

## **Gathering of Good Minds (GGM) 2017 Agenda Overview**

Welcome! As we begin the next five years of the GGM initiative, we felt it was important to ground ourselves in commonplace and collective understanding of what a “Good Mind” entails.

The goal of the Gathering of Good Minds is to bring together all of the Native Nations in the State of New York for the purposes of collaborating and sharing traditional knowledge as a path towards healing our communities from centuries of historical trauma. Together, it is our shared vision to apply our collective wisdom in the areas of Native health and wellness, including mental health, cancer prevention and treatment, diabetes awareness, violence against women, drug addiction and recovery, just to name a few. We welcome you to the 2017 Gathering of Good Minds and we hope you enjoy your time with us.

### **Day 1 – Sunday, June 4th**

3:15 p.m.      **Welcome, Opening and GGM Overview**

4:30 p.m.      **Edge of the Woods Speech: Rick Hill**

5:30 p.m.      **Dinner**

7:00 p.m.      **Evening Activities**

- o Connecting and Reconnecting – through networking and small group discussions

- o Common Grounding – through Elder Storytelling

8:30 p.m.      Closing

### **Day 2 – Monday, June 5th**

8:00 a.m.      **Breakfast**

9:00 a.m.      **Welcome/Opening Remarks Michael Martin**

9:30 a.m.      **Traditional Teachings: Jock Hill**

11:00 a.m.      Break

11:15 a.m.      **Small Group Discussions: Applying the Good Mind to Our Communities**

12:00 p.m.      **Lunch**

1:30 p.m.. **Panel: "Building Community: Women and Men of the Haudenosaunee"**  
**Facilitators: Michelle Schenandoah and Neal Powless**

This panel discussion explores our traditional roles and responsibilities toward the health and wellness of our people today. Discussions among traditional leaders and community members about reinvigorating our traditions.

**Panelists include: Louise McDonald, Terry Jones, Tom Porter**  
**Pending Panelists: Flip White, Jeannie Shenandoah**

4:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. **Dinner**

7:00 p.m. Evening Activities  
**R.E.A.L. School with Jordan Miller and Diane Hill**

**Unseen Tears: Documentary on the Boarding School Survivors**

Closing

### **Day 3: Tuesday, June 6th**

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. **Opening: Review of Previous Day, Preview of the Day, Seven Generations**

9:30 a.m. **Understanding and Unwinding the Clouds**  
**Film Presentation: We Shall Remain**

10:00 a.m. **Unresolved Grief: Dr. Lori Quigley**

11:00 a.m. **Small Group Discussions:** Impact on community health for addressing Chronic Diseases and Other Health Issues. Community breakout to discuss/identify plans, resources, challenges and needs for addressing unresolved grief.

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. **Restoring the Good Mind - Clearing and cleansing our minds - Strategies for helping people to heal from their hurts**

2:00 p.m.      **Diane Hill: Fostering the Emergence of a Good Mind**

Diane Hill (Katsitsawaks) is a member of the Mohawk Nation, Bear clan from the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory in Ontario, Canada. For the past 30 years, she has been consulting on various Aboriginal education initiatives both nationally & internationally. Diane has worked to promote culturally-based training strategies in social work, education and Indigenous cultural studies and possesses expertise in the area of portfolio-assisted prior learning assessment. Diane has written several articles and books and has lectured on the topic of “Ethnostress” and Indigenous models of learning/teaching. She has been teaching and facilitating practices of quantum healing and wellness in an integrated and holistic educational training model in New Zealand, South Africa, Kenya, South America and the USA.

3:00 p.m.      **Emmy Mitchell: Spiritual Reconnection**

Emmy Mitchell is known as an urban Mohawk medicine woman. She was born with a gift of healing, not specifically of the physical body but healing of the hearts and minds of those she comes in contact with. Emmy preserves and perpetuates the culture of her people. She is fluent in the Mohawk language; versed in Herbology, educates on traditional ceremonies and alternative healing modalities. She obtained her nursing license, holds a bachelors and master's degree in Theology, majoring in Ministry of Divinity. Obtained a certified Mediumship course from Certified Medium Belle Salisbury, certified Angel therapist through Doreen Virtue and learned soul retrieval from world renowned Shaman, Sandra Ingerman. Emmy has also worked with many spiritual healers within her own community, and in numerous Native Tribes.

**Small Group Discussions:** Identifying applications and resources/needs for the development and support of spiritual and emotional wellness among communities and community members.

5:30              Dinner

7:00 p.m.      Evening Activities  
Soul Recapture with Emmy Mitchell  
Discussion Group with Diane Hill

10:00 p.m.     Closing

**Day 4 - Wednesday, June 7th**

8:00 a.m.      Breakfast

9:00 a.m.      Opening Remarks, Review of Previous Day, Review of What's Ahead

9:30 a.m.      **Realizing the true power of the Good Mind** – individual and collective creation of positive and sustainable solutions for balance & harmony within themselves, each other, and with all creation – strategies for maintaining our Good Mindedness in our daily lives.

10:00 a.m.      **Strategies for realizing our Peace**  
 -Where do you get your medicine from?  
 -Positive of Coping Skills  
 -Working collaboratively with common purpose – Good Minded discussion and decision making  
 -Resolving Conflict with a Good Mind - Dispute Resolution  
 -Healthy Relationship and Communication Skills – Empathy Listen/Seek to understand, Creating safe spaces – not judging each other

11:00 a.m.      **Strategies for realizing our Power:**  
 -We have a benevolent Creator  
 -Power of Choice  
 -Letting Go  
 -Thoughts > Attitudes > Actions > Behaviors  
 -Achieving Orenda – Power of our collective energy

12:00 p.m.      **Strategies for realizing our Righteousness – Our Good Minds:**  
 -Review of the work done  
 - Aligning our Spirit and Intent.  
 -You do the best you can!

1:00 p.m.      **Lunch**

2:15 p.m.      **Small Group Discussions:** Applying the Good Mind teachings to our communities.

3:00 p.m.      Wrapping it up – Gratitude and Acknowledgements

4:00 p.m.      Unity Stomp Dance – not the end, but a new beginning

Closing