

WOODLAND CULTURAL CENTRE DONOR NEWS



Giving Tuesday
2022 is Here!

Find out more details on WCC
Giving Tuesday 2022 Campaign

In This Issue...

Truth and
Reconciliation

Nya:wəh for your generosity
during the month of September

And more...

A Reflection on Truth and Reconciliation, a Message from our Executive Director

JANIS MONTURE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past September felt a bit different than the September of 2021 for the Woodland Cultural Centre in terms of truth and reconciliation. The conversation around residential schools and the work around the 94 calls to action as outlined by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission did not have the same media frenzy as it did in 2021. In fact, it was a more subdued tone and although conversations were happening with many schools, organizations and businesses, it was not necessarily a top headline for the various media outlets.

This year the Woodland Cultural Centre carried out virtual Orange Shirt Day programming for the month of September to over 272 groups and around 13,000 participants. All of whom either participated in our virtual residential school tour, truth and reconciliation workshop or learning about the importance of apples. The Development team also took part in various events with some of our third-party fundraisers and raised \$33,955.12 through our CanadaHelps.ca online donation portal for the month of September.

In the Spring, our organization took a different approach in regards to our fundraising and donation requests. As some of you may know, in March 2022, Woodland reached our \$23.5 million fundraising goal for the Save the Evidence campaign to renovate the former Mohawk Institute Residential School. With this success it was clear that we had gained a lot of support and allies in the last 6 years since the start of the campaign and felt it was important to continue the great work we have done with our donors. Although we met our Save the Evidence capital fundraising campaign, much work still needs to be done in regards to reconciliation – in particular when it comes to language and culture.

Which is why this year, in our 50th Anniversary, Woodland Cultural Centre will continue to raise funds towards enhancing language and culture of the Hodinohsho:ni (People of the Longhouse). This year also marks the start of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032) as proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly. In the spirit of this, Woodland Cultural Centre will continue to put a majority of our efforts and attention to growing the revitalization and promotion to stabilize Hodinohsho:ni languages as they are categorized as endangered languages. Our language department will be working very hard over the next 10 years to build upon resources, classes, workshops, recordings and professional development to ensure that future generations of our people will be able to have access to learn and speak our Hodinohsho:ni languages.

In conclusion, I want to thank all of our donors these past years in the generosity you have all given to support Save the Evidence. I hope many of you will continue to support the important work we are now embarking on when it comes to protecting our languages, something that was largely taken away during the residential school era.



Janis Monture
Executive Director

Help the Woodland Cultural Centre this **Giving Tuesday** to Raise Funds for the Dwaḡwəḡnaga:da:t Language Department



This year, Giving Tuesday will be Tuesday November 29th, and Woodland Cultural Centre (WCC) is asking you to show support for the Dwaḡwəḡnaga:da:t Language Department. This year's campaign is targeted to help support WCC's language department in their work to strengthen and revitalize Hodinohsho:ni languages and cultures.

When you donate to the Dwaḡwəḡnaga:da:t Language Department, you are acting as an ally, and helping Hodinohsho:ni of all ages and walks of life from the Grand River. Through the Woodland Cultural Centre, the Language Department facilitates programming where they are able to teach, document, preserve, share and create resources with language and culture in many different aspects. Our team provides incentives to First Language speakers in documenting ancient languages for younger generations to come. They work with consultants and vendors from all Six Nations to keep these critically endangered languages alive for the foreseeable future. The language department also

use their platform, resources, and donations to promote and assist WCC support communities as well as grassroots language programs within the Six Nations community.

"All of this work allows us to expose our people to all of these different aspects that are important to ones' sense of identity. To re-connect and re-establish our relationship with our culture, languages and ceremonies that were stolen through warfare, the residential school system, and assimilation policies throughout history. We are moving forward on the path that was paved by the language preservationists and pioneers in mind who came through WCC before us and hope that we are honouring their legacies in the work we are continuing on today. From the bottom of our hearts - Nya:wəh, Niá:wən, Thank you." - Kaniehtenhawi Deer, Language and Cultural Coordinator

The Hamilton Community Foundation has been a vital partner to WCC offering support, advice and generous donations. Once again, in partnership with the Hamilton Community Foundation, the generous matching donor from our 2020 and 2021 Giving Tuesday campaign has stepped up!

