



APRIL | VOLUME #39

KAHNAWÀ:KE TOURISM

Moving in at Kanatahkwen:ke | Growing Stronger Through Culture | Strawberry Food Fest | Podcast | RBC: Reconciliation in Action | Screaming Chef Cuisine | Tours | and more!



MOVING IN AT KANATAHKWÈN:KE - A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

April 1 marked a milestone for Kanien'kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitíóhkwa Language and Cultural Center as the community gathered for the soft opening of the Kahnewà:ke Cultural Arts Center—a moment filled with pride, anticipation, and the warmth of shared purpose.

The week leading up to the event was already buzzing with energy as the Ratiwennahní:rats Language and Culture Program and staff settled into their new classrooms. The building, still carrying that “new home” feeling, quickly began to fill with laughter, movement, and the spirit of learning.

The morning opened in a meaningful way with words from Charlie Patton, grounding the space and welcoming the community with intention.

Following this, Executive Director Lisa Phillips offered opening remarks, reflecting on the journey that brought the center to life and the opportunities ahead.

From there, the excitement only grew. Community members explored the stunning new facility—each room offering a glimpse into the programming, creativity, and cultural revitalization that will soon flourish within its walls.

After the tours, guests gathered in the main activity room, enjoying corn soup, fry bread, and strawberry juice while overlooking the outdoor terrace. Even with construction still underway outside, the sense of possibility was unmistakable.





MOVING IN AT KANATAHKWÈN:KE - A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

The momentum continues, Turtle Island Theater is preparing for its move into the space by July, adding even more vibrancy to the center’s growing community.

Keep your eyes open—the Grand Opening is slated for September 2026, and it promises to be a celebration worthy of this incredible achievement.

For updates, announcements, and future events, visit the official Kanatahkwen:ke website.



Save
THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 2026

KANATAHKWÈN:KE
GRAND OPENING

GROWING STRONGER THROUGH CULTURE

Throughout April, the Kanien'kehá:ka Onkwawén:na Raotitíóhkwa Language and Cultural Center hosted Cultural Awareness Month, showcasing some remarkable highlights!

Planting Seeds (and a little friendly competition)

On April 9th, Tourism staff joined Tewatohni'saktha and got their hands dirty—in the best way possible! Surrounded by seed songs and good vibes, the team planted vegetables and launched a spicy challenge:

*** Who will grow the biggest jalapeño plant?**



Singing to the Seeds

April 11th brought a powerful Seed Song Workshop at the Mohawk Trail Longhouse, led by Brooke Rice from Tkà:nios.

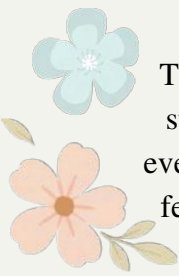
Community members of all levels gathered to sing, learn, and reconnect with the importance of honoring seeds before planting. The result? Full hearts, strong voices, and a deeper connection to tradition.

THE MEDICINE GAME IN MOTION

On April 12th, KSCS hosted an unforgettable lacrosse workshop with Travis Gabriel from Kanesatake.

From powerful teachings about the Medicine Game to hands-on stick making (yes, axes included!), participants experienced the deep connection between the game, the land, and the trees.

The day wrapped up with amazing cornbread, steak and sausages from Rooster Express and even better company. Learning, laughter, and a few new “woodys” to take home—what more could you ask for?





Be on the look out for the annual

Strawberry *Food Fest*

A month long Food Fest to showcase locally produced culinary creations & more at Kahnawà:ke businesses!



