



JUNE 2025 | VOLUME #31

KAHNAWÀ:KE TOURISM

Strawberry Fest Recap | Indigenous Day Declaration | TAQ Board Meeting | KWE | Tourism Montréal | Indigenous Day Recap | Staff Update | June Tour Recap | Cultural Exchange at the Pow Wow | Pow Wow Update



EXPLORING THE OLD PORT OF MONTREAL: A STEP TOWARD RECONCILIATION

On June 4th, we had the incredible opportunity to visit the Old Port of Montreal alongside local artist Owisokon Lahache and tour guide Dwayne Stacey. This visit marks the beginning of an exciting new collaboration with the Grand Quai, where they will be introducing art installations and historical panels that highlight and honour the original peoples of these lands. The additions will offer meaningful representation to the thousands of visitors who pass through the Old Port each year.

We were thrilled to explore the available spaces and share in the enthusiasm of both Owisokon and Dwayne, who are eager to bring this vision to life. Our visit also included a stroll along the boardwalk and a breathtaking aerial view from the glass-bottom lookout at the Port of Montreal Tower.

We look forward to keeping you updated on the release dates of the upcoming installations. This project represents a valuable opportunity to collaborate, build lasting connections, and continue walking the path of reconciliation.





STRAWBERRY FEST RECAP

Saturday, June 14th

Strawberry Fest was a sweet success! The event brought the community together for a joyful day filled with laughter, learning, and delicious treats.

We kicked things off with our first-ever Hour of Inclusion, setting a welcoming and inclusive tone for all guests. Thanks to the generous support of Playground Cares, the day featured more than 15 vendors, two giant Fun Bounces, and family-friendly activities including face painting by Hayley Cross and a community mural led by artist Megan Kanerahtenhá:wi Whyte.

Visitors explored hands-on workshops, such as a Black Ash Tree Flower Splint Workshop with Robin Lazore, and an engaging natural medicine talk with Elaine Delaronde, who shared knowledge about traditional healing plants from our land.

A crowd favorite was the Strawberry Bobbing Contest! Ten brave participants raced to scoop up seven floating strawberries—Diana from Sweet

Dee's claimed victory and a \$50 Shop Kahnawà:ke gift certificate.

The fun continued with the Best Strawberry Jam Contest, where local jam-makers showcased their best. Louise Bonspille took home the top prize and another \$50 Shop Kahnawà:ke gift certificate!

Foodies were in for a treat with strawberry-themed creations catered by Simple Pleasures and Berrylicious through Kahnawà:ke Tourism. Guests enjoyed a berry upside-down cake from Simple Pleasures and fluffy strawberry-filled fried bread topped with whipped strawberry butter from Berrylicious. Kahnawà:ke Tourism also served refreshing homemade strawberry juice.



STRAWBERRY FEST RECAP

Saturday, June 14th

With over 400 visitors throughout the day, Strawberry Fest was a heartfelt celebration of community, culture, and creativity. Niawenhkó:wa to everyone who came out and supported!

As part of the Strawberry Food Fest that ran throughout the month of June, we held weekly draws for Shop Kahnawà:ke Gift Certificates — and here are our lucky winners!

- 🍓 **Week 1:** Deidre Diabo
- 🍓 **Week 2:** Joely van Dommelen
- 🍓 **Week 3:** Fawn Deer
- 🍓 **Week 4:** Nancy Stacey

Congratulations to all the winners!

Thank you to everyone who participated and stay tuned for the Corn Food Fest coming this August at participating businesses & on August 24!



CITY OF MONTREAL INDIGENOUS DAY DECLARATION

On June 16, Kimberly was honoured to attend the City of Montréal's formal declaration recognizing National and Montréal Indigenous Peoples Day, held annually on June 21. This powerful statement reaffirms the city's commitment to reconciliation, respect for Indigenous rights, and meaningful partnerships with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities. With acknowledgment of the city's location on unceded Kanien'kehà:ka land, the declaration celebrates Indigenous contributions to the cultural and social fabric of Montréal. It also highlights continued efforts to combat systemic discrimination and promote Indigenous leadership, language, and heritage.



TAQ BOARD MEETING IN WENDAKE

Kimberly recently attended the Indigenous Tourism Quebec board meeting in Wendake, where board members gathered to hear updates on the Getiget Project, the current action plan, and the 2022–2027 strategic plan. The meeting provided a valuable space for reflection and future planning. The evening concluded with a warm and memorable dinner at Sagamité, offering a chance to strengthen relationships with board members and partners in a culturally rich setting.



