



2014 Sacred Water Circle Gathering Participant Information

Thank you for your interest in joining the Sacred Water Circle Gathering this May 2nd-4th, 2014 to honor our sacred water. Elders and spiritual leaders from around the world will be brought together to share their traditional knowledge and respect for water, with water industry professionals, youth, political leaders, water researchers, and the broader community to discuss water awareness and solutions. The collaboration of knowledge will result in the inspiration for the creation of local plans of action throughout the Americas.

National and international guests joining us this year include: Chief Arvol Looking Horse, Josephine Mandamin, Charlie Neyelle, Morris Neyelle, Jhaimy Alvarez-Acosta, Anagaangaq Angkkorsuaq, Gerald Lomaventema, Maria de la Cruz Mojica Simongama, Jose Dingula Moscote and Luntana Dingula Nacogi. Local Elders and Traditional Teachers include Dorothy Taylor, Shirley Williams, Doug Williams, Dan Longboat and Merritt Taylor.

This document provides information on what you will need to know as a participant. If at any time you have questions prior to the Gathering please contact:

Cathy Mitchell

705-745-3238 X.201

cathy@sacredwater.ca

OR

Alix Taylor

705-745-3238 X.208

alix.taylor@greenup.on.ca

*If you have any **questions during the Gathering** please find either Cathy or Alix or a Sacred Water Circle Volunteer. Individuals will be around at all time to help you- and can usually be found at the **Registration table at Gzowski College.***

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AGENDA

THURSDAY MAY 1st, 2014		
3:00 – 5:00	Sacred Fire	Tipi
4:00-8:00	REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN FOR OVERNIGHT REGISTRANTS	Gzowski- Trent U
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refreshments and early vendors in Atrium 	
7:30- 9:30	<i>Sacred Run: The Lotus and the Feather</i> with filmmaker Andrea Sadler, Room 117	
Opening Blessing		
Film (55min)		
Indigenous leader Dennis Banks, with Indigenous people from North America and Japan, joined by volunteers from thirteen countries on a ceremonial run finishing in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. A remarkable physical and spiritual journey with people of all ages who voyaged 4,000km along the Sea of Japan to carry the simple message, that <i>All Life is Sacred</i> . The film is a stunning inspirational portrait of individuals committed to promoting peace, respect for the earth and all life- as well as sharing the rich cultural diversity of the human race.		
Question and Answer with filmmaker Andrea Sadler		
FRIDAY MAY 2nd, 2014		
6:00-7:30 am Breakfast for overnight guests		
7:00 – 8:00 am. Registration– Pick up registration packages		
8:00 am Bus pick-up at Trent ,Gzowski – for registered participants		
9:00-11:00 a.m. Morning ceremony at Petroglyphs		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please bring your own water bottle Women to wear long skirts, men to dress modestly (please refer to protocol) If possible, please bring chairs or blankets for self and to share with Elders No photos (please refer to protocol) Women on moon time please refer to protocol 	
11:30 a.m. approx. Bus Departure- return to Trent University		
12:30 – 2:00 p.m. LUNCH		(Meal Ticket Holders: GCS Dining Hall)
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies	Gzowski, Room 114
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unity Singers 	
4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Break-out Sessions with Elders and Traditional Knowledge Holders – Gzowski (Elders names and Room Numbers will be posted outside of Rm 114)		
Facilitated sessions based on registrants questions about water- with core Elders and Traditional Knowledge Holders.		
CHILDREN’S BREAK-OUT ROOM		Nozhem Theatre, Gzowski

HISTORY & STEWARDSHIP OF THE OTONABEE RIVER THROUGH MUSIC AND PUPPETRY	
Presented by Glen Caradus- Paddling Puppeteers with the Canadian Canoe Museum (Ages 5 and up)	
5:30-7:00 p.m. DINNER	(Meal Ticket Holders: GCS Dining Hall)
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Gchi-Nbi - Art For The Water	Ernie Benedict, Gathering Space, Gzowski
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibit will be up all weekend • Event open to all community members • Partial proceeds from sold art will go towards the 2014 Water Awareness Walk 	
SATURDAY MAY 3RD, 2014	
5:30 -7:30 a.m. SUNRISE CEREMONY	Tipi at Trent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women to wear long skirts, men to dress modestly (please refer to protocol) • No photos (please refer to protocol) 	
7:00-8:30 BREAKFAST	(Meal Ticket Holders: GCS Dining Hall)
9:00 – 12:30 p.m. VISITING ELDERS TEACHINGS/MESSAGES	Wenjack Theatre, Otonabee College
<i>No questions at this time – deep listening only</i>	
Josephine Mandamin (Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve)	
Charlie and Morris Neyelle (Deline, North West Territories)	
Gerald S Lomaventema (Shungopavi Village, Second Mesa, Arizona, USA)	
Jhaimy Alvarez-Acosta (Tawantinsuyu - Quechua Nation)	
10:30 -10:50 a.m. Midmorning refreshments	Atrium, Gzowski
Chief Arvol Looking Horse (Cheyenne River, South Dakota, USA)	
Anagaangaq Anagkkorsuaq (Kalaallit Nunaat, Greenland)	
Maria de la Cruz Mojica Simongama, José Dingula Moscote, and Luntana Dingula Nacogi (La Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia)	
12:30-2:00 p.m. LUNCH	(Meal Ticket Holders: GCS Dining Hall)
*WATER INNOVATION LUNCH DISPLAY	
Fleming College, Trent H2O, Alderville First Nation, WRAIN	
2:30 – 5:30 p.m. INTEGRATING TEACHINGS INTO OUR DAILY LIVES AND WORK; GUIDANCE FROM LOCAL ELDERS AND KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS	
Wenjack Theatre, Otonabee College	
This interactive session is an opportunity to explore how teachings can be integrated into our daily lives and work in the weeks, months and years following this Gathering.	

