

Application Calendar 2009

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.**

Other Post Secondary Dates and Events

- Feb** GRPSEO Funding Information Night 2010
May 18 Participation in Bread and Cheese Parade
June 1 Summer Office Hours: Open from 8 am to 4 pm
June 22 Participation in Solidarity Day – Office Closed
July 17 Norm's Golf for Grads, Sundrim Golf Course
Aug 20 Student Recognition, Six Nations Polytechnic Student Centre
Aug 21 Office Closed
Sept 1 Back to Regular Office Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Oct 1 Graduate Photos Due for Publication
Nov Graduate Promotion/Grad Photo Publication
Nov 4 Post Secondary Information Day
Nov 20 Fall Semester Contact Required from all Students – Check with your Counsellor
Dec Office Closed **December 24** and Reopens **January 4, 2010**

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

Grand River Post Secondary Board Members

Brenda Davis (Chair)	Carol Jacobs
Marion Martin	Sher Miller
Lillian Montour	Tom Deer
Peter Martin	Barbara A. Martin
Susan M. Hill	
Claudine VanEvery-Albert (Council Rep)	

EDUCATION...A PATH TO TOMORROW

MOTIVATE ♦ INSPIRE ♦ EDUCATE ♦ CHALLENGE



Aaron Thomas is Walker Mohawk, Turtle Clan.

Aaron actually spent a considerable amount of time in pursuit of a post-secondary education. Six years to be exact, and he jokes, they still don't call him Doctor. However, he obtained a Police Foundations Diploma from Fanshawe College, and an Honours Degree in Criminology from Wilfrid Laurier University with complementing minors in Psychology and Contemporary Studies.

Aaron feels his education has rewarded him with the satisfaction of having expanded his intellectual horizons. **He sought - a challenge and desired knowledge.** Both were fulfilled, not only in the classroom, but outside of the classroom as well. "What it all comes down to is **life experiences. You need to experience things in order to expand your horizons.**"

Throughout his post secondary education, he feels he had a lot of events that would qualify as accomplishments in his life, but

wouldn't label any of them as major. He doesn't feel that one has been any more significant than the other. What he does consider significant is the fact that he has had the resolve to overcome any roadblocks in his path.

The challenges Aaron experienced throughout his post secondary education he feels are universal. One of the most prominent challenges, both at work and in school, has been effective communication.

Communication barriers **often arise as a result of petty circumstances.** It has been his experience that such situations linger needlessly. **"Sometimes people just need to relax, take a breath, and solve the problem."**

Also, another huge challenge for him, toward the later years of University, was **maintaining an interest/desire** to remain enrolled. That was one of the few unfortunate side effects of the curriculum and the educational staff. He wouldn't change his time at school for anything, but as always, there was room for improvement. Things, for him, became dull and mundane, but he stuck it out and is glad he did.

As a testament to our matriarchal society, the values and principles, as an Onkwehon:we person, that guided him throughout his education came chiefly from his mother. It was her work ethic, her ability to command a situation, and her humour that were the greatest gifts. It was these gifts that taught him to place a **high value**

on **critical thought, hard work** and **respect.**

Also of great importance to Aaron is the **ability to laugh** and cut up his buddies. He finds that humour within our people is among the best in the world's cultures. Humour seems to create the best friendships and if not the best, then at least the most entertaining.

At present Aaron feels he is nothing more than just another pebble in the road, however, he does dream big. There are several avenues his life 'could' take. One such avenue involves the opening of a business, which has been an ambition of his for quite sometime. The scope of that project could extend out to many First Nations across North America. The project would utilize modern technologies to identify and address issues affecting First Nations communities. Another possible avenue could involve the political arena, and/or return to school to obtain a law degree, with the goal of championing First Nations rights!

ONE key challenge that needs to be addressed by Six Nations and/or the world in the next generation is **Unity.** Unity, he knows is no easy task. In order to tackle this challenge, Aaron's ideas for the next generation involve **education.** Ideally in 25 years time, we want our kids to be on the same page as the rest of society. It will take a few generations at least before we can **create stability in homes** that will **promote healthy**

minds, because without that we're just fishing in the dark. **Proper education** is the key, both at home and in school. In order **to achieve unity,** our children must be **properly educated** (don't assume education to mean "westernized" ideas) to **ensure healthy minds,** and only with healthy minds can our community make headway on outstanding issues.

Words of encouragement or advice Aaron offers to young people as they make decisions for their futures are -**"Getting into trouble is like a rocking chair, it gives you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere"** (not his, heard it from a movie or something). What he tells young people is that **"they should not limit themselves with complacency.** The world has just too **much to offer to bury your heads in the sand.** You're going to face **hard times,** you're going to face **good times,** but it is truly these times that contain the most **truths.** Don't let your **dreams fade,** be **persistently stubborn in their pursuit."** Just **'gripper and ripper',** (John Daley – PGA golfer)

Aaron is proud to call Six Nations his home! That is because of good people, family and good friends! Onen!