

RE: Recognition of Graduates & Award Recipients 2010

The Grand River Post Secondary Education Office (GRPSEO) wishes to remind everyone of the change in the format for which we recognize and acknowledge our Six Nations post secondary graduates and award recipients.

For 2010, the format will change from hosting an annual Student Recognition Event in August to a publication of graduate photographs in local and regional newspapers. The publication of graduate photographs will occur in December 2010. Please have your photos and consent to the GRPSEO before October 31, 2010. Contact your Education Counsellor for more information.

Application Calendar and Other Post Secondary Dates and Events

- Sept 1** Back to Regular Office Hours: Open 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
- Sept 17** Summer Marks/Progress Reports due for all continuing students. Levels 3 & 4 provide Letter of Good Academic Standing. Application deadline for Winter semester – **Apply on-line!** Fall course registration/timetable and detailed tuition fees due
- Oct 31** Deadline to Submit Graduate Photos for Publication
- Nov 3** Post Secondary Information Day
- Nov 19** Semester Contact required from all students – check with your Counsellor
- Dec** Graduate Promotion/Graduate Photo Publication
- Dec** Office Closed December 24 and Reopens January 4, 2011
- Jan 17** Fall Marks/Progress Reports due for all continuing students. Levels 3 & 4 provide Letter of Good Academic Standing. Application deadline for Summer semester **Apply on-line!** Winter course registration/timetable and detailed tuition fees due.
- Feb** GRPSEO Application Information Night 2011
- Mar** Semester Contact required from all students – check with your Counsellor
- May 17** Winter Marks/Progress Reports due for all continuing students. Levels 3 & 4 provide Letter of Good Academic Standing. Application Deadline for Fall or Fall/Winter semester(s) **Apply on-line!** Summer course registration/timetable and detailed tuition fees due.
- May** Participation in Bread and Cheese Parade
- June 1** Summer Office Hours: Open from 8 am to 4 pm
- June 21** Office Closed: Participation in Solidarity Day
- July** Graduate Photos for Publication
- July 1** Official Transcripts due from students with any assistance following the previous July. For fall applicants, funds will be decommitted if the transcript is not received
- July** Norm's Golf for Grads, Sundrim Golf Course

Please, check the local newspapers and our website at www.grpseo.org or give us a call at (519) 445-2219 for more information about any of the above.

EDUCATION...A PATH TO TOMORROW



GRAND RIVER POST SECONDARY BOARD NEWSLETTER

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**Onkwehon:we
with Grand River Territory
lineage are empowered
through higher education
within available resources.**

Grand River Post Secondary Board Members

Brenda Davis (Chair)	Tom Deer
Susan M. Hill	Carol Jacobs
Barbara A. Martin	Marion Martin
Richard Monture	Lillian Montour
Claudine VanEvery-Albert (Council Rep)	Iris Wright

EDUCATION...A PATH TO TOMORROW

A Memorandum of Understanding (1992) and (2010), between the Six Nations Council (elected) and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) provides for the local administration of the Post Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP).

Current post secondary funding for Six Nations is insufficient to fund all eligible post secondary students even at the low rates of assistance provided through the GRPSEO. Each year a minimum of 200 students cannot be funded due to lack of sufficient funds. The overall post secondary fund has been capped with a 2% annual increase since 1996 and now the Government of Canada is reviewing the program with a view to making it “needs” based and possibly linked with student loans. This places Six Nations entitlement to education at risk and totally disregards the outstanding matter of Six Nations trust funds taken to fund major post secondary institutions in Canada, such as McGill University and the University of Toronto. First Nations across Canada are expressing their concerns about this review and the future of the PSSSP.

With rising per student costs and the 2% “cap” on available PSSSP funding, virtually all Six Nations post secondary students are self-funding to some degree.

Six Nations post secondary student success and graduate rates have steadily increased. Six Nations post secondary student success and a growing population gave rise to increased post secondary participation by eligible post secondary students.

- A. **Six Nations is seeking** a commitment from INAC and the Government of Canada to remove loans and the Canada Student Loans system as options for changes to the PSSSP for Six Nations.
- B. **Six Nations is seeking** a commitment to long term post secondary student supports that will maintain Six Nations community-based post secondary education funding delivery and supports as these are critical to:
 - 1) student success and
 - 2) engagement of learners in strategic studies where learners and graduates can contribute to the community and to society in general.
- C. **Six Nations is seeking** enhancement of the PSSSP so that it is reflective of :
 - 1) Six Nations demographics (support growing Six Nations engagement in post secondary education with the growing Six Nations population and increased high school completion rates),
 - 2) the actual costs of being engaged in post secondary education (cost of living and necessary technology supports),
 - 3) the needs of Six Nations learners (e.g. mature students with dependents) and
 - 4) the needs of the changing labour market to sustain and build the Canadian economy.

A Quick Look at the GRPSEO in 2008/2009:

- 93 graduates
- 786 students received PSSSP funds
- 62% of students lived off reserve
- 96% of students were enrolled full time
- 44% were over the age of 25
- Six Nations post secondary students are enrolled at all levels of study:
349 college; 437 university; 63 graduate; 17 PhD/Dr
- 24% of applications (254 students) could not be funded due to lack of funds

Recorded Six Nations Post Secondary Graduates						
1992-93	2003-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
19	124	116	108	83	121	121

For more information see the Annual Report 2008/09 on our website

www.grpseo.org

We would like to introduce our two new board members who joined the GRPSEO Board in May 2010:



IRIS WRIGHT: returned to Six Nations in 2006 after 30 years of working in various political and service oriented Aboriginal organizations in Ontario. Soon after her return she built a home and then looked for ways to be involved in the community. Sitting on GRPSEO Board was a good fit as she believes that gaining an education from all walks of life is valuable. She returned to school late in life to earn a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and looks forward to sharing her academic and life experience as a member of the Board of Directors.



RICK MONTURE: is Mohawk, Turtle clan, and raised on Fourth Line. He attended S.S. # 6, S.S. #5, JC Hill and Caledonia High School. He recently completed his PhD Dissertation, entitled "Teionkwahkhasion tsi Niokwarihoten ('we share our matters'): A Literary History of Six Nations of the Grand River," and is currently an Assistant Professor with the Department of English and the Indigenous Studies Program at McMaster University.