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## LAURIER EXPERT ALERT: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

WATERLOO – The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is observed annually on Aug. 9. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The following Wilfrid Laurier University experts are available to comment on a variety of topics related to Indigenous peoples and Indigenous rights:

**Kathy Absolon King**, associate professor in the Indigenous Field of Study in Laurier's Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work and director of the Centre for Indigegogy, has a background in Indigenous studies and Indigenous holistic social work practice. She holds knowledge in Indigenous peoples history in Canada, holistic healing, Indigenous education and Indigenous knowledges and culture. Contact information: [kabsolon@wlu.ca](mailto:kabsolon@wlu.ca).

**Jean Becker**, senior advisor of Indigenous Initiatives at Laurier, is responsible for overseeing the strategic directions of the university related to Indigenous activities. Contact information: [jbecker@wlu.ca](mailto:jbecker@wlu.ca).

**Erich Fox Tree** is an assistant professor in Laurier's Department of Religion and Culture. Trained in cultural and linguistic anthropology, he is an expert on Native languages of North America and Mesoamerica, especially Indigenous sign languages and Mayan languages. Fox Tree works on pan-Native political activism, as well as colonial mythologies about Indigenous peoples. Contact information: [efoxtree@wlu.ca](mailto:efoxtree@wlu.ca).

**Alex Latta**, associate professor in Laurier's Department of Global Studies and Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, is an expert on Indigenous rights and natural resources. Contact information: [alatta@wlu.ca](mailto:alatta@wlu.ca).

**Brenda Murphy**, professor in the Social and Environmental Justice program at Laurier, focuses her research on disaster resilience and risk reduction in rural and Indigenous spaces using community-based research approaches. Contact information: [bmurphy@wlu.ca](mailto:bmurphy@wlu.ca). Available after Aug. 8.

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