KWE FESTIVAL 2025

A Celebration of Culture, Identity, and Solidarity

From June 13–15, we joined the KWE Festival at Place Jean-Béliveau in Quebec City for a vibrant and meaningful weekend of cultural sharing. The event kicked off on Friday with an opening ceremony featuring a powerful drum performance by Northern Voice and dancers from Wendake's youth group, setting the tone for a weekend of celebration and education.

Under sunny skies, visitors of all ages walked the Knowledge Trail of the 11 Nations, engaging with representatives from each nation through skill demonstrations that highlighted diverse cultural identities. We had the honour of representing our nation alongside our sister community of Kanehsatà:ke. Along the trail, this year's new feature—the Garden of Hearts—offered a moment of reflection and solidarity. Guests placed colored hearts to support significant causes: purple for Joyce's Principle, orange for Every Child Matters, and red in memory of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW).

Culinary delights were provided by Chef Maxime Lizotte of the Wolastoqiyik Wampanoag Nation, who served dishes such as Three Sisters Chili Con Carne, Barbec-Kwe Grilled Chicken, and Warrior Potatoes, delighting the crowd and celebrating Indigenous foodways.

Throughout the weekend, the sound of the drum and the voices of singers from various nations united participants in a shared spirit of culture and community. The team is already looking forward to returning next year to represent the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation once again.



TOURISM MONTÉRÉGIE SUMMER LAUNCH

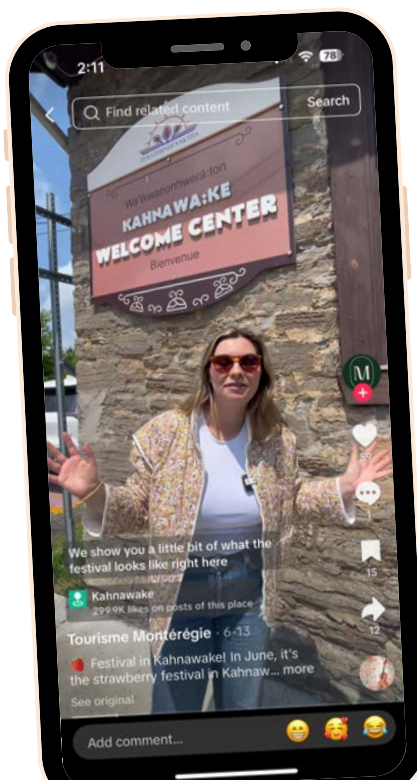
On a beautiful day in Sorel, Kimberly joined fellow Tourism Montérégie members to officially launch the 2025 summer tourism season. The event was a fantastic opportunity to network with tourism professionals from across the region, share ideas, and build partnerships for the season ahead. The energy and collaboration on display set a strong tone for what promises to be a vibrant and successful summer across Montérégie.

TOURISME
MONTÉRÉGIE

KAHNAWÀ:KE FEATURED IN MONTÉRÉGIE'S FIRST TIKTOK COLLABORATION

With TikTok continuing to grow as a major platform for social media engagement, Kahnawà:ke Tourism recently had its first spotlight moment as part of Montérégie's launch into the TikTok space. The regional tourism team reached out to collaborate on promoting Kahnawà:ke's Strawberry Food Fest, which ran throughout the month of June.

The filming began at the Welcome Center, where the Montérégie team was welcomed and introduced to local highlights. The first stop was Screaming Chef, known for his fresh and flavorful creations. The featured dishes—strawberry salad and strawberry juice—were bursting with summer flavor and left everyone eager for more.



The tour continued to the Kahnawà:ke Brewing Company, where strawberry-inspired menu items took center stage. Their version of a strawberry salad and a show-stopping strawberry shortcake proved to be fan favorites.

Adding to the excitement, CBC/Radio-Canada joined in to cover the day's events and highlight not only the regional collaboration but also the progress on the new Kahnawà:ke Arts and Culture Center—a key development for the community.

Click to watch!
cbc.ca/player/play/video/9.6818289

Moments like these reflect the growing support from surrounding partners and organizations who are helping bring attention to the vibrant culinary, cultural, and creative initiatives happening in Kahnawà:ke. The Tourism team is thrilled to see these partnerships expanding and looks forward to more opportunities to showcase everything the community has to offer.

INDIGENOUS DAY CELEBRATION

Under beautiful sunny skies, our community came together on June 21 to honour and celebrate Indigenous Day with a vibrant, full-day event filled with culture, laughter, learning, and connection. The celebration featured over 13 local vendors offering handmade crafts, delicious food, and community spirit. Thank you to the generosity of Playground Cares and The Caisse Populaire, our event was delightful.



