Background
The Native territory of Akwesasne is located on the St. Lawrence River bordering St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties and the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The roughly 8,000 Mohawk people are governed by at least three different government entities; the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council, recognized by New York State and the U.S. Federal Governments, The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, recognized by the provincial and federal jurisdictions in Canada, and the traditionalist Mohawk Nation Council, which has no standing with the outside governments. The Mohawk people are part of the Iroquois confederacy, which includes five other native groups scattered around New York and other states. For centuries, the Mohawks made their living off the land and in the waters surrounding their territory, but within the last 60 years, the presence of several industrial plants and a gradual waning of traditional hunting, fishing and farming activities have caused environmental harm to the territory and had negative health effects on its people. Today, legalized casino gambling has led to a degree of increased prosperity on the Mohawk reservation, though the territory faces many of the challenges other native groups face, including high unemployment, substance abuse and other ills.

Scope and Content
This collection contains information about the contemporary issues of the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory. There are a variety of pamphlets, informational packets, articles, newsletters, newspapers and handouts all with information that pertains to the Mohawk reservation. The issues these resources cover span from environmental initiatives to public school education to the annual powwow.

Provenance
The collection was donated by retiring St. Lawrence University Anthropology and African studies professor Celia Nyamweru. Dr. Nyamweru has taught courses on Social and Environmental issues facing Native people which included student involvement in government offices, schools and organizations at Akwesasne.

Box   Folder
1   1 Crossing and Border Issues
    Article “Province wants local customs port kept on Canadian soil,” May 6th, 2013
    Folder created by Dr. Nyamweru on border crossing issues
2   Environmental Issues
    Superfund Basic Research Program Review, summer 1998
    Folder created by Dr. Nyamweru on environmental issues on Akwesasne
    Folder created by Dr. Nyamweru containing environmental materials pertaining to Akwesasne
    Informational packet “Akwesasne Environmental Programs: Protecting Our Natural World”
Environmental Issues Continued

Article “Mohawk Casino Groundwater Contamination Background Information,”
February 5th, 1999

Handout “Working to Heal Mother Earth: General Motors Superfund Site”

Article “Superfund Clean-up at Akwesasne: A Case Study in Environmental Justice,”
presented by the Akwesasne Task Force on the Environmental Research Advisory Committee

EPA Article “Grasse River Superfund Site Cleanup Decision Announced”

Informational packet “Background information on Environmental Contamination at Akwesasne,” compiled by the Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment

4 Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment

Pamphlet about the May 2003 conference
Conference program, May 2003
Informational packet for a community gathering to propose Grasse River cleanup
Informational packet about the Task Force’s environmental initiatives and results

5 Trees of Akwesasne

“Handbook for Black Ash: Preservation, Reforestation, Regeneration,” distributed by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Department of the Environment
“Trees of Akwesasne,” distributed by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Department of the Environment

Box Folder

2 1 MCA, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Newsletters
MCA Today, November 2009
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 1 Issue 2, November 2011
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 1 Issue 3, December 2011

2 MCA, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Newsletters Continued
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 2 Issue 1, January 2012
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 2 Issue 2, February 2012
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 2 Issue 4, April 2012
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 2 Issue 6, June 2012

3 MCA, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Newsletters Continued
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 2 Issue 9, September 2012
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 2 Issue 11, November 2012
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 3 Issue 8, August 2013
“Onkwe’ta:ke,” Volume 3 Issue 9, September 2013

4 8th Annual North America Fur Conference hosted by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs
Informational folder about the “Aboriginal People in the Fur Trade at the 8th Annual North American Fur Trade Conference
The “Proceedings of the 8th Annual North American Fur Trade Conference

5 SRMT, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Newsletter
“SRMT Kawenn:ios,” August 2009
“SRMT Kawenn:ios,” September 2009
“SRMT Kawenn:ios,” September 2010

6 SRMT, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Newsletter Continued
“SRMT Kawenn:ios,” February 2011
Box Folder
3 1 Akwesasne Education
Pamphlet about the Johnson O’Malley Program
Pamphlet about the Akwesasne Freedom School
Informational packet about “Counselling and Education for Akwesasne: A Multicultural Perspective”
Informational packet about “First Nation Artists in the Classroom”

