



# Algonquins of Ontario

## Celebrating the Petawawa River Part of our Algonquin Past, Present and Future

**Saturday, May 10, 2014**  
**Centennial Park, 18 Park Drive, Petawawa, ON**  
**7 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

Pembroke, Ontario (May 7, 2014) – On **Saturday, May 10, 2014**, the Algonquins of Ontario and the organizers of Hell or High Water 6 will be hosting an exciting celebration in honour of the Petawawa River. Running through the heart of Algonquin Traditional Territory, the Petawawa's thundering rapids have been a source of spiritual strength to the Algonquin people since time immemorial.

"There are few rivers in Algonquin Territory as vast, undeveloped, and unaltered as the Petawawa. The Algonquin people, our ancestral memory and our cultural heritage are inherently connected to this river and its adjacent lands," states Kirby Whiteduck, Algonquin Negotiation Representative and Chief of the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation.

Chief Whiteduck explains that "Saturday's event will be an opportunity for the Algonquin people, together with our neighbours, to join together in our mutual appreciation and respect for this mighty river."

As part of the Hell or High Water 6 festivities, the Algonquins of Ontario will be hosting the following events highlighting the Petawawa River as part of our Algonquin past, present and future:

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
7 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	<p><b>Welcome and Ceremony in Honour of the Life of the Petawawa River</b></p> <p>In honour of Algonquin traditions, it is kindly requested that those attending the Water Ceremony refrain from taking photographs, using any recording devices and that women wear a long skirt or sarong over their clothing.</p>	Centennial Park 18 Park Drive Petawawa, ON
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	<p><b>Algonquins of Ontario Display Booth</b></p>	Centennial Park 18 Park Drive Petawawa, ON
11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<p><b>Speech by Kirby Whiteduck, Algonquin Negotiation Representative and Chief of the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation</b></p> <p>Immediately following Chief Whiteduck's speech, there will be an <u>Opportunity for Media Interviews</u> (see further details below).</p>	Centennial Park 18 Park Drive Petawawa, ON
3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.	<p><b>Natural and Cultural History Walk</b></p> <p>Guided by Ethan Huner, professional naturalist and AOO Resource Technician. This 2 kilometre walk will be a guided trip along the Millennium Trail encouraging participants to explore the local landscape and learn about its natural history. Emphasis will be placed on the Algonquin cultural relationship to the Petawawa River and traditional Aboriginal life-ways.</p>	Millennium Trail  Will start and end at the gravel lot at intersection of Wilson Road and Gerald Avenue in Petawawa, ON.

## **Opportunity for Media Interviews**

Chief Whiteduck will be available for short one-on-one interviews with any interested media immediately following his speech, which will begin at 11 a.m. To arrange an interview, contact Megan Aikens by telephone at 613-504-2862 (mobile), by email at [m.aikens@nrtco.net](mailto:m.aikens@nrtco.net) or in person at the AOO Display Booth on Saturday.

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For additional information, contact:

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