

Youth & Elders Gathering

“VOICES FROM THE PAST, FOR TOMORROW”

Hosted By: Grey Wolf Teaching Lodge

Where: Chippewa Park, Thunder Bay ON

When: September 21, 22 & 23, 2010

This Elders and Youth Gathering will last 3 days and will involve 45 appointed Elders from 3 Nations in Ontario, **Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN); Grand Council Treaty #3;** and, **The Anishinabek Nation**. Local Aboriginal Elders including the **Métis Nation of Ontario** and Non-Aboriginal Elders and local youth will also be invited. The event will take place outdoors under a lodge constructed of sapling and tarps. There will be no formal agenda, the daily discussions will be lead by the Elders and youth will be witness and have opportunities to interact. Meals and snacks will be provided for the Elders and the youth. Accommodations (Prince Arthur) and travel expenses are being taken care of for the 45 appointed Elders.

The direction regarding the content and the name of this gathering was developed with the assistance of Elders from the far north (NAN territory) with the assistance of Mr. Joshua Hudson (who has since passed on). After speaking with some Elders in the north - their explanation for this activity would be that traditionally storytelling/legends were passed down orally from generation to generation. These legends are not found in textbooks. That is part of the culture. Sometimes these legends are prophetic, meaning that they contain a prophecy and the legend will come to pass. Sometimes, they are a warning - meaning Elders are saying you really need to hang onto your culture/language. Sometimes they are warnings of times to come. These legends also talk about present life. These past experiences shed light on the present and the future. There are legends that give direction during our passages of life - guidelines for survival - they are ongoing (alive). The Elders are hoping that future generations will carry on the legends in their own way through their voices and storytelling with future generations. We hear those voices from the past to guide us through tomorrow, therefore the name of the gathering is - **“VOICES FROM THE PAST, FOR TOMORROW”**.

Coordinating Elders:

NAN, Josias Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation, Cell: (807) 737-0180, Home: (807) 774-1335
UOI, Julie Ozawagosh, Whitefish Lake First Nation, 705-479-5390, ozawagosh@sympatico.ca
Treaty #3, Ron Indian-Mandamin, Shoal Lake, (807) 733-3053, mandamin@hotmail.com

For more information or to see how you can help and get involved call contact Cindy Crowe at (807) 473-9851 * Toll Free: 1-888-852-5856 * Cell: (807) 627-5768 * crowe@tbaytel.net

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