



M E D I A R E L E A S E

September 21, 2009

Aboriginal Student Leadership Retreat

District School Board Ontario North East is proud to be hosting an Aboriginal Student Leadership Retreat – ***“Four Elements of Youth Leadership”***, for students in grades 7-12 at **Camp Bickell** (between Timmins and Iroquois Falls) on **Tuesday September 29th** and **Wednesday September 30th**.

The purpose of the two day retreat is to affirm the role of Aboriginal culture in schools, develop leadership capacity in students of Aboriginal descent, and initiate planning of Aboriginal School/Community Councils. Many presenters and community workers have partnered with the Board for this very exciting event. The media is more than welcome to attend. The tentative agenda is as follows:

Tuesday September 29, 2009

- 10:00 **Early Bird Session: Erecting a Tipi**
Instruction led by Louis Lafreniere
- 11:30 **Arrival**
- 12:00 **Welcome, Lunch** – Bernice Archibald (DSB ONE Aboriginal Youth Liaison Officer)
- 1:00 **Medicine Wheel & Four Elements of Aboriginal Leadership**
- Traditional Opening Ceremony - Elders Bill White & Leona White
 - Outline of agenda - Gary Martin (DSB ONE Aboriginal Youth Liaison Officer)
 - House Keeping
- 2:00 **Mix & Mingle** - Jamie Corston (Timmins Native Friendship Centre)
- 3:00  **Educating Your Future** - Veronica Nicholson (TNFC)

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District School Board Ontario North East

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- 4:00 **Leisure Time, unpack, etc.**
- 4:30 **Start “ Sagabond”** (goose over an Open Fire) Doug & Gary
- 5:00  **Dinner, Blessing of Food**
5:30 to 7:30 (approx.) Bannock on stick
- 7:30  **Clans, Where Spirit Leads You** – Bernice Archibald, Doug Davey
Clans, Life Cycle Teachings, Naming Ceremony
- 8:30 **Evening Program**
- Bon fire, storytelling (Bryon Brisard)
 - Closing of the Day
- 9:00 **Reflection on the Day** – Staff Session (Lori, Gary, Bernice)

Wednesday September 30, 2009

- 8:00 **Breakfast, Blessing of Food**
Opening of the Day (Bill & Leona White)
- 9:00 – 9:45 **Importance of Aboriginal Teachings** – Doug Davey
- 9:45 – 10:00 Nutrition Break
- 10:00 – 11:00 **Healthy Relationships** - Kristine Lalonde & Kristin Murray –
Craft – Your Special Skills
- 11:00 – 11:30 **Well Being/Self Healing** - Mike Beaupre (Native Drug and Alcohol Program)
- 11:30 **Lunch**
- 12:30 **Call for Aboriginal Student Voices** - Bryon Brisard (Education Officer, MET)
- 1:15 **Aboriginal Student/Community Council – Break Out Sessions**
Develop a working plan for Student Council
- 2:00 **Traditional Closing Ceremony**
- Evaluation 

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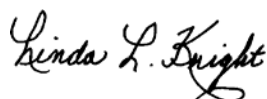
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