



Education Services Agreement

Ahkwasahsne Mohawk Board of Education
and the

Upper Canada District School Board

Canada: word origin is from the Iroquois /
Mohawk word *kana:ta*,
meaning literally “village”



Numbered Treaties

- ▶ Treaties 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 "to maintain schools" on those reserves where the Bands desire them.
- ▶ In Treaty 7, the obligation is to provide and pay for teachers to instruct Indian children once they are settled on reserves.
- ▶ In Treaty 8, the obligation is to provide and pay for teachers as Her Majesty's Government of Canada considers "advisable".
- ▶ In Treaty 9, the obligation is to pay for teachers and provide school buildings and educational equipment as government "as may seem advisable" to government.
- ▶ In Treaty 10, provision will be made as "deemed advisable" by government "for the education of Indian children".



Treaties in Ontario

- ▶ Treaty 3 (1873)
- ▶ Treaty 9 (1905/06 & 1929/30)
- ▶ Robinson-Huron Treaty (1850 & 1854)
- ▶ the Williams Treaties (1923)
- ▶ Upper Canada Land Surrenders (1764 – 1852)



Residential School History

- ▶ **1857** - Gradual Civilization Act passed to assimilate Indians.
- ▶ **1870-1910** - Period of assimilation where the clear objective of both missionaries and government was to assimilate Aboriginal children into the lower fringes of mainstream society
- ▶ **1920** - Compulsory attendance for all children ages 7-15 years. Children were forcibly taken from their families by priests, Indian agents and police officers.
- ▶ **1931** - There were 80 residential schools operating in Canada.
- ▶ **1948** – There were 72 residential schools with 9,368 students.
- ▶ **1979** – There were 12 residential schools with 1,899 students.
- ▶ **1980's** - Residential School students began disclosing sexual and other forms of abuse at residential schools.
- ▶ **1996** - The last federally run residential school, the Gordon Residential School, closes in Saskatchewan.

18 Residential Schools in Ontario. The last one, in Fort Frances, closed in 1974.





Garnier Residential School Spanish,
ON. Closed 1962



The Mohawk Institute, Brantford, ON.
Closed 1969



Convents:
St. Andrews West, ON.
Cornwall, ON.
Montreal, QC.

Indian Act - Education

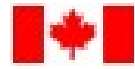
Section 114 (1)

- ▶ The Governor in Council may authorize the Minister, in accordance with this Act, to enter into agreements on behalf of Her Majesty for the education in accordance with this Act of Indian children, with (a) the government of a province;
- (b) the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory;
- (c) the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories;
- (d) a public or separate school board; and
- (e) a religious or charitable organization.

Section 114 (2)

- ▶ The Minister may, in accordance with this Act, establish, operate and maintain schools for Indian children.





Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

- The federal government is responsible for the education of all status, First Nations children who reside on a recognized reserve, through the appointed federal minister (Hon. John Duncan).
- Canada is the only nation in the world that has a separate education system based on two factors:
 1. race (*First Nation*)
 2. residency (*on reserve*)



Section 188 (5)

Regulation 462/97: Native Representation on Boards

Criteria:

- ▶ Tuition Agreement in place
- ▶ First Nation enrolment

This refers to First Nation students who attend provincial schools and reside on a federally recognized reserve.

First Nations students who reside off reserve and attend a public school are considered a provincial responsibility.



Education Services Agreement

- ▶ When First Nation students who reside in a First Nation community attend publicly-funded schools, a formal agreement must be developed between the First Nation and the Board.
- ▶ Over 6,000 First Nations students are enrolled in schools in more than 50 of Ontario's district school boards through negotiated education services (tuition) agreements.





Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education

- **Created in 1985 under MCR 1985/86-355**

To accept the By-laws and Rules of Order for the Akwesasne School Board and that effective immediately, the Tri-School Steering Committee will be known as the Akwesasne School Board with all the corresponding rights and responsibilities.

- MCR 1985/86-762

To accept the Management System Local Control of Education for the role of the Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Department responsibilities.

