

May 9, 2024
City of Brantford
Invitation to Invest

Re: Dwaᑑ'nyota' Dwaga:'sho:'qh "We Celebrate our Stories" Capital Campaign

We are honoured to present this invitation to invest in Dwaᑑ'nyota' Dwaga:'sho:'qh "We Celebrate our Stories" Capital Campaign to the Six Nations Elected Council, aiming to secure funding for a transformative project, establishing a state-of-the-art cultural centre dedicated to celebrating and preserving Hodinoshoni Indigenous culture. This initiative embodies our commitment to cultural revitalization and underscores our dedication to community well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental stewardship.

The proposed cultural centre will serve as a beacon of our Hodinoshoni culture, offering a comprehensive range of programs and services designed to nurture cultural pride, foster community resilience, promote intergenerational learning, and create a space for cross-cultural dialogue. The total budget for the construction and operation of the cultural centre is estimated at \$65 million. This funding will cover the costs associated with design, construction, archeological studies, collections storage, staffing, programming, and ongoing maintenance.

Key components of the centre include:

1. **Language Preservation and Growth:** A dedicated space for language revitalization efforts, offering immersive language learning programs and resources to ensure the transmission of traditional languages to future generations.
2. **Haudenosaunee Heritage Revitalization:** Exhibits, workshops, and events focused on preserving and promoting Haudenosaunee traditions, ceremonies, and governance systems.
3. **Community Well-being:** Mental health and cultural knowledge-sharing initiatives, providing resources and support services to enhance community resilience and wellness.
4. **Arts and Creative Economy:** Opportunities for artists and entrepreneurs to showcase their work, participate in skill-building workshops, and contribute to the growth of a vibrant creative economy.
5. **Museum and Exhibits:** A world-class museum showcasing Hodinoshoni history, culture, and contemporary achievements, offering interactive exhibits and educational programs for visitors of all ages.
6. **Truth and Reconciliation:** A space naturally dedicated for truth and reconciliation initiatives, facilitating dialogue, healing, and understanding among Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.
7. **Artifact Preservation and Repatriation:** Class A collection storage facilities, ensuring the safe preservation of cultural artifacts and providing mechanisms for the repatriation of community items for cultural use and learning.

8. **Economic Growth and Community Empowerment:** Job creation, skills development, and entrepreneurship opportunities, fostering economic growth and self-determination within the community.
9. **Community Spaces and Infrastructure:** Multi-purpose community spaces for arts, cultural events, and gatherings, providing accessible infrastructure for community use and engagement.
10. **Environmental Stewardship:** Commitment to sustainable practices and the protection of Mother Earth, incorporating eco-friendly design elements and promoting environmental education and advocacy.

The establishment of this cultural centre is not only a testament to our commitment to preserving and celebrating our Hodinoshoni culture but also a strategic investment in the well-being and prosperity of Six Nations of the Grand River and the surrounding communities. By providing a hub for cultural revitalization, economic empowerment, and environmental stewardship, this project will enrich the lives of current community members and lay the foundation for a vibrant and resilient future.

We believe that establishing this cultural centre aligns with the core values and priorities of the Six Nations of the Grand River and Brantford. By investing 1 million over a multi-year commitment in this project, the City of Brantford will demonstrate its commitment to community language and cultural revitalization, well-being and self-determination of our community. Through its multifaceted approach to cultural preservation, community well-being, economic development, and environmental sustainability, this project has the potential to catalyze positive change and empowerment. We are eager to work collaboratively with the City of Brantford to bring this vision to life and create a brighter future for future generations.

Thank you for considering this proposal. We eagerly await the opportunity to discuss this proposal further to support the Woodland Cultural Centre Dwadęnyota' Dwaga:'shq:'qh "We Celebrate our Stories" Capital Campaign and collaborate on bringing this vision to life. Thank you for considering our request for funding support.

Nia:wen/Thank you for considering supporting

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Heather George
Executive Director