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Laurier to host conference on faith as a force for peace

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will host a conference, “**Religion and Global Citizenship: Can faith be a force for peace?**” from **March 11-12** at the university’s Waterloo campus.

The two-day event, organized by Laurier’s Department of Global Studies, Department of Religion and Culture and Aboriginal Initiatives, will include panel discussions on peace and conflict featuring faculty, students and local non-governmental organizations.

“This conference provides a wonderful opportunity for local scholars and Laurier students to present multiple perspectives on the role of religion in peace building and social activism,” said **Janet McLellan**, professor in Laurier’s Department of Religion and Culture. “Students will be able to engage with various religiously based NGO representatives as they discuss their personal and group activities, both locally and globally, that contribute to peace and social justice initiatives.”

The keynote speaker will be **Chief Oren Lyons**, a “faithkeeper” for the Onondaga Nation and United Nations activist for Indigenous peoples.

“It is a privilege for us to have the powerful orator, Onondaga faithkeeper Chief Oren Lyons speak to us about faith as a force for peace,” said **Jean Becker**, senior advisor: Aboriginal Initiatives. “For decades, Chief Lyons has advocated for peace. He continues to do so today and I am certain his address will inspire new commitment and hope for the future.”

The conference will be held **March 11-12** on Laurier’s Waterloo campus in the Senate and Board Chamber. This event is free and open to the public. Please [register](#) by March 8. Parking will be available in the white lots on March 11 and in both white and gold lots on March 12.

For more information, visit <http://adc.wlu.ca/activedata/EventRegistration.aspx?Rid=164&Id=2279&Frm>.