

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Stephanie Piovesan

Cell: 905-932-4308

E-mail: [sixnationsrighttohunt@gmail.com](mailto:sixnationsrighttohunt@gmail.com)

[sixnationsrighttohunt.com](http://sixnationsrighttohunt.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/sixnationsrighttohunt/>

**MEDIA RELEASE: The Supporters of Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt Issue Call for  
Workshop Proposals for Full-Day Conference, Sat Nov 16, 2019**

ST CATHARINES, ON – The Supporters of Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt are calling for organizations and individuals in the Niagara region to propose educational workshops to present during the 2019 Hunt Season at a full-day conference to be held Saturday November 16, 2019 in downtown St Catharines at the Marilyn I Walker Performing Arts Centre. The deadline for proposals is October 15, 2019 and proposals should be submitted by email to [sixnationsrighttohunt@gmail.com](mailto:sixnationsrighttohunt@gmail.com).

Stephanie Piovesan, of the Supporters of Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt, explained “we have already received fantastic workshop proposals from multiple Indigenous perspectives, as well as a workshop proposal for a session on decolonizing the animal rights movement. We invite everyone to come to these exciting learning sessions and we are excited to receive more workshop proposals!”

The Supporters of Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt was founded in 2014 and supports Indigenous Inherent and Treaty Rights. The Haudenosaunee Wildlife and Habitat Authority, which organizes the harvest, is a department tasked by the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council with the management of wildlife resources. This is the seventh year of Haudenosaunee harvesting white-tailed deer at Short Hills Provincial Park. ***This conference has been affirmed by the Haudenosaunee Wildlife and Habitat Authority.***

The call for workshops is below and can be found online at <https://sixnationsrighttohuntsite.files.wordpress.com/2019/09/workshop-call-out-2019.pdf>

**Supporting Indigenous Rights in Niagara  
Call for workshop proposals from Indigenous and non-Indigenous presenters**

**Deadline:** Tuesday October 15, 2019

**Conference date:** Saturday November 16, 2019

In solidarity with the upcoming annual Haudenosaunee deer harvest at Short Hills Provincial Park, the Supporters of Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt are hosting a one-day conference in downtown St. Catharines on Saturday November 16th, 2019. Our educational conference will center Indigenous rights and ideas for moving forward together in a good way. We are seeking facilitators to offer workshops from an array of voices and perspectives, including community members, activists, educators, and academics. We invite you to participate in raising awareness of important social justice concerns connected to Indigenous self-determination and decolonization. While past years’ workshops have been held right on-site at Short Hills Provincial Park, this year we have selected a more accessible, indoor venue; Brock University’s downtown campus, the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts - 15 Artists’ Common, St. Catharines ON.

**Call for workshops:**

The Supporters of Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt invite Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to facilitate workshops for the 2019 conference. This is an exciting time in our community as possibilities for new relationships and new perspectives are being built. Through a lens of peacebuilding, we continue to expand momentum and push forward toward wider understandings of anti-racism and decolonizing education. We hope you'll join us for another year of workshops centered on dialogue designed to promote understanding and respectful relations.

If you would like to facilitate a workshop, please:

- Email us at [sixnationsrighttohunt@gmail.com](mailto:sixnationsrighttohunt@gmail.com)
- Introduce yourself, include pronouns and a short bio
- Include a workshop title, brief description of your workshop, and workshop length (options: either 45 min, 1 hour 15 min, or 1 hour 45 min)
- Identify any required materials or tech needs

We look forward to hearing from you, please email us by Tuesday Oct 15, 2019. Workshops will be selected by balancing the voices of Indigenous and non-Indigenous facilitators as well as balancing a variety of topics and approaches. Please note: we are a grassroots organization and are unable to offer monetary compensation for workshop facilitation. If you would like to learn more or have any questions, please contact us.

**Background Information:**

Since 2013, when Haudenosaunee harvesters began exercising their inherent and legal treaty rights to harvest deer at Short Hills Provincial Park, they have faced public settler opposition in the form of protests, physical blockades and anti-Indigenous racism. We are of the perspective that these behaviours emerge, in part, from a general lack of understanding of Indigenous issues. Over the past 6 years, however, we have seen a large shift in public sentiment as the community has come together through a peacebuilding campaign facilitated by the Supporters of Haudenosaunee Right to Hunt. Community members have raised awareness through educational workshops, solidarity and support, as we work together to counter settler racism and hostility.

The Niagara community is at a key transitional moment as more and more public support is gained from churches, organizations, individuals and animal rights activists who support Indigenous rights. Statements of support and solidarity can be found on our website: <https://sixnationsrighttohunt.com/support/>

Last year's 2018 workshops focused on a wide variety of topics including Indigenous cultures and traditions, food sovereignty, decolonization, animal relations, treaties, environmental racism, and settler-oppression. Many workshops built connections between this particular settler interruption of harvesting practices at Short Hills, with other related forms of settler-oppression and social justice issues. This year, workshop facilitators can build on these themes or are welcome to create new topics to educate members of our community. We encourage thoughtful dialogue to deepen community understanding. For more information <https://sixnationsrighttohunt.com/>

***This conference has been affirmed by the Haudenosaunee Wildlife and Habitat Authority.***