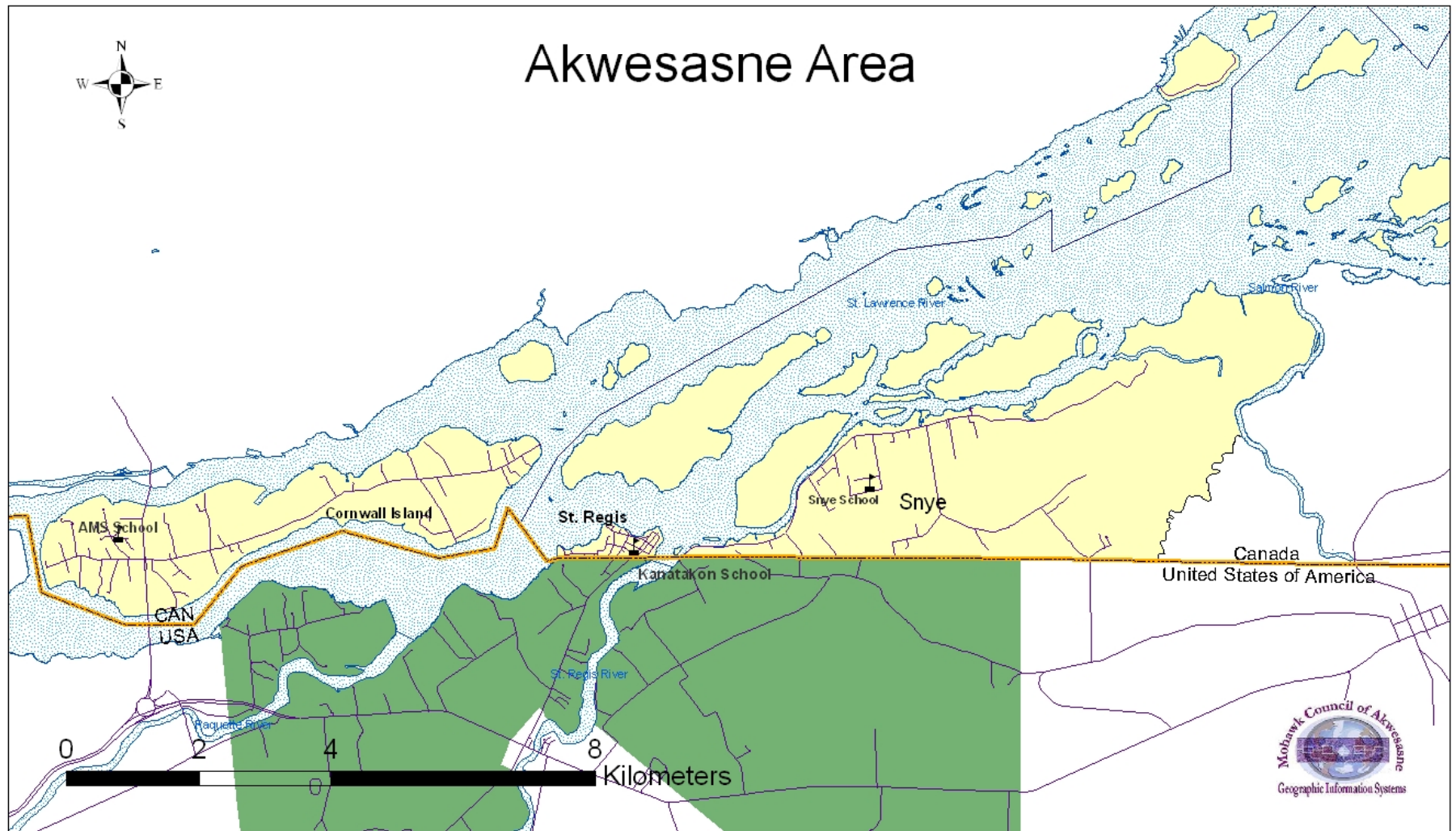
- MCR 1997/98 – 78

. . . . And whereas Council wishes to formally accept the Policy Handbook and re-confirm its support for the Akwesasne Mohawk Board of Education's continued control and management of education programs for Akwesasne;

- Assumed full operation as a school board in 1987

- 9 elected Board Trustees on a 3 year staggered term system, 3 members from each district, following MCA nomination, eligibility, and voting regulations





UCDSB & AMBE Agreement

- ▶ **AND WHEREAS** the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, in a Mohawk Council Resolution approved December 17, 1985, charged the Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education with the responsibility of providing educational services for those students under its jurisdiction.
 - ▶
 - ▶ **AND WHEREAS** pursuant to ss 188(1)(b) of the ***Education Act*** , (1991), R.S.O. 1990, c.E.2, as amended, the Board may enter into an Agreement with AMBE for the provision of accommodation, instruction and special services for Ahkwesahsne Pupils.
 - ▶
 - ▶ **AND WHEREAS** pursuant to the provisions made for implementation of the ***Indian Control of Indian Education*** and AMBE's assumption of jurisdiction for education previously administered by the Minister under the ***Indian Act*** , R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 - 5, the AMBE may enter into an Agreement with the Board.
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ELIGIBILITY FOR ENROLMENT

- ▶ The Board agrees to accept Pupils subject to this Agreement for enrolment in its schools in such number which the Board determines it can properly accommodate for instruction within its facilities.
- ▶ The Board and AMBE agree that Cornwall Collegiate VS (CCVS) will serve as the entry point for students covered under this Agreement.



