

Mohawk language back *Jan 12* on track by school board

The public school board will try again to bring a Mohawk language program to Brantford Collegiate Institute.

Trustees at a committee meeting Monday agreed to establish a committee to develop the program and to help find a qualified instructor for the course that would be offered at the Grade 9 level in September.

The idea for the committee came from Trustee Alton Van Every, who said people on the Six Nations Reserve are waiting for the Brant County Board of Education to establish a Mohawk language course.

"The people of the Six Nations have strong historical ties to Brantford and this is where I'd like to see our students

come," Mr. Van Every said. "It would be a small step for education but a great leap for the Mohawk language."

Mr. Van Every is appointed to the Brant board by the Six Nations band council.

The people of his community have been wondering when the board, which has about 175 native students, would offer a Mohawk language course.

Noting that interest for such a program is high, he said that if the students can't get the program they will go to other places for the instruction.

Mr. Van Every told trustees that it is essential that the board use the resources available from the Six Nations to help establish the course.

The committee would include representatives from several organizations on the Six Nations as well as two board trustees.