

MEDIA ADVISORY

Monday, October 17, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MATAWA FIRST NATIONS TO HOST INTER-DENOMINATIONAL FAITH EVENT
TO ADDRESS RACISM IN THUNDER BAY**

THUNDER BAY, ON: Darius Ferris, President of the Matawa First Nations Management Board of Directors will be hosting an event called, “Walking in the Light – Addressing Racism in Thunder Bay Guided by Faith,” on Tuesday, October 18, 2016. He will be joined by leaders and people of all faiths and denominations and people living in Thunder Bay from the Matawa First Nations.

The event will begin with a Unity Walk starting near the International Friendship Gardens at Victoria Avenue East and Waterloo Streets at 1:00 p.m. (see attached walk route) and will conclude with a Symposium at the Columbus Centre at 301 May Street starting at 3:00 p.m.

Speakers at the symposium will include leaders from various faiths/denominations and Professor Walid Chahal, lecturer for the Lakehead University’s Sociology Department. He is also the Co-Chair of Diversity Thunder Bay, an Executive Member of the Thunder Bay Multicultural Association and community advisor of the Thunder Bay Muslim Association. He has written on the root causes of antagonisms and hostilities at the core of racism, how they get reproduced, and why they persist. The symposium will include fellowship, prayer and discussion on solutions-based approaches which will be compiled into a consensus document to be shared as a moving forward tool.

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend. Media availability will take place at the Unity Walk and at 5:00 at the symposium.

Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2016
Location/Time: Unity Walk: Victoria/Waterloo to City Hall – 1:00 pm
Symposium: Columbus Centre, 301 May Street 3:00 – 5:00 pm

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For more information, please contact Carol Audet, Communications Manager – Matawa First Nations at (807) 632-9663 or by email at caudet@matawa.on.ca.

Matawa First Nations Management is a Tribal Council providing a variety of advisory services and programs to 8 Ojibway and Cree First Nations in James Bay Treaty No. 9 and 1 First Nation in the Robinson-Superior Treaty area. Follow them on Facebook or Twitter @MatawaFNM.