<p>CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS 2:30 – 5:30 TRACKS facilitated hands on water workshop (Ages 9-13) Water Prayer Wreath making Ages (5 and up)</p>	<p>Gzowski, Lower Level</p>
<p>5:30 – 7:00p.m. DINNER (Meal Ticket Holders: GCS Dining Hall)</p>	
<p>7:00-10:00 CEREMONY OF THE ARTS – PERFORMANCE EVENING Wenjack Theatre Otonabee College</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event is open to the public (pay- what-you- can) <p>Song and Dance- Spine of Mother Excerpt Ridpath Singers Jared Big Canoe Nimkii Osawamick</p> <p>Film- Aluna: A Journey to Save the World (109 min) (Filmmakers will be present) Made by and with the Kogi in Colombia. The Kogi say that without thought, nothing could exist. This is a problem because we are not just plundering the world, we are dumbing it down, destroying both the physical structure and the thought underpinning existence. The Kogi believe that they live in order to care for the world and keep its natural order functioning, but they recognized some years ago that this task was being made impossible by mining and deforestation. In 1990 they emerged to work with Alan Ereira to make this film in which they warn of our need to change our course.</p>	
<p>SUNDAY MAY 4TH, 2014</p> <p>5:30 – 7:30a.m. SUNRISE CEREMONY Tipi at Trent U</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women to wear long skirts, men to dress modestly (please refer to protocol) • No photos (please refer to protocol) 	
<p>7:00 – 8:30 am BREAKFAST (Meal Ticket Holders: GCS Dining Hall)</p>	
<p>8:30 – 9:30 COMMUNITY ACTION, NEXT STEPS Gzowski, Rm 114</p> <p><i>What is <u>emerging</u> from this gathering that I/we will take back to our community for action, contemplation, and investigation?</i></p> <p>9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Break</p> <p>9:45- 12:00 pm- Closing Ceremonies- Messages of Hope and Gratitude</p> <p>Final words from our honored Guest Elders and local Elders as messages of hope for the future</p> <p>Nbi Song</p>	
<p>12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Lunch PGC Dining Hall</p>	
<p>Farewell – and clean up</p>	

Meals

For people with meal tickets- the following meals are included:

- Friday- lunch and dinner (breakfast is included for overnight guests only)
- Saturday- breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Sunday- breakfast and lunch

** For hungry folks- please bring additional snacks if you think you will require them- limited food can be purchased on campus during daytime hours.

Parking

Vehicles must have parking passes on them or they will be ticketed. Participants will be given parking passes in their registration package at arrival.

Accommodation

All participants are responsible for their own accommodation. The following options for accommodation are suggested:

- **Trent University**

Conference Services at Trent University have reserved rooms for the Sacred Water Circle at a group rate. Please contact Conference Services to make your own accommodation arrangements.

Single bedroom at Gzowski College

Hotel-like accommodation- includes one double bed and semi-private bathroom (shared with one adjoining room). A/C, parking, wired internet, linens, towels etc. are included. Common areas on each floor are equipped with cable TV, full size fridge, couches and microwave.

To book your room:

Trent University Conference Services

Email: conferences@trentu.ca

Toll-free: 1-866-290-6491

- **Other local options**

- Holiday Inn Peterborough- Waterfront
- Peterborough Inn and Suites
- Best Western Plus Otonabee Inn
- The Village Inn Lakefield

Reminders and Important Notes

- **Bring reusable water bottle and travel mug**- water refill stations will be available for the duration of the Gathering.
- **Spending Money**- Local artisans and vendors will be on site at the Gathering all weekend.
- **Clothing**- Please come with suitable outdoor clothing and footwear- some activities will be taking place outside (e.g. Petroglyphs).
- **Gifts**- for guests are not necessary (honorariums and gifts will be presented to Elders and Traditional Teachers by the SWC on behalf of all attendees) - but if you choose to bring gifts please remember that many of guests are traveling great distances and must adhere to boarder regulations.

