St. Lawrence Environment Trustee Council

Restoration Projects - 2006

Thompson Island Youth Camp

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has established 70 acres on Thompson Island for the development of a youth camp. Young people will learn about traditional teachings, environmental education, outdoor survival and healthy lifestyle practices. Interim restoration funds were used to build a kitchen facility with root cellar and cold storage, canoes and canoe trailer, life jackets and a generator. Campers this past year included local students, as well as students from Ottawa's "Urban Aboriginal Alternative High School" and the "Audubon Expedition Institute."

Akwesasne Freedom School

The Akwesasne Freedom School has been educating elementary students at Akwesasne for almost 30 years, immersing them in the Mohawk language and culture. Interim restoration funds have been used to host a community gathering to celebrate the school and its founders and to develop language resources for students and parents. With the remainder of funding from the Interim restoration, the Freedom School intends to continue strengthening their language revitalization among their students. In addition, they anticipate pursuing more funding sources to relocate the school and expand it for the benefit of the community.

St. Lawrence Environment Natural Resource Damage Assessment

The St. Lawrence Trustee Council, in conjunction with ALCOA and General Motors are working to restore natural resources injured as a result of chemical releases into the St. Lawrence Environment. Described above are the two interim restoration projects initiated in 2006.

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