



Chief Chris Plain provided opening remarks, he mentioned that the location of the greenhouse is central place where everyone gathers. It's a positive outcome for our community.

Maajiigin Gumig

"place where plants start to grow"

Greenhouse Grand Opening

September 16, 2015



Ribbon Cutting

With Chief and Council, Environment Committee, Return the Landscape, Shell Canada, Union Gas & Nature's Way



A prayer was provided by Lynn Rosales. She describes in our language the importance of health, protecting our land and water and air and this is a great way to provide growth to our community.



Kristina Zimmer (*Shell Canada*) - Discussed that the funding proposal was originally submitted by Nature's Way (Kim Gledhill) to be located in Corunna, Ontario but unfortunately the location fell through and Kristina knew that it was "meant to be" in Aamjiwnaang Community. Shell Canada provided the funding for this initiative but the project is solely Aamjiwnaang First Nation.



Bobby-Jo Joseph Viscount's logo was chosen. She describes her logo as protecting our future generations. Using the child and elder hand circling the flowing in the centre.



Joe Plain, winner of the name the Greenhouse contest. Maajiigin Gumig—A place where it starts to grow. He says he likes naming things, he mentioned that he also named the Aamjiwnaang community Centre.



Kim Gledhill (*Nature's Way*) - expressed how happy she was that this project has finally happened and our community will gain so much knowledge from our greenhouse with training programs.

On September 16, 2015 the Environment Committee along with Aamjiwnaang Chief and Council, and Environment Staff and fellow Community Members participated in a Grand Opening Ceremony of the Maajiigin Gumig (Aamjiwnaang's Greenhouse). The Green House is 54 x 34 it sits just outside of the Maawn Doosh Gumig parking lot. Maajiigin Gumig is a native plant greenhouse focusing on growing native plants for the Aamjiwnaang community and surrounding Sarnia-Lambton Area.

Some initiatives of the green house will be Native plant rescue and restoration, seed collection and cleaning, native plant propagation, multi-generation teaching and learning, ecology stewardship education, and reconnecting with the Earth. The greenhouse will also be a gathering place for learning how to help native plants thrive once planted. There will be upcoming workshops coming in 2016 to learn how to take care of native plants, as well as what to plant where, and purposes for traditional medicinal plants. A full time greenhouse caretaker job posting is being created and further details will be posted in an upcoming Tribe One. As always if you have any questions or concerns please contact the Environment Staff at the Band Office 519-336-8410.



John Bonin (*Union Gas*) - provided a sponsorship for the community project. He has worked on other projects with other First Nations and believes it will provide growth and employment opportunities for the community.



Shawn McKnight & Larry Cornelis (*Return the Landscape*) - They have been working with Aamjiwnaang Environment Department on other projects and will continue to provide training to help operate the greenhouse. They're looking forward continuing the relationship with Aamjiwnaang First Nation.