Notes on Protocol and Respect

We are extremely pleased to offer the opportunity to gather together with and hear from people from a variety of Nations- Indigenous and non-Indigenous. Each Nation is unique and Indigenous Peoples are diverse in language, geography and cultural customs. The following traditional protocols are offered as guidelines to support a respectful atmosphere at the Sacred Water Circle Gathering.

Clothing

Traditional people usually wear more formal attire when attending ceremonies (this would include the Opening and Closing Ceremony, and the Sunrise Ceremony). Men usually wear long pants and women wear long skirts. Dress to honour the occasion as you would if attending an important function or celebration, but also consider the elements, comfort and flexibility, a skirt overtop of pants is one way of being prepared for ceremony at a moment's notice.

Photographs

No photographs are to be taken during ceremonies (this would include all ceremonies and in particular at the Petroglyphs as well as the Opening and Closing Ceremony, and the Sunrise Ceremony). As well, if you wish to take a picture of a person at the conference we encourage you to first introduce yourself to the person and then ask to take their picture.

Timelines

While we have set an agenda- timelines may change. The Spiritual Leaders who are Elders and Traditional Teachers have thoughts which we anticipate will inform and guide the conference and we are encouraging them to give us their guidance accordingly. So, if there are changes in timelines or the agenda please be patient and respectful- we will do our best to communicate any changes in a timely fashion.

Meals

Elders are served food first by their assistants. Indigenous Elders who are presenting/ teaching at the Gathering will have Elders helpers to serve them food. Seniors are also served before everyone else as are any people with mobility issues, so please wait until they have been served.

Respect

The Sacred Water Circle Committee is respectful of all people, and we anticipate that as an attendee at this Gathering you will be as well. Often it is challenging to understand different cultures and to understand the concept of Indigenous protocols, yet it is important that even if you do not understand something please do your best to respect that this is how things are done.

Teachings

Elders and Traditional Teachers often provide teachings in the form of stories that are 'rich' but lengthy and will at times pause for an extended amount of time to collect their thoughts. Please allow the Elder to finish their presentation and wait until they ask if there are any questions. Remember that it is the Elders who are sharing their Indigenous Knowledge and it is from their Traditions so it may not agree with what you feel is correct, we ask that you please refrain from debating with Elders but take what information you feel is of value and respect others views.

Moontime (Women's Teaching)

The elders and Grandmothers remind us that a woman on her moontime (menstruation) is when a woman is most powerful. It is believed that women sacrifice and give to the people during their moontime. It is a time of purification. Women on their moontime are kindly and humbly asked not to touch ceremonial items or sacred medicines, particularly among the men spiritual leaders.

Petroglyphs

Considered a sacred place of prayer, ceremony and healing. No pictures or recordings of any are permitted. Remove hats, unless they are ceremonial headwear. Do not point at the Petroglyphs. No running or horseplay at the site.

Final thoughts:

These Teachings are kind. Do not despair if the protocols are not strictly adhered to. This is a gentle guide of First Nation's Traditional practices.

Driving Directions

Directions to Gzowski College- Trent University

Below are directions to Gzowski College, Trent University. Once at Gzowski College you can park in any of the guest parking areas (please note- you must display a parking pass on your vehicle). Parking passes will be given to registered participants in your registration packages.

Directions can be found online at: <http://www.trentu.ca/howtofindus/directions.php>

Trent University's Symons Campus, Peterborough From Toronto

- Take Highway 401 east to Highway 35/115
- Follow Highway 115 north
- At Peterborough, exit at The Parkway
- Continue on The Parkway until it ends at Clonsilla Avenue
- Turn right (east) at Clonsilla Avenue
- Clonsilla Avenue will become Charlotte Street
- Follow Charlotte Street into downtown Peterborough
- Turn left (north) at Water Street immediately following the clock tower (Market Hall)
- Continue north on Water Street for 6.5km
- Turn right on Nassau Mills Road
- Turn right onto Pioneer Road
- Turn left at East Bank Drive for Gzowski College

Trent University's Symons Campus, Peterborough From Ottawa

- Follow Highway 7 west (Lansdowne Street) to George Street
- Turn right (north) on George Street immediately following the Peterborough Memorial Centre
- Follow George Street as it turns right into Water Street at Sherbrooke Street
- Continue north on Water Street for approximately 7km
- Turn right on Nassau Mills Road
- Turn right onto Pioneer Road
- Turn left at East Bank Drive for Gzowski College

Directions to Petroglyphs

Please note- *parking is limited at Petroglyphs please car-pool or take the bus (this option is for registered participants- leaving at 8am from Gzowski College, Trent U.)*

For those people driving to Petroglyphs directions can be found online at www.ontarioparks.com/park/petroglyphs.

If you are coming from Peterborough:

- Take Highway 28 towards Bancroft
- Turn right onto County Road 6
- Turn left onto Northey's Bay Road look for the Petroglyphs Provincial Park sign