

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

RE: Recognition of Graduates & Award Recipients 2010

The Grand River Post Secondary Education Office (GRPSEO) wishes to announce 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.

GRPSEO will continue to provide special recognition of our Six Nations graduates and award recipients. You can be assured their achievements and accomplishments will be celebrated and shared.

Application Calendar and Other Post Secondary Dates and Events

- Feb** GRPSEO Application Information Night 2011
- Mar 19** 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 24** 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 2** 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 16** Norm's Golf for Grads, Sundrim Golf Course
- 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.

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



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

GRAND RIVER POST SECONDARY BOARD NEWSLETTER

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Claudine VanEvery-Albert (Council Rep)	

MOTIVATE ♦ INSPIRE ♦ EDUCATE ♦ CHALLENGE



Shé:kon sewakwé:kon Troy Hill niyonkyáts. Ohsweken nitewakenónh. Konkwehon:we Kanien'kehake Ohrón:wako wa'kanákerate'. Ohrón:wakon tki'terón:take shiraksá:'a táhnon shé:kon eh tkí:teron nón:wa

Troy completed an Undergraduate degree at McMaster University, a Bachelor of Education from Brock and is currently working on his Masters of Education at Brock University. His post secondary education has taken him to New Zealand to attend the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education and many other education conferences across Turtle Island, but more important to him is that his education has brought him back to Kanien'keha, his language. His plans include defending his thesis this spring and attending university to work on his Ph.D.

His major goal is **to acquire a balance** of Mohawk language acquisition with his pursuit of a Ph.D. Balancing the two has been difficult, but **knowing**

there needs to be balance for him is what keeps him focused on obtaining both goals. Becoming a teacher and giving back to our community is a very important part of this goal. He would like to work within an urban environment to share the teachings he has gained from our community, as they have so little access to such resources.

At the age of 30 Troy faced his biggest challenge to date. He met his father for the first time and they began the healing journey together. Troy learned firsthand of his father's horrible educational experience which inspired him to give back to our community and to begin healing and recognizing that **we can move forward with strength from our past**. While on this journey Troy has gone from writing his thesis in a tent and having nothing, to surrounding himself with spiritual awareness through the Kanonhweratontshera (opening address).

The principles that guided Troy are from the Kanonhweratontshera and they are simply - E'tho neniohtonhake ne onkwa'nikon:ra - our minds becoming one, **sharing** knowledge with each other and **honoring** that knowledge by **acknowledging** it every morning we wake and evening before we sleep.

As a result of his education and upbringing Troy will foster healing

from past generations through his own personal healing with his father. He hopes to share his journey and experience as well as the knowledge gained from his mother Marion, to help foster hope and true visions for the future of the community as well as his next generation – his children Kiana, Kaden and Erika.

A key challenge that Troy feels needs to be addressed by Six Nations and / or the world in the next generation is the **need to recognize** that we are **all one** and our minds need to come together to communicate this and to **maintain the responsibility we have to mother earth**. He plans on being an educator who is inclusive and shares knowledge and ideas with a good mind. **“Without our minds becoming one and recognizing we need each other to heal and move forward, we will stand still, and standing still, although together, still goes nowhere....”**

The advice Troy gives to young people as they make decisions for their futures...As a teacher in the Western education system he has witnessed that **opportunity if not seen**, is seemingly not there for our people, but if you **open your mind and share your knowledge** with others that **opportunity will become visible**. Once visible we will see the **benefits of taking**

advantage of it. Advantage from the knowledge we have from the three generations before us, the practice we use in maintaining it today, and living a life that promotes this knowledge for generations to come.

Words of encouragement he gives to young people... Troy shares the **vision of opportunity** and what his post secondary education has allowed him to take advantage of. He encourages the youth to **“Embrace knowledge from all peoples while maintaining the foundation of wisdom of being Kanienkehake.”**

Troy has spent the first 30 years of his life wondering where he came from spiritually. He has always known he was Mohawk of Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, but it wasn't until he began the healing with his father that he realized his spirit and the strength he has gained by acknowledging it.

The greatest thing that has happened to him is the welcoming back by our community, with open spirits and good minds. He knows now who he is, and knows where he came from and is going to teach and share with those who have also been left behind. Nia:weh