The Woodland Cultural Centre is honoured and grateful to have the support of the The Dufresne-Ray Family Fund at Hamilton Community Foundation, who will be matching the first \$5,000 of your donations for the third year in a row.

Make sure to follow our social media to be reminded of this opportunity to double your donation. Many community supporters, schools and organizations are using the month of November to raise awareness and funds to double the impact of their donation by making it on November 29th. WCC encourages all fundraisers to contact development@woodlandculturalcentre.ca.



Trisha Kelley
Development Coordinator

GIVING TUESDAY

Save the Evidence Update, Woodland Cultural Centre Continues with Phase Three Construction on Former Mohawk Institute Residential School



Construction had a bit of a slow start while schedules and sub-contractors were confirmed. The Woodland Cultural Centre (WCC) team and General Contractor, Robertson Restoration, are working closely with the Survivors Secretariat team to ensure that the GPR work is not impeded.

The first major work is the installation of an elevator. The pit for the installation of the elevator has been completed and was overseen by the project archaeologists, ARA. ARA has worked with WCC from the start of the project and have, for the most part, kindly provided their services pro bono. They supervised all the excavation work during Phase 1 and Phase 2 and also dug 200+ test pits around the site for historical record purposes. WCC is very grateful for their expertise and support.

Infrastructure work has started for the installation of a generator as well as for the repair, replacements and repointing of the masonry around the building. The masonry is in very poor condition so this will be a major undertaking with master masonry restorers.

Currently WCC is on track to meet the deadline for completion of Phase 3 of restoration. I know everyone is very keen to see the site open to the community and general public!

Your generous donations to the Save the Evidence campaign, as well as many government and private corporate and foundation supporters has made this important project a reality.

We will keep you updated as work gets underway and progress on our reopening to the public!

Nya:wəh/Thank you,



Melanie Fernandez
Special Projects Manager



Nya:wəh Go:wah to our Supporters, Woodland Cultural Centre Sends Gratitude for the Support Received over the Month of September

From all of the Woodland Cultural Centre staff, we would like to send out a nya:wəh go:wah to our giving community!

We are endlessly grateful for the support you showed us over the month of September. Whether that was through a fundraiser, our education programming, attending our Indigenous Art opening reception, or you made a donation to the Centre; we cannot thank you enough for supporting the work being done at the Woodland Cultural Centre.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, WCC was able to raise significant donations through our CanadaHelps online charity page. Over the month of September we raised \$33,955.12 and \$15,328.79 on September 30th. We are so appreciative for the contributions we received for National Truth and Reconciliation Day.

We would like to send out a special thank you to our third-party community fundraisers. We are continually astonished by your dedication, compassion, and hard work. We are proud to have such generous stewards representing WCC in different communities across the country to spread awareness and support for our mission.

We cherished every opportunity to connect with you over September and we hope to continue on this journey of Truth and Reconciliation with you.



Trisha Kelley
Development Coordinator

SPECIAL MESSAGES FROM OUR DONORS



Thank you for your amazing work and for preserving this space for those of us who need to learn.

Thank you for all the work you do, and for offering virtual tours and programing for those of us who live far away.

I attended the Virtual Tour of the Mohawk Institute Residential School through our company MPAC. It was so eye-opening, though sad and disturbing that the government and adults had a hand on this and perpetrating it against the most innocent and vulnerable group - children. I feel so guilty. Thank you for the work that you do!

Thank you, nia:wen, miigwetch for offering this opportunity to listen and learn. I am looking forward to it.

In honour of my Great Grandmother who attended this school.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this important cause.

In memory of all the children who never came home and in honour of those who continue to suffer from the trauma they experienced at the Mohawk Institute Residential School and the children and grandchildren of survivors who suffer from inter-generational trauma.

