

## **Mush Hole Project & Integrating Knowledges Summit Youth Truth and Reconciliation Workshop**

### **Objective**

Six Nations Elected Chief Counsel Ava Hill reminds us of the importance for mainstream Canada to understand the history of residential schools and the implications: “They need to understand what happened to our people by the government of the day. It is to blame for many of the social problems still being experienced today” (Ruby, 2014). Before we approach the complex meanings embedded in the language of “reconciliation” and “truth,” we must first address the societal challenges that emerged from the residential school system and the impact to educational paradigms and youth. The objective of the *Mush Hole Project & Integrating Knowledges Youth Workshop* is to create and encourage opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth to meet and to share their lived experiences by opening channels of communication, facilitating intercultural spaces of learning, and acknowledge different historical contexts and knowledges in order to develop and sustain deeper understanding and relationships.

### **Workshop Summary**

Students from Six Nations Polytechnic and Assumption College students in Brantford with facilitators from both communities will be the working group to experience, as participants, the *Mush Hole Project* site-specific installation. The students’ involvement promises to begin their conversation, acknowledge historical contexts, address contemporary challenges, and surface questions about the meaning of “truth” and “reconciliation” experienced by each individual student. After attending the *Mush Hole Project*, the 12 students (6 from Six Nations of the Grand and 6 from Assumption College) will meet to discuss and share their experiences. They will be encouraged to produce creative articulations together or as individuals. The students will then convene as delegates at a pre-Summit orientation (Thursday, October 13, 2016). They will be joined by up to 40 students from the Waterloo Region School Board to share and continue the workshop process in planned activities (see schedule). The following day, they will attend and participate in the Summit events (Friday, October 14, 2016) and will communicate the workshop process at a Circle discussion and be involved with a seminar session. Detailed programming follows. Parents, guardians, relatives, relations and teachers of students are encouraged to attend the *Mush Hole Project* and *Integrating Knowledges* events with the students.

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is provided by  
Ontario Arts Council,  
University of Waterloo – Bob Harding Humanities and Social Sciences Award,  
SSHRC Connection grant,  
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**Mush Hole Project & Integrating Knowledges Youth Workshop  
Schedule at a Glance**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Participants</b>
September 16, 17 and 18	Woodland Cultural Centre	<i>Mush Hole Project</i>	12 students will participate in the touring of the site-specific installation	6 students from Six Nation Polytechnic and 6 students from Assumption College Facilitators: Alyssa General Caroline Freibauer, Mary Baldasaro, Tim Paci, Tanis Hill, Kaylin Parker
Late September / Early October	Brantford, ON – site to be determined	Workshop Discussion and Reflection about the Mush Hole Project. Work through creative process		6 students from Six Nation Polytechnic and 6 students from Assumption College and Facilitators
October 13	Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre - University of Waterloo	Pre-Summit Orientation	Detailed activity schedule attached	Facilitators include Luane Lentz, Cheryl Maksymyk, and Emma Smith
October 14	University of Waterloo and St. Paul's	Integrating Knowledges Summit – Students will attend the opening of the Sacred Fire, followed by the Opening Ceremony, the Keynote	Detailed programming schedule available on TRRP website	Summit Collaborators and all Facilitators.  Students are encouraged to connect to their peers and classrooms through social

		Speaker, Circle 1 and participate in Circle 2. Breakaway workshop session with Kelly Laurila and the Fire Keepers (Al McDonald and Howard Loft)		media and live streaming throughout the workshop and event process.
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**Pre-Summit Activities – Details**

**Date: Thursday, October 13, 2016**

**Location: Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Participants</b>
930-945	Arrival	Workshop Delegates (Six Nations and Brantford); 40 Waterloo Region School Board Students
945-1015	Opening Territorial Acknowledgement, and Welcome Ceremony	Led by Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre
1015-1200	Activity: Post it Notes – What do I expect?  <i>Medicine Wheel</i> Workshop Led by Lois MacDonald	Led by Lois MacDonald, Elder
1200-1230	Lunch Break	
1230-100	Walking tour of University of Waterloo and event locations of Summit	Led by Facilitators
100-230	<i>Blanket Exercise</i> led by Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre and Mary Baldarsaro  Activity: Post it Notes – What have I learned?	Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre, and Facilitators
230	Closing Ceremony	

**Summit Activities – Details**

**Date: Friday, October 14, 2016**

**Location: University of Waterloo and Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
730	Invitation to be present at the opening of the Sacred Fire Keepers Al McDonald and Howard Loft	University of Waterloo – PAS (map provided)
900-945	Summit Thanksgiving Address and Opening Ceremony	University of Waterloo Theatre of the Arts – ML 135
945-1045	Keynote address by Dr. Cindy Blackstock with Q&A	University of Waterloo Theatre of the Arts – ML 135
1100-1200	Circle 1 Stories of Residential Survival and Empowerment. We are grateful to the individuals who are sharing their stories and experiences and honoured to listen.	Alumni Hall – St. Paul’s University
1200-100	Lunch	
100-200	Circle 2 Education and Decolonization Youth delegates share their experiences about the workshop process	Alumni Hall – St. Paul’s University
200-345	Breakaway Circle Workshop Session with Kelly Laurila and gathering at the Sacred Fire.	Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre / PAS Fire
345-400	Closing Ceremony	Sacred Fire / PAS

Visit the [Truth and Reconciliation Response Project website](#) for the list of our collaborators, events and project information