



SNGREC Political Update Dec 15, 2023

Chief's Message

It is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to each member of our community through our Political Updates. As your Chief, I am honored to serve you in the pursuit of a stronger, more connected, and prosperous community.

I'm in the office every day, serving the community by taking care of their needs, responding to requests, and handling office tasks. I am constantly working to make sure things run smoothly between the office and the people we serve as I am committed to fostering an environment where community voices are heard, and concerns addressed.

59th Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council sworn in

The 59th Six Nations of the Grand River Elected council was sworn in during a Special council Meeting on Tuesday November 7.

Newly Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill, along with her new council took the oath to serve Six Nations of the Grand River that night. The newly elected council consists of Alaina VanEvery, Amos Key, Audrey Powless-Bomberry, Carol Lesley Greene, Cynthia Jamieson, Dayle Bomberry, Dean Hill, Gregory Frazer, Hazel Johnson, Kerry Bomberry, Melba Thomas, and Helen Miller.

Among the dignitaries that attended the swearing in was Brantford-Brant MPP Will Bouma.

“Honoured to be invited to the swearing in ceremony of the 59th Council of the Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation,” Bouma said. “Congratulations to newly-elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill. Looking forward to working with you and the council.”

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill attends Chiefs of Ontario Conference

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill attended the Chiefs of Ontario (CoO) Fall Chiefs Assembly in Toronto.



During the three-day event, Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill was there to take in and be part of the conversations. She and the other Chiefs heard from various sector groups of the CoO, who gave updates on the work they are doing. The Minister of Indigenous Services, Patty Hajdu, was also on hand and spoke.

Among the events, there were resolutions that were on the floor to be voted on, as well as an opportunity to hear from the Assembly of First Nations candidates.

To watch went on at the CoO Fall Chiefs Assembly, click the link <https://www.youtube.com/@ChiefsOfOntario/streams>

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill follows up on Six Nations of the Grand River's territorial jurisdiction over the Glebe Lands in Brantford

Last week, Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill, went to the Glebe Lands, this time speaking to CHCH News about the ongoing situation on the parcel of Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) Territory located in Brantford.

It was brought to former Chief Mark Hill's attention that some individuals are occupying these lands without Six Nations authorization. It is something Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill has followed up on. She and Coun. Greg Frazer informed those on the land, to respect the sovereignty and rights of Six Nations of the Grand River.

They were there to see the progress on December 1.

<https://www.chch.com/homeless-people-facing-eviction-as-six-nations-reserve-orders-camp-closure-in-brantford/>

SNGR will be working with the City of Brantford and Mayor Kevin Davis, as well as local law enforcement agencies, to facilitate the monitoring and enforcement of our Territory in this area. Six Nations expects a collaborative effort between Six Nations Police (SNPS) and Brantford Police to bring about a resolution that upholds the integrity of Six Nations jurisdiction.

"As Chief Mark Hill pointed out, the occupying of the Glebe Lands has gone on for quite some time and we want to put a stop to this," Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill said. "We are encouraging a safe and immediate solution and are working in co-operation with the City of Brantford to make this happen."



Members of SNGREC attend AFN National Chief Election and Special Chiefs Assembly

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council (SNGREC) would like to congratulate Cindy Woodhouse for being elected the Assembly of First Nations National Chief. Woodhouse won the election after six rounds of voting, before David Pratt conceded victory.

Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill, as well councillors Dean Hill, Audrey Powless-Bomberry, and Amos Keye were in Ottawa for the AFN National Chief Election.

Prior to the election, during the November 27 SNGREC Political Liaison Meeting, council heard from the candidates up, for National Chief. Dean Sayers, Reginald Bellerose, and Craig Makinaw spoke in-person, while Cindy Woodhouse, Shiela North, and David Pratt joined the meeting virtually.

Beside the National Chief election, the SNGREC contingent took part in Ontario Caucus meetings. Resolutions also hit the floor, which participants got to vote on 14 of the proposed 42.

SNGREC take part in ISC Ontario Regional Gathering

Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill, along with Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council members Cynthia Jamieson, Audrey Powless-Bomberry, Alaina VanEvery, Hazel Johnson, Helen Miler, Greg Frazer, Lesley Greene and Melba Thomas went to the Indigenous Services Canada Ontario Regional Gathering.

This event's theme was "Nation-to-Nation" and updates were provided by various ISC departments, mainly from managers and representatives.

Feedback from First Nations (FN) community representatives echoed familiar challenges, such as jurisdictional conflicts between the Canadian and Ontario governments, stringent funding, chronic underfunding, devolution issues, the need for strategic planning, enforcement challenges, lack of capital funding, barriers related to the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) and Jordan's Principle, and significant gaps in medical transportation.

Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions was on hand to deliver a brief presentation at the gathering. He unfortunately left afterward. Efforts were made to establish further communication by connecting with his staff for an introductory meeting. But as of now, there has been no response from his office.

Materials from various updates can be obtained online if interested at <https://www.sfnson.ca/jointgathering2023.html>

Bill C-53 is getting more attention

Issues with Bill C-53 are gaining increased attention, with the Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) actively engaging in the discourse.

SNGR has submitted feedback to Parliament on behalf of their community, and this input, along with that of numerous other First Nations, can be found on the House of Commons website. Additionally, SNGR has participated in discussions with various politicians regarding the concerns surrounding Bill C-53.

Collaboration with the Iroquois Caucus is underway to address the implications of the bill comprehensively. Notably, there is a noteworthy dynamic in opposition, as some Metis groups have aligned with First Nations against others, with the government supporting Metis Nation Ontario, highlighting the complexity and diversity of perspectives on this matter.

As this topic of discussion goes on, more information will be provided to the community.

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill a review officer for Brantford Navy League Sea, Army, Air Cadets

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill became the Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) Elected Chief to join the Brantford Navy League Sea, Army, Air Cadets on December 8. Chief Hill was a reviewing officer at the event for young cadets.

Chief Hill speaks to the youth about SNGR

Elected Chief Sherri-Lynn Hill accepted an invitation from Frank Panabaker Elementary School in Ancaster by Zoom.

The class was learning about biographies and one student requested to speak with Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill. Chief Hill spoke to the Grade 5 class about the election process.

“They asked some really great questions,” Chief Hill said. “It’s always a joy to encourage children to learn about the community.”

Chief and Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council attend Iroquois Caucus

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill, along with Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council members Lesley Greene, Greg Frazer, Alaina VanEvery, and Melba Thomas recently participated in the Iroquois Caucus meetings held in Ottawa.

The Iroquois Caucus is a significant forum that brings together Indigenous communities, including SNGR, Akwesáhsne, Kahnawà:ke, Kahnésatá:ke, Oneida of the Thames, and

Tyendinaga. The meetings serve as a platform for these communities to address shared challenges, exchange knowledge, and discuss best practices.

During the sessions, various pressing issues were deliberated upon, with a focus on the importance of developing independent revenue streams for Indigenous communities. This reflects a broader conversation about the need for self-sufficiency and autonomy. The discussions also covered common needs and concerns faced by these communities.

The next Iroquois Caucus meeting is in February.

Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill meets with Mayor of Brantford

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill recently met with Brantford Mayor Ken Davis.

During the introductory meeting, Chief Hill spoke about some of the important and pressing issues that Six Nations of the Grand River has in relation to its neighbours in Brantford. The meeting has also opened potential opportunities to begin trilateral talks between SNGR, Brantford and Brant County.