

Press Release

Akwesasne Minor Hockey Scores with Erie Otters

On Saturday, September 9, 2023; the Ontario Hockey League's Erie Otters came to Cornwall, Ontario to help support the Akwesasne Wolves' Minor Hockey Program. Erie team member Carey Terrance Jr. (Akwesasne Mohawk) was on hand to showcase his talent before a hometown crowd and to bring some much-needed support for the Akwesasne Wolves. An exhibition game against the Kingston Frontenacs was hosted at the Cornwall Civic Complex that raised \$26,181 to support the hockey program's operating costs and keep registration fees affordable for young players.

In 2019, the AMHA had to forgo it's hockey season due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. It was something that the minor hockey program could never fully recover from, as "Once the season was able to return to Anowarakowa Arena, players had already made the jump to other programs and we struggled to rebuild", said AMHA Board Member Darcy Jackson.

This year, with help from the Erie Otters General Manager Dave Brown and Owner Jim Waters, the Erie Otters planned to come and show Akwesasne Minor Hockey some support. They decided to host one of their exhibition games as close as they could get to Akwesasne. It resulted in a game being held in Cornwall at the Cornwall Civic Center in conjunction with The Strong Roots Charitable North Foundation -- a not for profit organization working to benefit Akwesasne youth and Elders.

While the Erie organization was in our area, Carey Terrance Jr. showed his proud Mohawk heritage by guiding his teammates on a tour of the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory. They spent the morning at the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club; where they interacted, played hockey ball, and mentored local youth. "It was a memorable day and one we will not soon forget," stated Erie Owner Jim Waters who was in attendance with wife Sheila. "The pride for their hometown player Carey really shows through."

The exhibition game between Erie and Kingston was one that won't be forgotten, as attendance and tickets sales soared to 2,000 attendees -- many of whom were from Akwesasne. "This was an amazing turnout for an exhibition game," stated Cornwall Civic Complex staff. With a home crowd in attendance, Carey scored two sensational goals. It was a memorable evening watching Carey play the game he loves, for the community he loves.

Akwesasne Minor Hockey Association is currently operating at the Cornwall Civic until the ice is installed at the Anowarakowa Arena on Cornwall Island. If you would like to see ways to support AMHA you can contact AMHA President Everett Lazore at 518-333-8450. Strong Roots Charitable Foundation www.strongroot.org