

The Future of Water Workshop Series 2010 ***Engaging Youth from Six Nations and Southern Ontario on the Grand River Watershed***

Water and Health in the Community

Retreat Workshop, May 21-23, 2010

*Tim Hortons Onondaga Farms
St. George, Ontario*



Are you between the ages of 20 and 35 and want to engage with your peers and expand your network?



Interested in the Grand River water system and what you can do to help protect it and the communities that rely on it?



Do you want to explore local water issues through innovative facilitation techniques, interactive dialogue and field tours?

Hosted by *Waterlution – A Water Learning Experience*
With special guests:

- 💧 **Danny Beaton**, Environmentalist and 2010 National Aboriginal Achievement Award Recipient
- 💧 **Clynt King**, Environmental Manager, Six Nations Council 💧 **Paul General**, Six Nations Wildlife and Eco-Centre
- 💧 **Karen Kun**, Workshop host and Director and Co-founder of Waterlution 💧 **Lee Ahenakew**, 4Sight Consulting

Purpose of the workshop

“Water and Health in the Community” is a 2 day workshop designed to engage local youth in dialogue surrounding water issues in the Grand River watershed. The purpose of the workshop is to build leadership skills and water knowledge amongst Six Nations youth and youth from neighbouring areas in Southern Ontario. Waterlution’s goal is to inspire local young leaders to work towards the sustainable management of their local water resources and watershed.

Participants of “Water and Health in the Community” will engage with one another, a selection of inspirational mentors from Six Nations, and regional water experts through hands-on activities, interactive dialogue, presentations, and experiential learning techniques. Participants will look closely at the river’s role in the development and health of communities within its watersheds. They will explore how communities interact with the river system, looking at a wide range of pressing issues including demand management, water quality, and restoring the ecological integrity of the Grand River watershed. Over-arching themes for the workshop include water-centric management, traditional knowledge, innovation and creative water management solutions, and sustainable community design.

What is a Waterlution retreat workshop? Our retreat workshops are unique learning opportunities in which participants stay overnight at off-site locations and explore a specific theme through interactive, experiential learning activities.

Location

The workshop will be held at Tim Horton Onondaga Farms in St. George, Ontario. Participants will stay for two nights in the accommodation provided by Waterlution. See Page 3 for map and directions to the site.

Workshop Agenda

The following is the current agenda for the weekend. *Please note that it is subject to change.*

Friday, May 21st – Welcome and Introductory Activities

- 6:00pm – Official welcome and check-in
- 6:30pm – Observatory tour of Tim Hortons Onondaga Farms
- 6:45pm - Dinner
- 7:30pm – Workshop hosts, Karen Kun and Lee Ahenakew, will kick off the weekend with introductions and ice-breaking activities.
- 8:00pm – Opening by Dan Beaton National Aboriginal Achievement Award recipient followed by an opportunity for participants to get acquainted over a campfire and social activity

Saturday, May 22nd – Field Tours and Community Dialogue

- 8:00am – Breakfast
- 9:15am – Bus pick-up for day trip: Grand River learning journey and community dialogue
- 9:30am – The group will embark on an interactive guided tour of the Grand River, stopping at sites along the way: Brantford, the Woodland Cultural Centre, a landfill site, Mohawk Chapel, local water treatment plant, locks and canal systems, and ending the journey in Hagersville.
- 1:30pm – Lunch
- 3:00pm – Water Café discussions with guests speakers and community leaders at the Hagersville community hall
- 5:00pm – Group returns to Tim Hortons Onondaga Farms
- 6:30pm – Dinner
- 8:00pm – Traditional teaching, and Observatory tour at Onondaga Camp (weather permitting)

Sunday, May 23rd – Workshop discussions

- 8:30am – Breakfast
- 9:30am – Open Space dialogue sessions and group discussions led by hosts Karen Kun and Lee Ahenakew will give participants the chance to speak their mind, build their networks, and put forward their own ideas for community change.
- 12:30pm – Lunch
- 1:30pm – Closing thoughts and departure

Who should apply?

This workshop is open to anyone living in the Southern Ontario region. There is space for **22** participants between the ages of 20 and 35 years. In an effort to foster broad dialogue, we are looking for applicants representing diverse backgrounds (e.g. government, Aboriginal communities, industry, academic, NGOs). Participants do not need to be water experts - all applicants with an interest in workshop issues will be considered.

How to apply:

If you are interested in participating in the workshop, please submit a one-page application letter describing your interest in attending.

- In your application letter, highlight why you are interested in learning about **the Grand River watershed**, what potential you see in cross-sectoral dialogue, and what background do you bring to the discussion.
- Submit your application to Karen Kun, Waterlution Director, at karen@waterlution.org
- If you are a resident of Six Nations, we encourage you to get in touch with Andrea Curley (905) 768-8728

Take advantage of extended learning and networking opportunities! The Waterlution experience reaches beyond the scope of the workshop. After the weekend, participants will join the over 400 members nationwide on the online **Waterlution Community Network**.

Cost of Participation

Participants accepted into the workshop are required to pay a \$40 participation fee. Aside from this fee, there are no additional costs to participants during the residential workshop period related to accommodation, meals, or otherwise. **All cheques should be made payable to Waterlution – A Water Learning Experience.** Only with receipt of this cheque is your space confirmed. Applicants who cannot afford this fee should make note of this in their applications. Waterlution supports outstanding individuals and cost will not be a barrier to participation.

This is the fifth year of the Future of Water Workshop Series.
For more information on previous workshops and their outcomes, visit
www.waterlution.org

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MONDAY, MAY 3rd

The demand for this workshop is high, so get your application in as soon as possible!
Contact Karen Kun with your application and/or questions at:
karen@waterlution.org tel: 416 887 4709

Map to Tim Horton Onondaga Farms:
264 Glen Morris Road East, St. George, Ontario. N0E 1N0.



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