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From: John C Smith
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 12:53 PM
To: Archive
Cc: Torch; 'katlynv@pioneergroup.com'; 'jcrees@pioneergroup.com'; 'callan@pioneergroup.com'; 'news@9and10news.com'; 'newsroom@upnorthlive.com'; 'news@bigrapidsradionetwork.com'; 'smasters@sunny973.com'; 'grnews@mlive.com'; 'bmcvicar@mlive.com'; 'news@fox17online.com'; 'newsroom@woodtv.com'; 'news@wzzm13.com'; 'news@woodradio.com'; Sheila_McGrath@mlive.com; Mike_Wyngarden@mlive.com
Subject: November is Native American Celebration Month at Ferris
Attachments: Native American Heritage Celebration Events Throughout November on Ferris Campus-sg.docx; Wade.jpg

Included below is a press release detailing the schedule for Ferris State University's Native American Celebration Month starting Wednesday, Nov. 4. The university's Office of Multicultural Student Services and a registered student organization, the Circle of Tribal Nations have arranged the schedule, aided by a mini-grant from Ferris' Diversity and Inclusion Office. Other events include Birch Bark craft workshops on Thursday, Nov. 12 and the featured presentation, "A Native American Thanksgiving" on Monday, Nov. 23. The events are free and open to the public.

The attached photo is of Michael Wade, the assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Student Services.

Read an online version of the story, here...

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2015/november/native.htm>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 3, 2015

John C. Smith
Ferris State University
Communications Specialist
JohnSmith@Ferris.edu
(231) 591-5604

Native American Heritage Celebration Events Throughout November at Ferris

BIG RAPIDS, Mich. – Opportunities to sample Native American foods, culture and traditions will be available to Ferris State University students, faculty and staff, as well as the Big Rapids community throughout the month of November.

Office of Multicultural Student Services Assistant Director Michael Wade said that his office works closely with the Circle of Tribal Nations, as sponsors, to plan the schedule of events each year.

"We seek to provide a variety of opportunities with the students of the registered student organization, in partnership," Wade said. "They are definitely at the root of our activity."

The "Ghost Supper," a Native American feast meal to honor those who have passed on to the spirit world will be held Wednesday, Nov. 4, from 5:30 to 9 p.m., in the West Campus Community Center. Bill and Nancy Fuchs, keeper of the White Wolf Drum will guide participants through the elements of this Great Lakes regional tradition.

Circle of Tribal Nations Native American Cultural Advisor Steven Naganashe Perry, of the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians (Waganakising), and the Pine (Shingwauk) family of Garden River Ojibwe Reserve (Kitigan-zeeping) in Ontario, will lead workshops on birch bark crafting on Thursday, Nov. 12. Those who participate in Science Building Laboratory 231 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., or 2:30 to 4 p.m., will have the opportunity to make rattles, or birch bark medallions.

Wade said they typically see their largest audience for the final event in the Native American Heritage Celebration, “A Native American Thanksgiving.” This featured presentation will be held in the University Center Rankin Lounge from 5 to 8 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 23.

“We are glad to offer evening events to bring in participants from the campus and community,” Wade said. “We always get the biggest turnout, and it is probably because of the native foods offered there.”

Lee Sprague, a former tribal council member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is the evening’s guest speaker, and will offer Thanksgiving teachings from a Native American perspective.

Wade said a mini-grant from Ferris’ Diversity and Inclusion Office has supported this year’s Native American Heritage Celebration event schedule.

More information on the celebration can be found on the **Office of Multicultural Student Services** web page.

PHOTO CAPTION: Michael Wade is the assistant director of Ferris’ Office of Multicultural Student Services. They are a sponsor of Native American Heritage Celebration Activities, along with the Circle of Tribal Nations. The schedule is supported by a mini-grant from the university’s Diversity and Inclusion Office.

(Embed link)

<https://www.facebook.com/Circle-of-Tribal-Nations-201247643274939/?fref=ts>

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John C. Smith

Communications Specialist

University Advancement & Marketing

Ferris State University

(231) 591-5604

ferris.edu

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