Guests were treated to traditional foods such as corn soup by Screaming Chef, corn mush by Simple Pleasures, and fresh popcorn giveaways, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all ages.

Throughout the day, we offered engaging workshops that highlighted cultural teachings and hands-on experiences:



Baby Moccasin Workshop
with Kimberly Cross



Fish Filleting Demonstration
with Eric McComber



Gear Teachings
with Brandon Rice



Medicine Bag Crafting
with Iakorihwatóken Hemlock

The children enjoyed hours of play with our Fun Bounce inflatables and face painting by Hayley Cross, keeping their spirits high and energy flowing.

A major highlight of the day was our 2-hour comedy show, hosted by the hilarious trio Jo Rice, Hank Leblanc, and Aaron Lawrence, who had the entire crowd roaring with laughter. Live music kept the good vibes going with performances by Lonewolf and the Corner Spaghetti Band, filling the air with powerful sound and celebration.

It was a truly heartfelt and memorable day, with incredible participation from our community. Thank you to everyone who joined, supported, shared, and celebrated with us!

WELCOME OUR NEW SUMMER STAFF!

Tourisme
Kahnawà:ke
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Harley Delaronde

Tour Guide

Returning part-time Tour Guide supporting daily tours at the Welcome Center and Language and Cultural Center – with us until December!



Roxann Whitebean

Tour Guide

Also joining as a part-time Tour Guide, leading daily tours at the Welcome Center and Saint Francis Xavier Mission – with us until December!



Olivia Rice

Ionkhinèn-rine' YCLP Facilitator

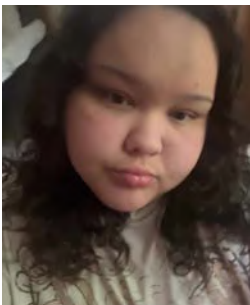
Olivia, a recent Marianopolis College graduate, will serve as a Youth Cultural Leadership Program Facilitator until the end of August. She brings valuable experience from the Kahnawà:ke Youth Center.



Jayla White

Youth Cultural Leadership Facilitator

Joining through KSSEP as a Youth Cultural Leadership Facilitator for Ionkhinèn-rine', – Jayla is currently a student at Kuper Academy and is with us until August! We're excited to have Olivia and Jayla on board and look forward to all the energy, insight, and leadership they will bring to the team!



Kanahkwine Albany

Events and Public Relations Student Assistant

Another addition through KSSEP, Kanahkwine is studying Criminology at Champlain College Lennoxville with aspirations of attending law school. She is proud to be part of the Kahnawà:ke Tourism team and is excited to contribute to initiatives that celebrate and share the rich culture of her community.



Zye Mayo

Kahnawà:ke Tourism's Summer Clerk

Zye Mayo is the summer clerk at Kahnawà:ke Tourism, welcoming guests at the Welcome Centre and providing information about local events and the tourism department while supporting the team as needed.

JUNE RECAP FROM KAHNAWÀ:KE TOURISM - SUMMER IS HERE!

Summer officially kicked off with a bustling June at the Kahnawà:ke Welcome Center, where we proudly hosted 9 private group tours! Visitors from all walks of life came to learn about our rich history, vibrant culture, and community spirit.



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

June 4 – McGill University (Impress Program)

28 students began the month with a cultural experience at Mohawk Trail Longhouse.



June 5 – ALCOA Staff

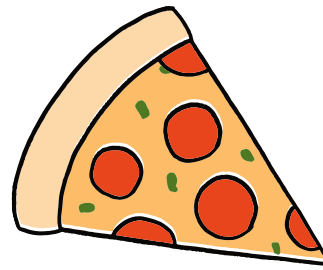
8 staff members joined Tour Guide Roxann Whitebean for a historic village tour.

June 9 – EMSB Student Group

24 high school students explored Kahnawà:ke, toured the Language and Cultural Center, and enjoyed a cultural experience at Mohawk Trail Longhouse with Tour Guide Zye Mayo.

June 16 – Hui O Keikiali'i (Hawaii)

Our first-ever Hawaiian group of 5 visitors toured Kahnawà:ke and visited Saint Francis Xavier Mission with Zye Mayo.



June 18 – ABB Canada

Bronwyn Johns led 20 bilingual visitors through a day of cultural learning and dining at the Kahnawà:ke Brewing Co.

June 19 – Double Tour Day!

Bronwyn Johns offered a French-language tour with Cegep Sorel at the Language and Cultural Center.

Harley Delaronde guided Parks Canada through the historic village, cultural center, and previewed the new Multi-Purpose Building with Kimberly Cross.