For more info or to sign up, contact The Welcome Center (450) 635-2929 or email Carly Gilbert, Events Coordinator, at carly.gilbert@kahnawaketourism.com

New Podcast Episodes



Talking with Screaming Chef Cuisine

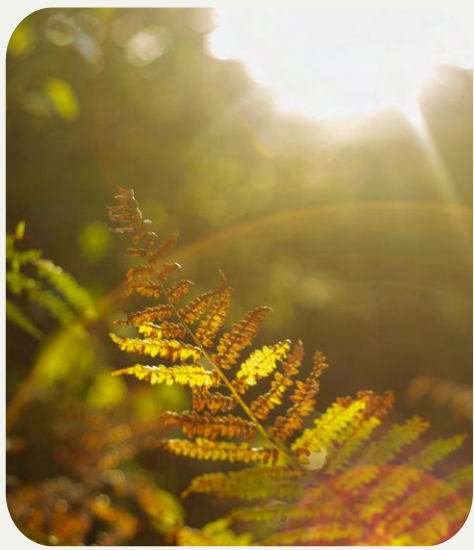
The newest episode of Kwakaratón:ni is out, and it’s a tasty one. Chef Ryland Diome jumps in to share his journey of reconnecting with Indigenous foods — and the stories, surprises, and laughs that came with it.

It’s a fun, energetic chat about the ingredients growing all around us, the way food ties us back to the land and to life, and the unexpected doors that open when we follow our cultural foodways.

If you love good food with good vibes, this episode is definitely on the menu.



[Listen Here](#)



[Coming Soon](#)

Walk This Way: Sharing Stories Beyond the Community

On April 29th, Tourism’s Bronwyn Johns and Singing Wind Deer joined Raphaëlle Ettore for a podcast feature promoting the upcoming documentary “Made to Walk” (in theatres May 8th).

The conversation explored historic walking paths in Parc Nature de l’Île—routes traveled for generations by the original people of the land.

With the Rabbit Dance song welcoming spring, this moment beautifully highlighted how walking connects us—to land, culture, and each other.

So go ahead... take a walk, listen deeply, and follow the stories. The podcast will be available on Spotify, Apple Podcast and Youtube.

BIG TALENT, BIG PRIDE, BIG LAUGHS

The annual Tetewatierónnionwh all Kanien'kéha variety show was, as always, a packed house—and wow, did it deliver!

From the tiniest voices at Iakwahwatsiratátie Language Nest to the Ratiwennahní:rats classes, every performance brought pride, laughter, and celebration of language revitalization.

Bonus highlight? Karihwanoron had a playful shoutout to Kahnawà:ke Tourism in one of the skits—we see you!

Great job KORLCC for another amazing night! We already can't wait for next year.



RBC: RECONCILIATION IN ACTION

On April 21st, we had the honor of celebrating something truly meaningful.

The RBC Foundation contributed \$300,000 to the Kahnawà:ke Cultural Arts Center through their Community Spaces Grant—supporting accessibility and inclusion in a big way.

This investment helps create a more welcoming space for everyone and moves us closer to our vision for the future. Check out the full press release on the Tourism website.

Niawenhkó:wa, RBC!

SCREAMING CHEF X KAHNAWÀ:KE TOURISM: TURNING UP THE HEAT

On April 28th, we teamed up with Screaming Chef Cuisine’s very own Ryland Diome for an exciting collaboration that put cultural foods front and center. Ryland cooked up a five-session workshop called “Kahkwa’ón:we’ Aietewakhón:ni” — Original foods for us to cook — and trust us, it was as inspiring as it was tasty.

Local restaurants sent their chefs to roll up their sleeves, get creative, and craft their very own signature Kanien’kehá:ka dish. The goal? Strengthen our traditional food scene and spark a wave of culinary pride across the community.



The future is looking flavorful. We can’t wait to see how these dishes — and this movement — spread across Turtle Island as more people reconnect with natural foodways, cultural knowledge, and the joy of cooking from the land.

Stay hungry for more!



STROLLING THROUGH STORIES: CULTURAL AWARENESS MONTH TOURS

Mondays in April came with a side of fresh air and awesome stories!

As part of Cultural Awareness Month, we hosted free noon-hour tours led by the wonderful Roxann, who brought Kahnawà:ke’s history and living culture to life with warmth and insight.

A total of 23 curious explorers joined us throughout the month—stepping away from their busy days to connect, learn, and ask questions. Each walk turned into meaningful conversations and moments of shared understanding. Niá:wen to our wonderful your guide Roxann and to everyone who came out!



TOUR TIME: WELCOMING VISITORS, SHARING CULTURE

April kept us busy with three amazing group tours—each one bringing new faces and meaningful exchanges.



