Call for Papers

Indigenous–Mennonite Encounters in Time and Place:

A Gathering of Body, Mind, and Spirit

May 13–15, 2022

Conrad Grebel University College University of Waterloo

This academic conference and community education event will offer stories and analyses of encounters and relationships between Indigenous peoples and Mennonite settlers from point of contact through to the present.

The gathering will take place on the Haldimand Tract, promised by proclamation to the Haudenosaunee/Six Nations in 1784 as land protected from settlement, in order to ensure the maintenance of their way of life. It is also the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Huron-Wendat, and Anishinaabeg Peoples. Mennonites were the first European settlers on Block No. 2 of the Tract. The topics to be explored, however, will also be international, given that Mennonites have a long migratory history that saw them settle in many parts of the world over the past three centuries, during which they encountered Indigenous peoples across the globe.

The intent of this event is to advance understanding, on the part of Mennonites and other interested participants, of their colonial histories, and as an effort to advance reconciliation and bring justice to Indigenous– settler relations. The event will comprise academic presentations, community storytelling, artistic offerings, and both Indigenous and Mennonite ceremony. The organizers anticipate an event full of listening, hearing, conversation, and silence.

We welcome submissions from academics, activists, artists, community members, and students—young and old, Indigenous and non-Indigenous—in these categories: individual proposals, panels, roundtables, artistic contributions, workshops, and storytelling. Please submit your proposal through the conference website or by email to ime@uwaterloo.ca. The priority deadline for submissions is **September 30, 2021**.

https://uwaterloo.ca/indigenous-mennonite-encounters