Parks Canada Partnership & Tour

The visit included a tour of the community and discussions about a future art project at Fort Chambly. KORLCC and our tourism team were pleased to host and explore how we can work together to highlight and share Kanien'kehà:ka history, culture, and perspectives in upcoming projects.



REVIEW FROM RYAN BRENNEN (ABB)

"It was truly a great experience for our team to learn more about the history, culture, and future of the Nation in such an honest and accessible way."



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Continuation from page 8

June 25 & 26 – Expression Voyage

Two back-to-back days of 54 visitors each, guided by Bronwyn Johns, included a historic village tour and delicious catered meals from Simple Pleasures featuring:

June 25: Corn soup, strawberry salad, strawberry juice, and blueberry corn cake.

June 26: Indian tacos, strawberry juice, and blueberry swirl cake.

Niá:wen to everyone who visited, toured, guided, cooked, or shared stories this month. We're looking forward to a vibrant and inspiring summer!

EXCITING CULTURAL EXCHANGE POW WOW WEEKEND!

Every year, we're honored to welcome new participants from around the world who join us to share their songs and dances. This year, we're especially thrilled to host Arashi Daiko, a powerful and dynamic Japanese drum group.

We will have a welcome event on Friday, July 11 at the Legion Hall for a drum exchange. Afterward, we'll share a meal together before heading over to the Pow Wow grounds for a special social event and Smoke Dance competition, proudly hosted by KOR.

The celebration continues through the weekend with two amazing performances by Arashi Daiko:

Saturday, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Sunday, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We're so grateful for these opportunities to connect with other nations and to celebrate the rhythms, stories, and traditions that bring us together. Don't miss this unique weekend of culture, connection, and community!



TOURISM UPDATE

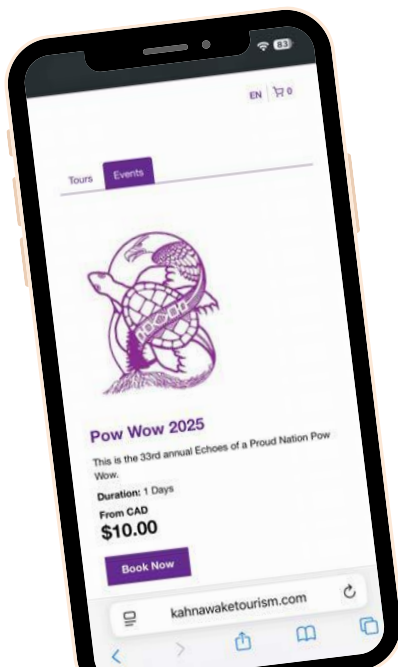
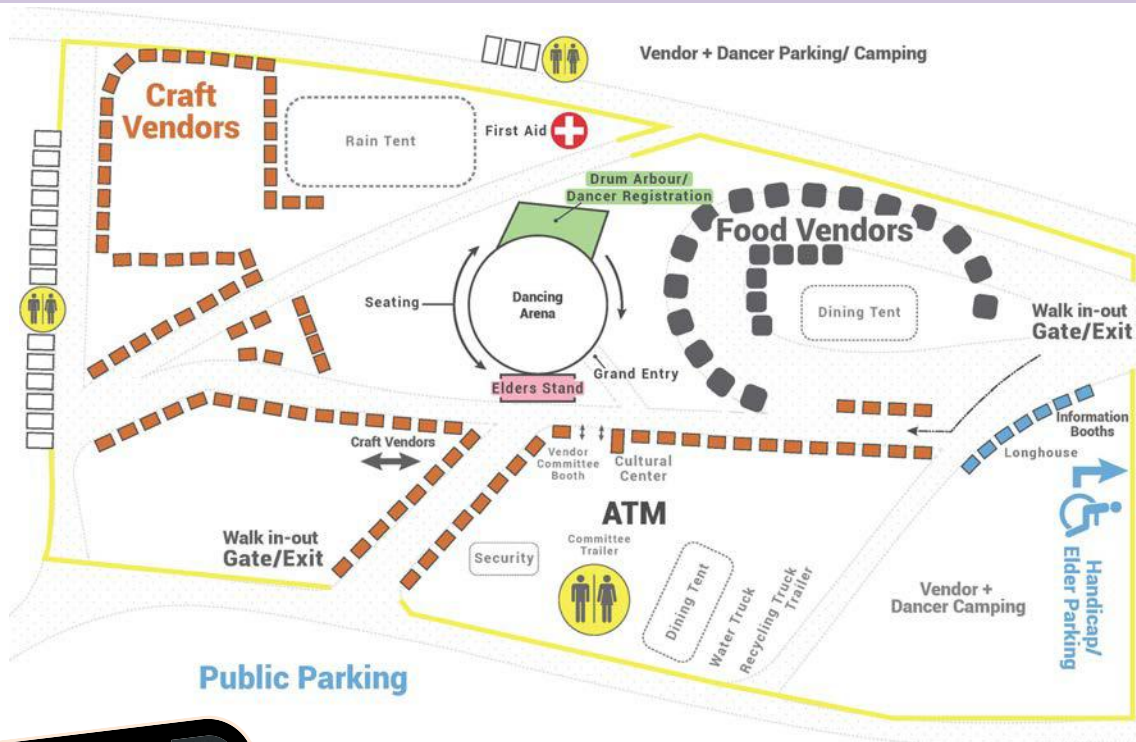
This month, we welcomed 134 guests who signed our visitor book! Most of our visitors came from Canada, but we were pleasantly surprised to see a strong showing from the Netherlands, with the USA coming in as the second most common country of origin. We're always excited to see where our guests are coming from — thank you to everyone who stopped by!



