. Over 75 artisan booths and more than 25 food vendors offered a wide variety of products and cuisine, drawing steady crowds throughout the weekend. The event also saw a major boost to the local economy, with over \$80,000 withdrawn from on-site ATMs, much of it spent directly with Indigenous craftspeople and food vendors.

The Pow-Wow Committee were pleased with the turnout and the performance of new infrastructure, despite some minor challenges caused by the sudden storm, which damaged a few vendor setups.

The event maintained its core purpose of cultural celebration and unity, with dancers of all ages and backgrounds filling the arena in vibrant regalia. Artists and vendors noted the value of building new relationships with returning visitors and first-time guests alike. As the powwow wrapped up, the organizers were already planning ahead, hoping to refine logistics even further for July 11 & 12, 2026!

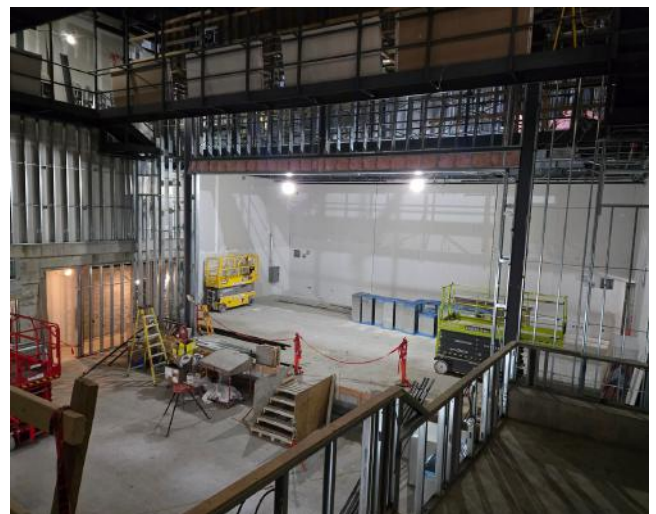




## DONOR TOURS

The KCAC Building Committee hosted individuals from the Hewitt Foundation to Kahnawake and the construction site on July 28. We're hoping this visit is the start of a new partnership.

As part of a collaboration between Tourisme Autochtone Québec (TAQ) and Événements Attractions Québec (ÉAQ), a cultural exchange initiative brought together Indigenous and non-Indigenous event promoters. The group attended the Kahnawake Pow Wow on July 12 as the first of two planned events, with the second set for the Festival des traditions du monde in Sherbrooke on August 16. Upon arrival at the powwow, the group was welcomed by Tourism Development Manager, Kimberly, who greeted them and introduced them to the event. The initiative aimed to encourage meaningful dialogue, build connections, and promote the sharing of knowledge and business practices between event organizers from different cultural backgrounds.





**CORN Fest**

Join us at the Corn Fest, where you'll find a variety of delicious food, over 20 unique craft vendors, contests, and a whole lot more!

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup> | GOLDEN AGE CLUB | 11:00 AM 5:00 PM**

**Event Highlights**  
 Fun bounces  
 Face painting  
 Live country band  
 Line dance class

**Workshops**  
 Corn Husk Dolls,  
 How to Make Butter,  
 Traditional Ways of Planting Corn, and more!

Sponsored by:  
  

info@kahnawaketourism.com 450-635-2929 kahnawaketourism.com



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 16. 12-7PM \* SAMEDI 16 AOÛT. 12H-19H**

**KAHNAWAKE BREWING CO.**  
**KBC & friends festival**

**PRESENTED BY:**  
 **Black Magic Racing 207 Auto Care**

August means KBC & Friends Festival at the Kahnawà:ke Brewing Co on Saturday August 16th, 2025, starting at 12h00 to 19h00. Kahnawà:ke will be setting up and once again giving free bus tours of Kahnawà:ke. The event will showcase live music, food & drinks, bouncy house, face painting and lawn games.

# August 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	 13	14	15	KBC & Friends Festival 16
17	18	19	20	21	22	 23
Corn Fest  24	25	26	27	 28	29	30 / 31



## KAHNAWÀ:KE WELCOME CENTER HOURS

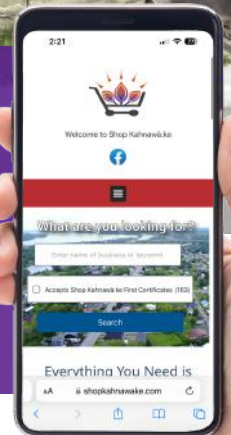
MON .....	8:30AM - 4:00PM
TUES .....	8:30AM - 4:00PM
WED .....	8:30AM - 4:00PM
THU .....	8:30AM - 4:00PM
FRI .....	8:30AM - 4:00PM
SAT & SUN .....	10:00AM - 3:00PM

1 RIVER ROAD, KAHNAWÀ:KE QC, J0L 1B0

## SHOP KAHNAWÀ:KE

Shop Kahnewà:ke Gift Certificates are now available for purchase at the Welcome Center! Gift certificates can be given as a gift for that special occasion and can be redeemed in over 100 business locations in Kahnewà:ke. Visit the Shop Kahnewà:ke Facebook page and website for more information.

**Shopkahnewake.com**



## BOOK A TOUR WITH US

To experience all that Kahnewà:ke has to offer, we invite you to book one of our many fun and informative tours or join us at one of our many cultural events.

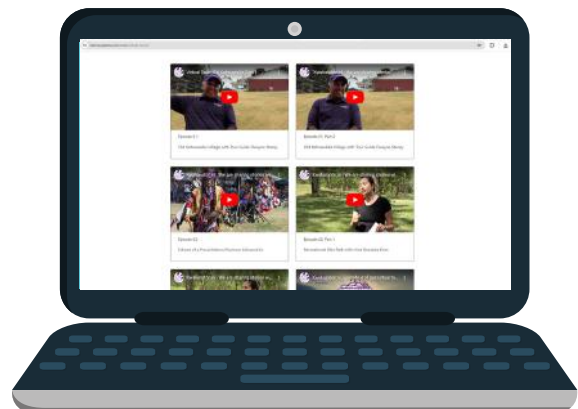


**SCAN TO BOOK!**



**KAHNAWAKETOURISM.COM/BOOK-YOUR-TOUR**

## CHECK OUT OUR VIRTUAL TOURS ONLINE



**KAHNAWAKETOURISM.COM/VIRTUAL-TOURS**





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(450) 635-2929  
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[kahnawaketourism.com](http://kahnawaketourism.com)  
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