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MEDIA RELEASE

Acadia University hosts Indspire Acadia kick-off event to celebrate Indigenous knowledge and culture

For immediate release

Thursday, September 7th, 2017

Wolfville, NS – On Sunday, September 10th, 2017, the Acadia Students' Union (ASU) is proud to host the first event of Indspire Acadia, an Indigenous knowledge and reconciliation project that seeks to spark conversations and dialogue among members of the Acadia community.

In collaboration with Acadia University, the morning will bring Indigenous presenters and members of the Acadia community together to learn about Indigenous art and culture, followed by a valuable discussion on the question – “What does reconciliation mean to Acadia?”. A graphic recording will consolidate the ideas and opinions of participants and will serve as a reconciliation roadmap for the Acadia Students' Union into the future. The day will culminate with a medicine walk and bonfire in the Harriet Irving Botanical Gardens.

Funded through the ASU's Wellness Fund, Indspire Acadia is a student-led project aimed at breaking down barriers and focusing on the path forward towards reconciliation and relationship building with Indigenous peoples. By starting the conversation, our students can learn about our shared history with Indigenous peoples and we can continue to build and strengthen positive relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous members of the Acadia community.

“We are extremely excited to bring this experience to Acadia,” says Oliver Jacob, Chairperson of the Acadia Students' Union and an event lead, “we believe that it will truly serve as the basis for an inspiring dialogue on our place on the road to reconciliation”.

The Wellness Fund was created by students in 2010 to accommodate the needs of Acadia's students and to enhance their overall sense of wellness through grants to various student-led initiatives. Each year, Acadia students contribute \$30 dollars (\$15 per semester) to the Wellness Fund. The Wellness Fund has funded past projects including the installation of water bottle filling stations in each residence building in the summer of 2017 and the first annual Pride Walk in November 2016.

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For more information:

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Attachments: [Event Poster](#)