

Spiritual Retreat March 27 & 28

Walking Together: A Dish with One Spoon Wampum



What does reconciliation look like in Canada with the First Nations to reside on this Land? It's a complex question that requires a strong foundation of respect and honesty, that starts with the history that is shared. While at the same time finding common ground amongst the human communities that leads to sharing of this planet and stronger relationships. If you've done the Blanket Exercise then you've a grounding of the shared truth, and now the next question is what is next? Before laying out how this workshop will explore possible ways to reconcile, let's state that Indigenous people have proposed a way forward from the beginning is evidenced with the A Dish With One Spoon Wampum belt peace treaty of 1500 that the Anishinaabeg and

Haudenosaunee signed. The core concept of living sustainable on the land in a way that resources were available for both nations. As the treaty unfolded it allowed the two cultures to live side by side, with an increase in trade and sharing of culture.

Where does one start in building this new way of thinking to allow this type of sharing? One pillar that is core to Humanity is our spiritual essence that is revealed in the multitude of different Spiritual Paths that are expressed. Spiritual beliefs that are embraced guide how each person interacts and view the world. A challenge is placed in front of us to explore our Spiritual beliefs to explore how they support or detract from the idea the A Dish With One Spoon Wampum belt treaty proposes?

Program Overview:

What is your Ancestry? How often does this question come up at social gathering as a conversation topic, one is asked it to get to know one better as it's common ground we all share. As Canadians we often answer with the place our ancestors emigrated from, and that ties us to a thought paradigm that brings with it a specific culture, faith, and history. Indigenous people honour their ancestors with the Grandfather and Grandmother teachings that were formed over thousands of years, along with the culture, spiritual beliefs and history that was passed down by the Elders and Knowledge Keepers. The goal here is to understand the unique perspective ones spiritual beliefs bring to how our societies interact and to appreciate another cultures perspective. Without open communication and understanding how do we share the land?

Over the two day workshop we explore with spiritual leaders from Christianity, and Indigenous Knowledge Keepers the rituals, ceremonies, and belief systems in each spiritual path in an respectful environment that is focused on what we have in common, yet at the same time the differences as that enlightens our own spiritual path. Time will be allowed during the day for quiet reflection to process the teachings and social time with other participants to discuss the many ideas presented in the Workshop.

Registration for this event is done via the below form and then please email: cathytmiller53@gmail.com.

Cost: Thank you to the Diocese of Huron for supporting this event financially. Room, and most meals included. Instead of paying for this workshop a suggested donation of \$50 to \$100 be given which will go to support reclaiming the Ojibwe language.

Accommodation: Rustic Cabin on the headwaters of the Beaver River. 10 minutes North of Flesherton. Fire Number for GPS is 174196 on Lower Valley road.



Rustic Cabin that sleeps 25 people



Backyard of Cabin with the blue pails collecting maple syrup

Agenda:

Noon Arrival at the Fishing Lodge Fire Code Number: 174196 on the lower valley road North of Flesherton. Bedroom types: most rooms are 2 twins with double occupancy

Parking: Yes up to 10 cars

March 27th:

Noon Arrival

12:00 Lunch Provided

1:00pm Land Acknowledgment, Open thought to meditate on understanding our faith in a new manner. Set expectations for workshop, that include respect for different traditions.

1:30pm Smudge performed: Explain significance.

2:30am : Introductions with Sharing circles. Share and discuss the questions from the registration

3:30pm: First hour Teaching by Sheila and Ken

5:30pm: Group check in

6:30pm: Dinner Provided

7:30pm: Games and cards.

March 28th:

Reconciliation, Spiritual Life,

8am Breakfast Provided

9am: Second hour Teaching by Sheila and Ken

10:30am: Group Discussion on what they've learned

11:30: Acknowledge the system created inequality when treating Indigenous people in the past such as reserves, residential schools. What's faith got to do with it?

12:30pm Lunch

2pm: Invite to Ceremony. Water and Fire

5pm: What is reconciliation? What does it look like?

6pm: Dinner. Will with group about options.