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## Laurier celebrates the contribution of Aboriginal knowledge to education

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University invites the community to experience its annual weeklong series of events that highlight the contributions of Aboriginal knowledge to education. A series of events will take place from **March 5 to March 12** on Laurier's Waterloo and Brantford campuses.

"Aboriginal Education Week is an important week where we share our heritage and culture with the wider community," said **Jean Becker**, Laurier's senior advisor: Aboriginal Initiatives. "I am proud that Laurier is committed to having an extraordinary and empowering experience for all Aboriginal students across all campuses."

Some events taking place on **Laurier's Waterloo campus** include:

**Monday, March 7 - Teepee set up in the Quad | Announcement of KNOW THE LAND Campaign**

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: The Quad, outdoor area in front of the Fred Nichols Campus Centre

**Tuesday, March 8 - Soup and Frybread lunch**

Drop in from noon to 2 p.m. to try some homemade soup and traditional frybread and receive a copy of the Allyship toolkit.

Time: Noon to 2 p.m.

Location: Aboriginal Student Centre, 187 Albert St., Waterloo

Cost: FREE

**Saturday, March 12 – Special lecture with guest speaker Oren Lyons**

Join Oren Lyons, a "Faithkeeper" for the Turtle Clan, Onondaga Nation, and UN activist for Indigenous Peoples.

Time: 1:45 p.m.

Location: Senate & Board Chamber

For a detailed listing of all events taking place throughout Aboriginal Education Week, click [here](#).

Events on **Laurier's Brantford campus** include:

**Monday, March 7 - Creative Native Drop-in Session**

Come and make dream catchers, medicine wheels and more while learning about their importance. Presented in partnership with Métis Infinite Reach Facilitators and Laurier's MyRespect.

Time: Noon

Location: Aboriginal Student Centre, 111 Darling St., Brantford

**Wednesday, March 9 – Ziizbaakwad, Mother Earth's Gift to Us**

Special lecture featuring Charles Restoule, Ojibwe Elder, Dokis First Nation in partnership with Annette Chrétien, lecturer, Wilfrid Laurier University.

Time: 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Carnegie Building 205

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### **Thursday, March 10 - *Living in Relationship with Mother Earth While Defending Her***

Special lecture featuring Katsi'tsákwas Ellen Gabriel, Turtle Clan, Kanehsatà:ke Mohawk, in collaboration with Bev Jacobs, Mohawk, bear clan from Six Nations, and Marcia Oliver, assistant professor of law and society, Wilfrid Laurier University.

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Research and Academic Centre East 004

Laurier is proud to be part of the Council of Ontario Universities' (COU) campaign, "Let's Take Our Future Further," which aims to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Aboriginal learners and alumni at Ontario universities and to encourage current students to continue to pursue and complete their studies.

Two Laurier students, **Elizabeth McLeod** and **Darren Thomas**, are featured among the videos of 13 role models who are studying or have recently graduated from an Ontario university. Visit [futurefurther.ca](http://futurefurther.ca).

For more information about Laurier's Aboriginal initiatives, visit <http://wlu.ca/information-for/future-students/aboriginal-students/index.html>.

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