

SIX NATIONS COUNCIL MEETING - Cont'd.....

Mr. Keith Lickers, Director, Mohawk Institute, Woodland Indian Cultural Education Centre attended Council by invitation to answer questions regarding the microfilming of Council records, minutes and documents and Chiefswood books and records.

Mr. Lickers told Council that the main reason for the request to microfilm is preservation. He said he had spoken to Mr. Borton, Indian Superintendent, Mr. Hugh Smith and others who told him that the records were deteriorating. If the records were microfilmed, they would be available for research when needed. He told Council that none of the material would be public. It would be kept in the library which will not be a public library.

Council was informed that band council minutes and records of all bands belonging to the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, would be microfilmed since they are the sponsoring group to obtain money for the Cultural Centre. Mrs. Lillian Montour has been hired to do the microfilming. She has taken a course at Mohawk College and feels confident that she can operate the microfilming camera. Mr. Lickers said that they are now in the process of purchasing a portable camera to take from one reserve to the next. They also have a microfilm reader and a machine to reproduce from the microfilm. He told Council that they would like to start with Six Nations reserve and finish each reserve in chronological order.

Councillor Nina Burnham told Council that they have had letters from the Curators of Chiefswood requesting that the books, records, and documents be microfilmed as some of the books have disappeared.

Council decided to grant permission for microfilming but no one would be allowed to use the microfilm without the consent of Council. Also that during transportation the records would be under lock and key and Mr. Lickers would be solely responsible.

Chiefswood records and document will not be microfilmed until they are catalogued.

Councillor Leonard Staats raised the question of an all-Indian police force on the reserve since Chief Councillor Isaac had expressed his opposition to the idea. Chief Isaac told Council that he was not aware that this project was being instituted until he heard it on the radio after it was released by the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians.

Mr. Keith Lickers told Council that the AIAI had made the statement to the press early in the week and later on Chief Isaac made a contradicting statement, and that in future, to avoid making the AIAI look foolish on such important matters, the decision should be discussed with Council; that they should be working together. He said any future releases from the AIAI will be the opinions of the AIAI and band councils. Mr. Lickers also told Council that he does not agree with Chief Isaac that the Ontario Provincial Police give adequate protection on our reserve.

Chief Isaac told Council that he is opposed to having an all-Indian police force on the reserve because it will make more work for Council and that if we keep taking on projects, we will soon be on our own. He said that we have a big reserve and it will involve great expense to acquire