

Re-elect CHIEF R. DONALD MARACLE



Dear Friends,

I wish to thank my nominators, Ronald Leslie Brant, Margaret Brant, Joy Brant, and Barbara Howard. I thank my staff for their dedication, hard work, and support over the past two and half decades. I also extend many thanks to so many community members for your prayers and support during the recent passing of my three siblings and for your prayers and expressions of concern in my brother's recent illness and surgery.

At election time, it is important for those holding public office to report on their accomplishments and identify their priorities for the future. I have served on council for 26 years as Chief and 12 years as Councillor. During that time, I have been a strong advocate for increased funding and we have realised much progress in the expansion of our land base, reconstruction of our roads, installation of water, sewer and natural gas lines, construction of new buildings for police, health, administration, and housing, development of recreation space, the provision of opportunities in post-secondary education for our youth, preservation of our heritage sites, revenue generation, and in the implementation of many new programs and services that have provided jobs, social support, and prosperity for our people. I have also served on many local and regional boards dedicated to social development, including on the AFN Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure, as co-chair of the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Long Term Care, as the Chair of the Christ Church Restoration Committee, on the FNTI Board of Directors, and on the Kanyengeh Festival Board.

The following is a partial list of specific projects that I have lobbied for in the past and during this term with many thanks to our funding partners and hardworking staff:

Water Lines Federal Funding

- \$5.5 Million for Bayshore Road, Church Lane, and HWY 2 water and sewer infrastructure - completed
- \$26.7 Million for the construction of an MBQ water treatment plant – completed
- \$857 000 for the Deseronto Water Optimization Project for 600 units of more capacity – completed
- \$2.4 Million for additional sewage capacity - completed
- MBQ a priority on ISC's End Boil Water Advisories list
- \$14.5 Million for water line from Meadow Drive to Shannonville, making available 128 new connections
- (including \$8.2 Million for Phase III Shannonville, Airport Road, and Johnsons Lane waterline and water tower construction)
- \$845 000 for waterline to the community centre - completed
- \$8.1 Million for waterline from Milltown to Industrial Park
- \$30 Million from Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (only MBQ and one other community in Canada were approved for waterline projects as part of this fund for climate change impacts)

Roads

- \$5 Million for the rehabilitation of York Road (\$3.7 Million from Infrastructure Canada, \$916 000 from Ontario, and \$333 000 from MBQ) awaiting federal approval from Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna

Natural Gas Lines

\$1 Million from Union Gas to install natural gas lines along Bayshore Road, York Road, and Meadow Drive

\$6.9 Million Skyway Bridge Rehabilitation Community Impact Benefit Agreement with MTO

- \$1.8 Million Hangar upgrades
- \$300 000 lease agreement with MTO
- \$1.2 Million for Airport Road reconstruction
- \$128 000 for demolition of the former band office
- \$500 000 employment program over five years
- \$400 000 for MBQ administration

\$1.25 Million from Indigenous Services Canada for MBQ Housing

Including \$148 000 for a generator for the Elder's Lodge, a new fourplex, 19 new steel roofs on MBQ housing rentals, new cabinetry, new hot water tanks, natural gas hookups, plumbing and electrical upgrades, and repairs in general

In addition:

- \$807, 764 for Turton Penn Land Remediation
- Partnered with Ernestown wind project and Blue Earth solar project in Loyalist, resulting in an ongoing revenue stream that has already generated \$978 000 for MBQ
- Member of the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Energy and Hydro Rates successfully lobbied for elimination of delivery charge for on-reserve accounts
- New medical building and funding for a doctor
- \$750 000 Via Rail CN goodwill agreement for Airport Road project, post-secondary funding and the library
- \$1.4 Million for restoration of ramp, steps, and driveway of Royal Chapel to ensure accessibility
- Lobbied to get 110 additional police in First Nations communities, including one more in Tyendinaga

At all times I have enjoyed the opportunity to promote our community in a positive way. I am honoured to be nominated to serve as your Chief and I ask for your continued support as I work on a variety of issues and projects, including:

\$29.2 Million MBQ Long Term Care Facility

MBQ is eligible for \$12.5 Million construction subsidy for 128 beds from the MOHLTC. CMHC and FedDev are giving favourable recommendations for an additional \$11 Million, ISC for \$3 Million, and several other corporate and charitable sponsors are interested in contributing. The project will cost \$29.2 Million to build and furnish and will create 175 jobs. MBQ has land serviced with gas, water, and sewer that may be made available and 3 phase power all ready.

Lake Ontario Water Levels and the International Joint Commission

Water levels in Lake Ontario are being maintained by the International Joint Commission at levels that are too high, causing recurring floods and soil erosion on the Lake and on the Bay of Quinte. This is a major concern for our region. In partnership with neighbouring communities, Council will need to put pressure on the federal and provincial governments of QC and ON to have the IJC lower Lake Ontario levels to prevent catastrophic flooding in the Spring of 2020.

Poverty Reduction Strategy and Affordable Housing

I intend to continue my efforts to lobby for a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy on and off reserve. The chronic shortage of affordable housing in our communities is a huge issue for First Nations people. I intend to continue to serve on the AFN Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure to pressure the federal government to provide more funding for affordable housing, infrastructure, and to ensure ISC Ontario Region gets its fair share of funding.

MBQ Service Centre along HWY 401

I intend to pursue the development of an MBQ service centre on Highway 401. Funding opportunities and partnerships with neighbouring communities will be explored. Project will provide additional revenue for MBQ and employment.

In addition:

- Imminent settlement of Culbertson Tract
- Actively pursue settlements for more of our land claims
- Promotion and revitalization of Mohawk culture
- More sources of post-secondary education funding
- Fight to get carbon tax off energy accounts
- Pursue funding for a court system, bylaw enforcement officers, and \$1.1 million in funding to expand our police service by 6 officers to a total of 14 and work with a consultant to undertake a careful needs and financial risk assessment for our police service
- New fire hall
- Continue lobbying efforts for additional ISC allocation to address critical First Nations needs
- Continue negotiation of goodwill agreements
- Pursue economic development that generates additional revenue for MBQ and employment for people
- Explore possibility of expanding our agricultural operations, including apple orchards and other agricultural initiatives
- MBQ Community Bingo Hall
- Promote tourism
- Develop laws regarding residency, business
- Continue lobbying for more money for MBQ administration to ensure comparable wages and benefits to other local employers in order to retain staff
- Construction of a homeless shelter by MBQ or in partnership with neighbouring communities

For continued dedicated, knowledgeable, results-oriented leadership, I request your support on December 7th for the position of Chief. Sincerely,

R. Donald Maracle