



BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE

Bay of Quinte Conference

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Greetings Members of Bay of Quinte Conference!

Grace and peace be with you!

We are writing to follow up with you on the presentation at the Conference Annual meeting in Napanee by Dr. Thohahoken Michael Doxtater. Michael, the National Scholar at Queen's University, shared two proposals with us that he is seeking our support with. These proposals: "The Firekeepers Project - An Action Response to Suicide Among Indigenous Young People in Ontario" and "Kanata College-CEDI - A Centre of Excellence Dedicated to Indigenous Recovery" are attached to this letter, and can also be found on the Conference webpage.

These proposals are a way of responding to the Calls to Action of the Indian Residential School Truth and Reconciliation Commission. These proposals also come out of Michael's lived experience, as he shared his family's story in his powerful presentation "Why we do the things we do".

Support can come by being a champion of these projects in your communities (and people you know holding positions of influence) and in the form of sending letters as individuals, congregations and/or pastoral charges to your own MP and MPP's and the following government departments:

Federal : Mail postage free to:

House of Commons Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, carolyn.bennett@parl.gc.ca

Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs

And

The Honourable Jane Philpott, Jane.Philpott@parl.gc.ca

Minister of Indigenous Services

Provincial:
will be named after June 7th election
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Please see sample letter below. Also know that our Conference Executive will also be writing letters to government, and letters of support for these projects to Queens University and the United Church Aboriginal Ministry Circle.

Sincerely,

Bronwen Harman, Co-Chair Dancing the Circle of Right Relations: U.C. and F.N.M.I.

Rev. Wanda Stride, Past-President, Bay of Quinte Conference

sample letter

To Whom It May Concern:

We (enter name here) write this letter in support of Dr. Thohahoken Michael Doxtater of Queens University and his proposals "The Firekeepers Project: An Action Response to Suicide Among Indigenous Young People in Ontario" and "Kanata College-CEDIR: A Centre of Excellence Dedicated to Indigenous Recovery".

We feel these proposals (we consider you attach proposals to an email) move our province/country toward responding to the Calls to Action of the Indian Residential School Truth and Reconciliation Commission so that Indigenous Peoples and our province/country have a brighter future based on respectful relationships.

Sincerely,

(enter name here)