

February 4, 2020

Dear Members:

The OPSEU Indigenous Circle invites you to submit your application for the 2020 Indigenous Conference! We welcome all members who desire to bear witness to the essential role of culture in the survival and thriving of Indigenous communities.

The Conference theme is *"Discovering the Métis: The People of the Sash."* The goal is to inspire and equip OPSEU members to partner and work with Indigenous communities during this time of reconciliation. The Conference is being planned with citizens of the Métis Nation of Ontario. Participants will be equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge to effectively network with Métis members within and beyond OPSEU on various projects and campaigns. Banners are being created by Métis artist Christi Belcourt for this event.

Event participants will be selected by the Indigenous Circle with assistance from the Equity Unit. The selection process seeks to achieve a diverse group of attendees, representative of Indigenous and other equity groups within our membership. Confirmation will be issued to the selected participants the final week of April. Expenses will be reimbursed as per OPSEU policy.

Do not miss this opportunity to network, learn, share experiences *and* have some fun. Please submit your completed application by e-mail to indigenousconference@opseu.org or fax to the Equity Unit **no later than 5 pm, March 27, 2020**. Please note that we will be applying the criteria as set out on pages 4 and 5 of this application for selection. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

In solidarity,

OPSEU Indigenous Circle

Authorized for distribution by:



“Discovering the Métis: The People of the Sash”

Tentative Conference Agenda

Friday June 12, 2020

5:30 to 7:00 PM	Registration (dinner on your own)
7:00 to 9:00 PM	Opening Ceremony
	Keynote by Margaret Froh, MNO President
	Métis traditional Music and Dancing

Saturday June 13, 2020

7:30 to 9:00 AM	Breakfast (provided)
9:00 to 10:30 AM	Métis History and Stories by Ryan Shackleton, Q & A
10:30 to 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 to 12:15 PM	*Workshop I
12:15 to 1:30 PM	Lunch (provided)
1:30 to 2:45 PM	*Workshop II
2:45 to 3:00 PM	Break
3:00 to 4:15 PM	*Workshop III
4:15 to 5:00 PM	Break (time to visit vendors)
5:00 to 7:00 PM	Traditional Dinner (provided)
7:00 to 9:00 pm	Fiddling, Jigging and Storytelling with Métis Strings

Sunday June 14, 2020

7:30 to 9:00 AM	Breakfast (provided)
9:00 to 10:15 AM	*Workshop IV
10:15 to 10:30 AM	Break
10:30 to 11:30 AM	Sharing Circles
11:30 to 12:00 noon	Closing Ceremony and Music
12:00 noon	Depart (box lunch provided)

*Workshops include Making pemmican, Michif language, Beading and Métis roots

APPLICATION FORM

(Please Print or Type)

Applicant Number (to be assigned by Equity Unit): _____

Personal Information	Local #: _____ Union # _____ Name: _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">Last</div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 100px;">First</div> Home Address: _____ _____ Phone Numbers: _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">Home</div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 100px;">Other</div> Email Address: _____
Sector	_____ OPS _____ BPS _____ CAAT-A _____ CAAT-S
Hotel	<p>All rooms at the Unifor Family Education Centre are reserved. As per policy, members must stay at the event hotel.</p> <p>More information about room reservations will be sent to successful applicants upon completion of the selection process.</p>

NOTE: Information regarding Advance, Time-Off, Human Rights Accommodations, Childcare Requests, Hotel Accommodations, Travel and Carpooling options will be sent to successful participants upon completion of the selection process.

PROTOCOLS

The elder leading the ceremonies during the Conference will announce any protocols. The OPSEU Indigenous Circle recognizes and respects the incredible diversity that exists among Indigenous communities on Turtle Island.

APPLICATION FORM – continued

Applicant Number (to be assigned by the Equity Unit): _____

Spaces available for members attending the Conference will be divided among OPSEU's 7 regions. The selection committee will try to ensure that participants represent the diversity of experience in OPSEU, based on the following considerations:

1. Please indicate which of the following groups you identify with (please select all boxes that apply):

- A racialized person
- If racialized, you identify as _____
- Francophone
- A person of Indigenous ancestry (Métis, Inuit and First Nations)
- If Indigenous, you identify as _____ First Nations _____ Métis _____ Inuit
- If Indigenous, give details (FN community, clan, etc.)

- A person with a disability
- LGBTIAQQ2S
- Female

2. What is your age group?

- 18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 Over 65

3. Are you active in OPSEU (e.g. elected to union position)?

- No Yes What region are you from? _____

4. Are you active in the community (e.g. Volunteer at a community agency or religious organization?)

- No Yes

5. What is your occupation?

6. Have you attended a prior OPSEU Indigenous Conference? _____

7. If you are active in Métis and other Indigenous communities, please tell us what you do. If you are not active, what steps would you take to become involved?

8. When you think of Métis, what comes to mind?

9. What is the difference between Métis and non-status Indians?

10. How does this knowledge impact your interactions with Indigenous peoples at work or in your personal life?

11. In a few words, please tell us why you would like to attend this event.

**OPSEU Indigenous Conference
Unifor Family Education Centre
Port Elgin (Ontario) N0H 2C5
June 12-14, 2020**
