

NEWS RELEASE



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Leading Aboriginal scholar to discuss reclaiming Indigenous identity

BRANTFORD – Taiaiake Alfred, one of Canada’s foremost Aboriginal scholars, will visit Laurier Brantford to discuss reclaiming Indigenous identity. Alfred’s lecture takes place Monday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m. at the Odeon Building, room OD110, 50 Market Street.

Alfred is a professor at the University of Victoria, specializing in traditional government, the restoration of land-based cultural practices and decolonization strategies. He has been awarded a Canada Research Chair, a National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the field of education, and the Native American Journalists Association award for best column writing.

“Taiaiake Alfred has lectured across Canada, the United States, England and Australia, and we are pleased to have him come to Brantford,” said Jean Becker, senior advisor; Aboriginal initiatives at Laurier. “With the diversity of his experiences, Alfred’s voice contributes to our understanding of our Indigenous identity and the world we live in.”

Alfred, a Bear Clan Mohawk, was born in Montreal, and raised in the Kahnawake Mohawk Territory. He studied at Concordia and Cornell University, and served as a U.S. Marine Corps infantryman. Alfred has published numerous scholarly articles, essays in newspapers, magazines and journals, as well as three scholarly books including *Wasase*, runner up for the McNally Robinson Aboriginal Book of the Year in 2005; *Peace, Power, Righteousness* and *Heeding the Voices of our Ancestors*.

This event is sponsored by the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives, and is free and open to the public. For further information, contact: Laurie Fosty at lfosty@wlu.ca or 519-756-8228 ext. 5716.

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