2 Public Environmental Education
Pamphlet on the Brownfields Program at Akwesasne
Pamphlet “Open Dumping, Not the Solution” from the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
Pamphlet “St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Recycling Guide PAYT Program”
Pamphlet “St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Solid Waste Management Program”
Pamphlet “Household Hazardous Waste Information Sheet” from the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
Pamphlet “Preventing Home Heating Oil Spills” from the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
Pamphlet “Does Burning Your Trash Make it Disappear?” from the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
Pamphlet “Customer Guide to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe’s Solid Waste Transfer Station”
Pamphlet “Environmental Impacts of Everyday Household Items”
Pamphlet “First Environmental Research Projects”
Flyer “Announcing the Akwesasne Earth day Celebration and Native Plants Workshop,” April 24th, 2010
Pamphlet “What the Frack? Hydraulic fracturing and the Environment”

3 Akwesasne Mohawk Casino
Flyer advertising the Casino, includes a small map
Informational packet “How Gaming Benefits our Community”

4 Domestic Violence Prevention
Pamphlet “Honoring our Community, Embracing Our Beliefs”
Pamphlet “Three Sisters Program: Always Here to Protect, Empower and Guide our Sacred Families”
Pamphlet “Men Honoring Women: Three Sisters Program”
Pamphlet “Women are Sacred: Three Sisters Program”

5 Cultural Centers and Events
Flyer “Thompson Island: Cultural Camp”
Pamphlet “Thompson Island: A Youth and Elders Camp”
Pamphlet “Akwesasne Cultural Center: Library and Museum”
Flyer “Akwesasne Museum”
Pamphlet “We are from Akwesasne: A Traveling Exhibit Co-Curated by Youth from Akwesasne”
Large Pamphlet “Akwesasne Cultural Center; Library and Museum,” extensive information
Article “Profile: The Akwesasne Museum”
Pamphlet “Akwesasne Bookstore”
Informational packet “Native North American Traveling College: Publications Catalogue”

6 Akwesasne International Powwows
Postcard from the 11th Annual Akwesasne International Powwow

7 Articles on Akwesasne Culture and History
Article “Community Mobilization and Leadership development on the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Mohawk Reservation”
Folder created by Dr. Nyamweru containing articles on Akwesasne culture and history

8 Akwesasne Publications Regarding Culture
Handout about “Kaswentha, The Two Row Wampum Treaty Belt”
Handout about “The Origin of the River Song”
Folder created by Dr. Nyamweru regarding commerce and trade on Akwesasne

9 Business Directories
Akwesasne 2009 Business Directory
Akwesasne 2010 Business Directory
Akwesasne 2013 Business Directory

10 Directories
2010-2012 Mohawk Nation Telephone Directory
Akwesasne Area Business and Visitor Information Directory, Winter 2010

11 Maps
Akwesasne Area Map, spring 2012
Akwesasne Historical Map, 2010-2011
Akwesasne Map, 2009-2010
Map of Akwesasne and the surrounding area
St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Facilities Map
Map of the Area Industries of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

4 Indian Times
“The Haudenosaunee,” Supplement to the Indian Time, Spring 2004
“Indian Time” Volume 28 #11, March 18th, 2010
“Indian Time” Volume 31 #45, November 14th, 2013
“Indian Time” Volume 31 #46, November 21st, 2013
“Indian Time” Volume 31 #48, December 5th, 2013
“Indian Time” Volume 31 #49, December 12th, 2013

Box 8
Other Newspapers
“Akwesasne: A Special People in a Special Place,” December 13th, 2006
“Akwesasne: A Special People in a Special Place,” June 25th, 2007
“Akwesasne: A Special People in a Special Place,” February 28th, 2008
“Akwesasne: A Special People in a Special Place,” Summer 2008
“Akwesasne: A Special People in a Special Place,” Fall & Winter 2008
“Akwesasne: A Special People in a Special Place,” September 2009
“Akwesasne Notes: A Journal of Native and Natural People,” Spring 1995
“Akwesasne Notes: A Journal of Native and Natural People,” Spring 1997