I was excited to learn about the existence of this centre, and hope to visit the museum some day soon. Indigenous cultural resurgence and joy is just as important as healing trauma and the harms of colonization. Much love to the Haudenosaunee people today.

Peace love and support to all the talented artists and the people of The Woodland Cultural Centre.



Thank you for doing this.

Thank you for the important work you are doing, for educating the general population and for supporting your community.

Apologies will never be enough. I know it's only a little bit but I hopefully will be able to increase as time goes by. It's vital you continue to tell the story of what went on.



Thank you for supporting your community and sharing your culture with us all!

I walk beside you and commit to helping any way I can as we take this path to reconciliation.

Thank you for preserving Canada's history-- and for your patience educating us settlers.

Best wishes for National Truth and Reconciliation Day and for keeping memories alive in a good way.

Upcoming Events at the Woodland Cultural Centre



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2022 | 10AM - 5PM

Winter ARTFEST

EAT | SHOP | ART

This is a FREE EVENT featuring local Indigenous artisans.

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WOODLAND CULTURAL CENTRE

Presented by Woodland Cultural Centre
184 Mohawk St., Brantford, ON N3S 2X2
Phone: (519) 759-2650

Woodland Cultural Centre is happy to present the 2022 Winter Artfest on November 26th from 10AM-5PM! This is a FREE event so join us at Woodland for a day of eating, shopping, and art!

Shop: We will be featuring a number of local Indigenous artisans in the gift shop, showcasing their intricate beadwork, amazing leatherwork, handmade jewelry and so much more. Every piece that we feature will be a unique and priceless gift to someone this holiday season. Along with this local art, we will have new Woodland gift store items and a free gift will be available with purchase for the first 100 attendees.

Eat: Catering is provided by Eshas Eats all day! We will be providing a number of Indigenous treats with veggie options available!

Art: We will be celebrating all of the artists who have passed through the Woodland Cultural Centre over the last 50 years in the Tom Hill Gallery, with media playing from featured Artists in the Stan Hill gallery. Cody Houle will be doing live paintings throughout the day!



SUPPORT WOODLAND

Donation Levels

- **\$100 – \$499** -will receive acknowledgement on the WCC website updated twice per year (downloadable PDF)
- **\$500 – \$1,499** -will receive invitation to screening of a special virtual tour event and Q & A session and acknowledgement in the WCC Annual Report
- **\$1,500 - \$4,999** - will receive preview invitation to exhibitions, acknowledgement on the WCC website for the fiscal year period of the donation and invitation to donor recognition event
- **\$5,000 +** - will receive a copy of WCC anniversary and other publications

DONATE NOW!

Woodland Cultural Centre needs your help to ensure that we can continue to develop and provide programming and resources to our community and the public!

Support Woodland

INTERESTED IN HOSTING A FUNDRAISER?

We can't thank our fundraisers enough for all the hard work they put into their initiatives!

[Click here to access our third-party fundraising forms!](#)

If you're interested in running a fundraiser for the Woodland Cultural Centre, please contact us at 519-759-2650 x 232 or [email here](#). We are here to support you and we can't wait to work with you!

PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ I have enclosed a cheque
(payable to Woodland Cultural Centre)

☐ Donate online
(www.woodlandculturalcentre.ca/donate/)

Charitable registration number: 891177990RR0001

Woodland Cultural Centre respects your privacy. We protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative requirements with respect to protecting privacy. We do not rent, sell or trade our mailing lists. The information you provide will be used to deliver services and to keep you informed and up-to-date on the activities of Woodland Cultural Centre through periodic contact. If at any time you wish to be removed from any of these lists, simply contact Woodland Cultural Centre at 519-759-2650 X 232.

With my gift of \$ _____ I am please to support the Woodland Cultural Centre

CONTACT DETAILS

NAME

E-MAIL ADDRESS

STREET NAME

SUITE/APT #

CITY

PROVINCE

POSTAL CODE

PHONE

CELL PHONE

NAME FOR RECOGNITION ON WCC WEBSITE (FOR DONORS \$100 AND UP)