CULTURAL IDENTITY PROJECT PLANNING MEETING

Tourisme Montérégie is currently developing a report to explore the culinary identity of the region, and Kahnawà:ke will be an important part of this initiative. Our team is collaborating on the project and will be reaching out to community members—chefs, foragers, farmers, and other knowledge holders—who understand and represent our local food culture.

If you're interested in sharing your knowledge or participating in an interview, please contact Kimberly or Bronwyn. We'd love to hear from you!



MESSAGE FROM THE POW WOW COMMITTEE

This year, we're making a change to help ease road congestion. Instead of stopping before the bridge, all vehicles will now drive directly onto the island and park. Admission will be paid at new designated locations near the parking areas. The pow wow grounds will be gated, and access will only be granted after admission. Please be patient as we try out this new system—your cooperation is appreciated!

BUY TICKETS ONLINE





July 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Jonkheñ:viné</i> Youth Cultural Leadership Program, Empowering our youth through cultural learning & leadership development - Session 1						
6	Welcome Our New Office Assistant, Iakothahitahkhe Diabo! 7	8	9	10	Pow Wow Social & Smoke Dance Competition at 6 PM 11	Pow Wow gates open at 9 AM. Weekend of culture & dance! 12
Pow Wow gates open at 9 AM. Weekend of culture & dance! 13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<i>Jonkheñ:viné</i> Youth Cultural Leadership Program, Empowering our youth through cultural learning & leadership development - Session 2						
27	28	29	30	31	1	

Tourisme
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Tourism

KAHNAWÀ:KE WELCOME CENTER HOURS

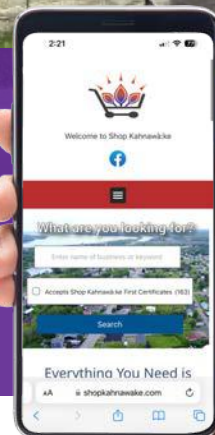
MON	8:30AM - 4:00PM
TUES	8:30AM - 4:00PM
WED	8:30AM - 4:00PM
THU	8:30AM - 4:00PM
FRI	8:30AM - 4:00PM
SAT & SUN	10:00AM - 3:00PM

1 RIVER ROAD, KAHNAWÀ:KE QC, JOL 1B0

SHOP KAHNAWÀ:KE

Shop Kahnawà: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 Kahnawà:ke. Visit the Shop Kahnawà:ke Facebook page and website for more information.

Shopkahnawake.com



BOOK A TOUR WITH US

To experience all that Kahnawà: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.

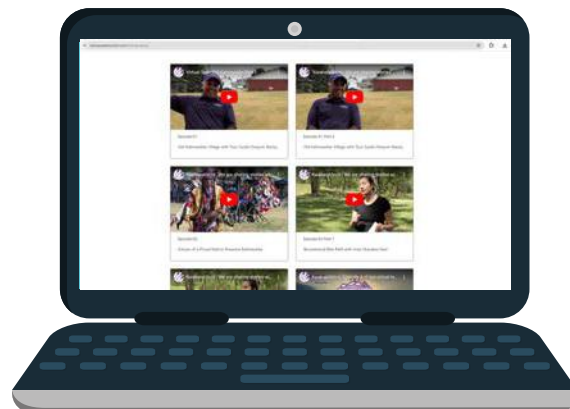


SCAN TO BOOK!



KAHNAWAKETOURISM.COM/BOOK-YOUR-TOUR

CHECK OUT OUR VIRTUAL TOURS ONLINE



KAHNAWAKETOURISM.COM/VIRTUAL-TOURS