UNDERTAKINGS



The Board shall provide for Pupils covered by this Agreement:

- the Program of Studies of the Province of Ontario;
- ▶ - the secondary school curriculum prescribed by the Province of Ontario;
- parity to access and opportunity to AMBE students . . .
- equal opportunity for AMBE after school use of school facilities in accordance with existing Board policies;



UNDERTAKINGS (cont.)



- ▶ The Board will recognize and respect the cultural customs and practices (i.e. wearing of traditional outfits at graduation ceremonies; standing for the national anthem, etc.), spiritual beliefs and observances (cycle of traditional ceremonies in the Longhouse, Jake Fire Day, National Aboriginal Day), of AMBE students and that students may not attend school and that these absences will not be deemed as “unexcused.”
- ▶ The Board and the AMBE will agree to nurture mutual respect and enhance understanding and appreciation of the customs inherent in their cultures.



UNDERTAKINGS (cont.)

- ▶ the Board agrees to the continuance of the AMBE representation on advisory committees;
- ▶ the Board will continue to involve and encourage the participation of parents of Pupils in the education of their children by utilizing the diverse media available in the Territory of Akwesasne;
- ▶ the Board agrees to hold parent-teacher interviews for Pupils at least once per school year on the Territory of Akwesasne;
- ▶ The Board, through its Transportation Coordinator, agrees to cooperate and coordinate with the AMBE Transportation Supervisor in an effort to ensure the safety and physical well being of all students during inclement weather and hazardous road conditions.



UNDERTAKINGS (cont.)

- ▶ The Board agrees to provide equal opportunity for applicants of Native Ancestry to apply for positions when the Board is recruiting or hiring teachers and principals or vice principals when qualifications are judged to be equivalent to other applicants by the Board's selection teams. Notification of principal placement will be reviewed with the AMBE Director of Education when appointments are made to schools where there are a significant number of pupils covered by this agreement.



UNDERTAKINGS (cont.)



- ▶ the Board agrees to the continuing implementation of Mohawk as a Second language programs and credit courses in its schools utilizing the same criteria contained in the current Ministry of Education Guidelines and Policies for making such programs available to resident pupils of the Board;
- ▶ the Board agrees to grant leave, where feasible, for representative members of its staff to attend recognized professional presentations, courses or conferences on Mohawk culture or AMBE initiatives as part of the on-going planned professional development activities of the Board; and
- ▶ the Board shall develop and implement, with the advice and assistance of the AMBE, in-service training for teachers to better prepare them to meet the educational needs of Pupils covered by this Agreement and to provide an opportunity to enhance staff awareness of Mohawk culture and heritage.



Access to Student Information and Data

- ▶ Nominal Roll Student Census
- ▶ Graduation Rates
- ▶ EQAO Results
- ▶ Attendance Records, Student Progress Reports, Disciplinary Action Reports, and any additional reports of pupils will be accessible to the AMBE secondary student services coordinator
- ▶ Program Reports related to Special Services and periodic information on High Cost Programs, which shall include I.P.R.C recommendations for exceptional students



Relationship Building : Annual Meeting

- ▶ The Board agrees to an annual, informal meeting conducted on or before the anniversary date of this Agreement between the AMBE and the Board.

Supplementary meetings will be held at such times as may be requested by either party to this Agreement for the purpose of reviewing adherence by the parties to the terms and conditions contained herein.



APPENDIX “1” *REPRESENTATION*

- ▶ The Board and the AMBE agree, pertaining to subsection 188(5)(a) of the ***Education Act***, R.S.O. 1980, c. 129 as amended, that said subsections shall be viewed as the minimum requirement for the appointment of Akwesasne Community members to the Board.

- ▶ Peter Garrow – 2nd term



APPENDIX “2”

SPECIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

AMBE STAFF SERVICES

- ▶ The Board acknowledges the additional student services provided by the AMBE. The AMBE will employ a Student Services Coordinator, 2 full time Native Student Advisors, and 1 full time Resource Teacher.
- ▶ The Board will employ one full time Psychological Associate to work in AMBE schools, with salary/payments and benefits reimbursable by AMBE according to services used.