Tour 398 – HEC Montréal (30 visitors)

A full experience! From a guided community tour to boutique visits, presentations by MCK Chiefs, and a delicious meal of bison stew and cornbread—this group got the full Kahnawà:ke welcome.

Tour 433 – Council of Canadian Academies (9 visitors)

A thoughtful and engaging tour with guide Dale, sparking great discussions about history, governance, and present-day realities.

Tour 411 – McGill University (20 visitors)

Hosted at the Mohawk Trail Longhouse, this group experienced powerful storytelling and cultural teachings from a knowledge keeper—an experience they won’t soon forget.



Ó-NEN KI' WÁHI

We're sending a big thank you to Valentina as she wraps up her stage with us through Dawson College's CRLT program.

Her energy, curiosity, and willingness to jump right in made her a wonderful part of the team. From events to daily operations, she brought enthusiasm to everything she did.

We wish her all the best—though we wouldn't mind seeing her back again someday!

“AN EXPERIENCE I'LL ALWAYS CARRY”

Valentina shared how her time here helped her grow both professionally and personally—gaining hands-on experience, learning about Kanien'kehá:ka culture, and contributing to events like the Night Market and Maple Food Fest.

One standout moment? Touring the new Cultural Arts Center and seeing firsthand how the community came together to build something so meaningful.

Her journey doesn't end here—and we're proud to have been part of it.



Niawenhkó:wa





CHEERS TO OUR STORYTELLERS

To wrap up the season, our tour guides gathered on March 31st at The Kahnawà:ke Brewing Co. for a well-deserved evening of appreciation.

Good food, lots of laughter, and plenty of storytelling filled the night as we celebrated the incredible people who bring our tours to life.

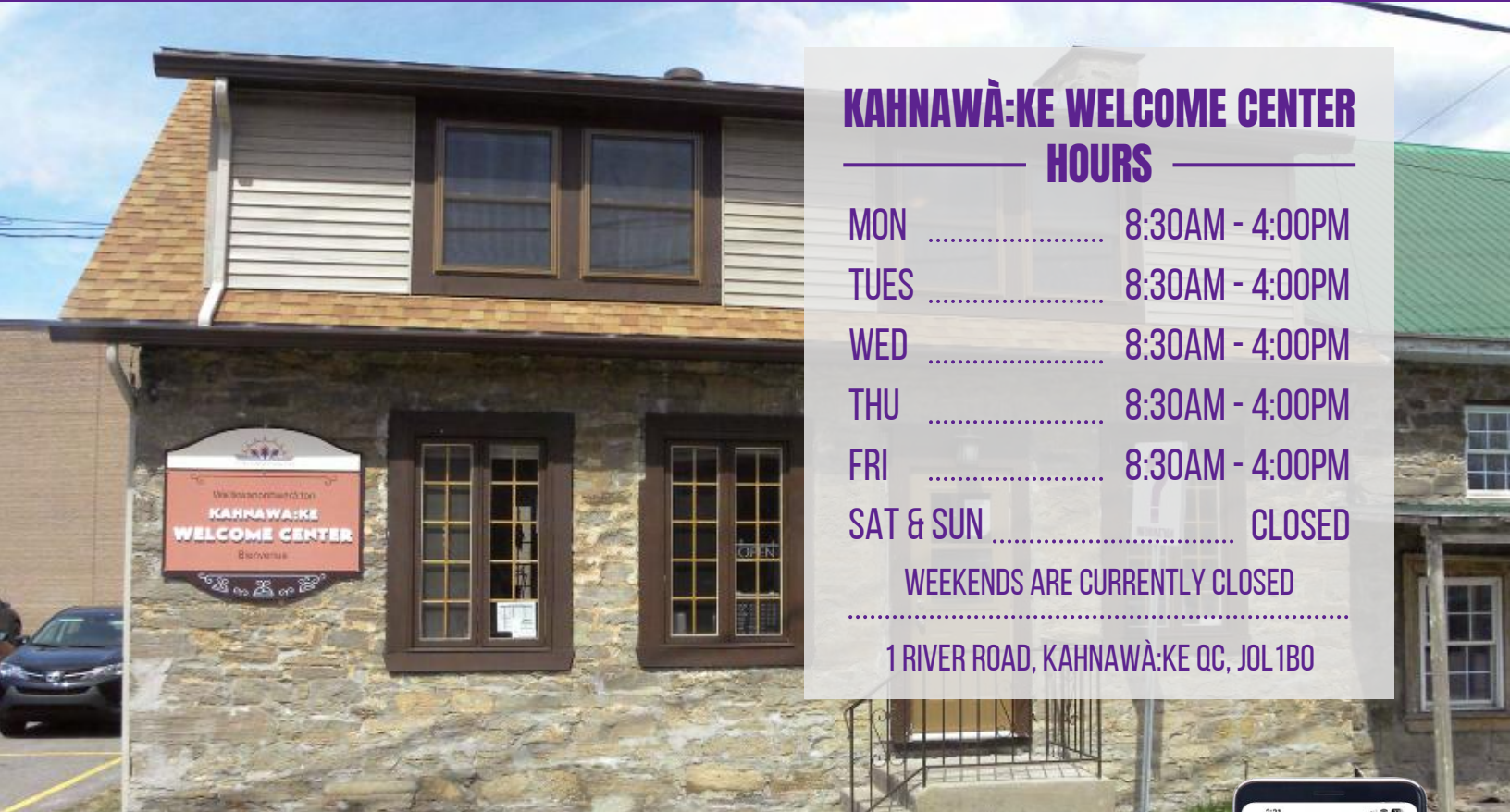
Our guides are the heart of what we do—and this night was all about saying niawenhkó:wa!

