

Security measures tightened, but many unaware

MARISELA AMADOR
THE EASTERN DOOR

In June, the Caisse Populaire Desjardins announced that the personal information of 2.9 million of their members had been breached.

But as of this month, only a fraction of customers had signed up for free credit monitoring to ensure their identity was protected, a number that means many people, including a large number in Kahnawake, are in danger of having their identity stolen.

An employee had improperly collected information about customers and shared it with a third party, a Laval police investigation had discovered. The employee was then fired and subsequently arrested for the illegal breach.

Some of the information that had been leaked included names, addresses, birth dates, social insurance numbers (SINs), email addresses and information about transaction habits.

"We can assure you that no one will ever be able to use this scheme again at Desjardins," said Chantal Corbeil, a media spokesperson at Desjardins.

The majority of affected clients reside in Quebec, according to Corbeil, but she said that Desjardins does not disclose the number of affected members by Caisse (branch) or region.

The Caisse Populaire Kahnawake's board of directors' president Mike Delisle had previously said, "It's a one-in-two chance that there's going to be people in the community that have been breached or affected."

"We've implemented all the measures the situation calls for. We introduced additional security measures to protect our members' and clients' personal and financial information," said Corbeil.

"We enhanced our procedures to confirm peoples' identity when they call us. We're carefully monitoring the activity in all our members' accounts for fraudulent activity. We're taking additional steps to confirm our members' and clients' identities when they call their Caisse Desjardins or our AccèsD call centre," she said.

Desjardins has also partnered up with Equifax and TransUnion to support their members, said, Corbeil.

Desjardins Group president Guy Cormier told CBC in July "all Desjardins credit union clients, including business cus-

tomers, will have access to data protection for life and in-house services to help address identity theft," the piece reads.

"We implemented a new identity protection program for all our members. This program is the first of its kind in Canada, offering even greater protection against identity theft, at no extra cost to members."

The program was designed

to ensure that Desjardins' members' assets and transactions are protected. Furthermore, she said that if a client's identity is stolen, the program will provide them with individualized support and reimburse them up to \$50,000 for expenses incurred while recovering their identity.

"All of our members will be protected against identity theft. We have not seen an increase in

fraud cases," she said.

Unfortunately, even with all the new security measures in place, there is no way to completely guarantee this won't happen again.

"This issue goes beyond the privacy breach that occurred at Desjardins. Many other organizations are dealing with this issue, and even more will be confronted with it down the road," said Corbeil.

"We expressed our concerns to the parliamentary committee and are ready to do the same at the provincial level. And we hope that relevant stakeholders and organizations that have been affected by similar situations will be at the table. Again, this issue is bigger than Desjardins."

marisela.amador88@gmail.com



NU-CO Inc.
BUILDING PRODUCTS

Visit our Showroom
1092 St. Jean Baptiste, Mercier
Band Card Accepted
Tel.: 450-698-2955
nuco@videotron.ca

- Doors & Windows
- Roof products & accessories
- Columns & shutters
- Decorative Moldings
- Garage Doors
- Stone-look siding
- Aluminum & Vinyl Siding
- Tin Roofs & Interior Tin Panels
- Smart-Canexel Siding
- Friendly Service



ULTRA PAVING Inc

- ▶ ASPHALT
Asphalt printing
(Colours & designs)
- ▶ UNI-STONE
- ▶ SLOPE BLOCKS

BANDCARDACCEPTED RBQ.1858-2924-72

378 St. Jean Baptiste Mercier
Tel.: 450-691-6828 • Fax 450-691-0151



Le Conseil Scolaire des Premières Nations en Éducation des Adultes || The First Nations Adult Education School Council

A KAHNAWA'KEHRÓ:NON TO LEAD THE TEAM AT THE KAHNAWAKE RAEC

September 16, 2019, the team at the Kahnawake First Nations Regional Adult Education Center will welcome Ms. Carina Deere as the new Center Director.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kahnawake – September 9, 2019 – The First Nations Adult Education School Council is pleased to announce that Ms. Carina Deere will join the team at the Regional Adult Education Center in Kahnawake. Ms. Deere is known by many as a compassionate and capable educator. With a bachelor's and a master's in education, Ms. Deere understands the needs of learners.

Working as the A.M.B.E. Inclusion Supervisor in Akwesasne for the past few years has allowed Ms. Deere to develop her expertise as a manager. The team at the RAEC will benefit from her knowledge and experience both as an educator and a manager.

Ms. Deere begins her journey with the RAEC on September 16, 2019.

In the meantime, the team at the RAEC continues to work hard to meet the needs of all adult learners. The community is invited to the Information Session on the new Life Skills program with an integrated work-study program on September 12 at 1:00 pm or at 5:30 pm. Aspiring adult learners and their families will have the opportunity to meet the team and learn about exciting programs available for them in Kahnawake.

-30-

For more information:
Rola Helou
rhelou@conseilscolaire-schoolcouncil.org
450-638-4171

