

# Olympic torch becoming a hot item

By Jim Windle  
OHSWEKEN

If the wishes of the majority of people who attended last week's community meeting are honoured by Band Council, there will be no Olympic torch run through Six Nations of the Grand River Territory in advance of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games to be held in British Columbia next winter.

Representative members from the four Nations whose unceded land the games are to be held on

stopped into Six Nations for the community meeting to discuss the games and Six Nations' part in the traditional Olympic torch run.

It was very informative as both sides of the contentious issue had a chance to present, from their vantage points, the pros and the cons of accepting the invitation to allow the torch to be run through this territory.

Tewanee Joseph, of the Squamish Nation, and CEO of the Four Host First Nations Committee, told the estimated 60 people

on hand that, despite what is being said in the east, the four Nations directly involved with the 2010 Olympic planning have the popular support of the people.

"You are right," he said. "It is taking place on our unceded land, but that will not push aside our land claims. In fact, since the announcement that the games will be here, a large land settlement has given back a huge piece of one of our Nations' traditional territories. We were here before these

Continued on page 2