



KAHNAWÀ:KE KANIENKEHÁ:KA ONKWANAKERÁHSERA - KAHNAWAKE BRANCH OF THE MOHAWK NATION NE IÀ:IA'K NIHONONHWENTSÁ:KE - SIX NATION IROQUOIS CONFEDERACY

## Haudenosaunee at Kahnawà:ke Outraged with violent Caledonians

## For Immediate Release Mohawk Nation at Kahnawake – Onerahtohkó:wa/May 25, 2006

The Haudenosaunee at Kahnawake offer greetings and thanksgiving. On May 22, 2006, the people of Six Nations agreed to remove the blockade of Argyle Road as a demonstration of good faith and a proactive move towards a peaceful resolution of the 86 day occupation.

However, despite this act of good faith by the people of Six Nations, some citizens of Caledonia had gathered to create their own blockade in order to prevent the passage of Indigenous people. At the same time, once it became clear that the Six Nations' blockade was being dismantled some citizens of Caledonia began to rush towards the reclamation site in order to prevent our people from returning there. Such provocative acts led to a distasteful display of violence.

Similar to the events that had transpired during 1990 at Kahnawake when the Sûreté du Québec stood idly by as their citizens pelted rocks at evacuating Mohawks, the Ontario Provincial Police seemed to have no interest in preventing this escalation of violence from their citizens. They did little to both prevent and defuse the situation leading to a number of injuries.

The Haudenosaunee at Kahnawake are deeply disappointed and troubled by the acts of many Caledonians who had seriously jeopardized an opportunity to resolve this issue peacefully. Such acts are deplorable and should be condemned by all authorities. It becomes clear that the inconvenience of the Argyle Road blockade was no longer the motivation of some Caledonians to protest, and that racial bigotry and hatred proved to be at the very heart of the matter as their violent acts intentionally undermined and destabilized the peace process.

While the blockade is down on Argyle Road, the reclamation occupation is not over. The Haudenosaunee at Kahnawake would like to reiterate our support for the reclamation occupation of our territory and firmly stand by the Chiefs, Clanmothers, Faithkeepers, and People of the Six Nation Iroquois Confederacy at Grand River in their struggle.

For more information, please contact the Mohawk Nation Office; Secretariat for the People of the Longhouse at 450.632.7639.

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