Niawenhkó:wa



April reminded us just how powerful it is when a community comes together—through stories, songs, laughter, and shared experiences.

Niá:wen to everyone who made this month so special. Let's keep that energy growing!



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	CLOSED

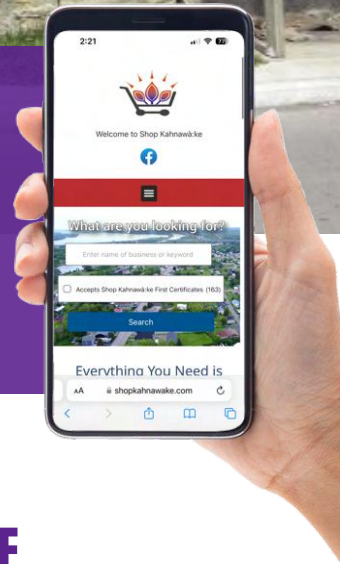
WEEKENDS ARE CURRENTLY CLOSED

1 RIVER ROAD, KAHNAWÀ:KE QC, JOL 1B0

SHOP KAHNAWÀ:KE

Shopkahnowake.com

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



BOOK A TOUR WITH US

To experience all that Kahnowà: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.

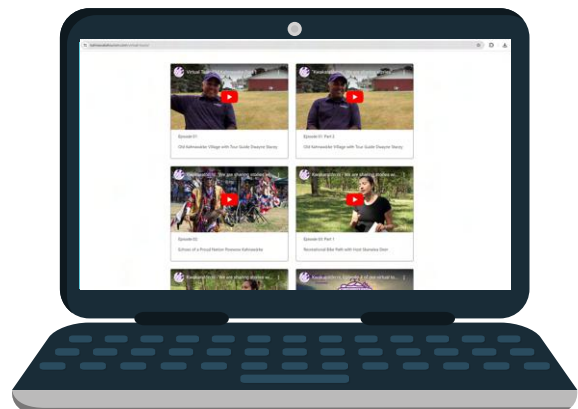


SCAN TO BOOK!



KAHNAWAKETOURISM.COM/BOOK-YOUR-TOUR

CHECK OUT OUR VIRTUAL TOURS ONLINE



KAHNAWAKETOURISM.COM/VIRTUAL-TOURS





1 Rd River, Kahnawà:ke, Quebec JOL 1B0
(450) 635-2929
info@kahnawaketourism.com

kahnawaketourism.com
tewa.ca
shopkahnawake.com



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