Call for Papers
Confederation · Patriation · Reconciliation

Reconciliation: Wahkotowin
University of Alberta and Centre for Constitutional Studies

Taking place within Treaty Six on lands of the Enoch Cree Nation at the River Cree Resort just outside of Edmonton, Alberta, the Centre for Constitutional Studies and University of Alberta, Faculty of Law will host the conference, Reconciliation: Wahkotowin, on September 21-23, 2017.

Our conference is the culminating event of the Constitution 150 partnership: a year-long collaboration between the Centre for Constitutional Studies, University of Alberta, University of Ottawa, and the Université de Montréal to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation and to explore the critical constitutional issues of Canada’s future. More information about Constitution 150 can be found at www.constitution150.ca.

Inspired by the insights of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, UNDRIP and the treaty relationships that constitute Canada’s first constitutional law, our conference will focus on how to translate the spirit of reconciliation into constitutional text, practice, culture, and law. Is constitutional reconciliation the appropriate concept to pursue? If so, how might it be accomplished? We are particularly interested in the ways in which Indigenous laws and Indigenous constitutionalism can serve as models to chart a path forward, or provide a re-imagining of constitutional relationships within Canada.

Our conference will bring together leading scholars of Indigenous and constitutional law, as well as community leaders and policy makers to discuss and examine the possibilities and hurdles of a constitutional future built on mutual respect. We take inspiration from the Cree concept, Wahkotowin and its focus on the connections, responsibilities, and meanings of deep and abiding relationships.

Confirmed speakers include:

• Val Napoleon, Law Foundation Professor of Aboriginal Justice and Governance, University of Victoria, Faculty of Law
Proposals for papers are now invited. We seek contributions from scholars interested in a range of topics related to our theme of constitutional reconciliation and *Wahkotowin*: Indigenous constitutionalism, including among the Inuit and Métis peoples; the relationship between Indigenous law and conceptions of Aboriginal rights under the *Constitution Act, 1982*; historic and/or contemporary treaty as a model for constitutional relations within Canada; Indigenous sovereignty, federalism, and constitutional law; and any other topics and approaches that will assist us in exploring our broader theme.

If you would like to propose a paper, please submit a working title, an abstract (of no more than 350 words), and a current c.v. Proposals from scholars at all levels of experience and a range of disciplinary perspectives including Indigenous studies, law, political science, sociology, anthropology, history and related disciplines are encouraged to submit.

Proposals should be emailed to Patricia Paradis (pparadis@ualberta.ca) before November 17, 2016. Note that presenters may be required to pay their own travel and accommodation expenses. Those selected will be notified by December 8th, 2016. Questions should be submitted to Eric Adams (eadams@ualberta.ca) or Patricia Paradis (pparadis@ualberta.ca).

*Reconciliation: Wahkotowin* Conference Planning Committee members:
Eric Adams, Catherine Bell, John Borrows, Marilyn Buffalo, Hadley Friedland, Adam Gaudry, Patricia Paradis, Sean Robertson.

**About Constitution 150**

*Constitution 150* is a year-long national collaboration celebrating the Canadian Constitution. It is a multi-pronged project involving scholars, youth, policy makers and the public and is the result of a collaboration between the University of Ottawa’s Public Law Group, the University of Alberta, the Université de Montréal and the Centre for Constitutional Studies. The academic component of *Constitution 150* involves conferences on Confederation: Université de Montréal, May 16-18, 2017; Patriation and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, University of Ottawa, March 8-10, 2017; and Reconciliation, University of Alberta and Centre for Constitutional Studies, September 21-23, 2017. To see the call for papers for all conferences or for more information visit www.Constitution150.ca.