“When you sit and counsel for the welfare of the people, think not of yourself, nor your family, nor even of your generation, but on behalf of the Seven Generations to come, whose faces look up from the earth, awaiting their time.”

–The Great Peacemaker

In 1977, the Haudenosaunee, along with many indigenous peoples, traveled on their own passports to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, to address concerns of oppressive conditions experienced by native peoples, to bring attention to broken treaties between Indigenous peoples and the colonial governments in the Americas, and to assert self-determination through the liberation of the Natural World. Knowing that they may have had only one chance to speak, the indigenous representatives at that meeting decided to speak on behalf of the Natural World, because the Natural World cannot speak. This was known as Basic Call to Consciousness.

As indigenous peoples confront a colonial condition, the Haudenosaunee have always honored the Natural World, governed through the true nature of democracy, practiced engaged decolonization, and lived through principles of thinking Seven Generations into the future. This conference will revisit Basic Call to Consciousness to seek peace, equity and friendship through the traditional governing principles of the Haudenosaunee, known as the Gayaneñ•hsä•'go•nah, or the Great Law of Peace.

Revisiting Basic Call to Consciousness: Peace, Equity and Friendship

Thursday, September 24, 2015
Onondaga Nation WILC Village, Event Tent
9:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Event Schedule

Peace 9:00 AM
Peace-building in the context of cultural sustainability; restoring a peaceful relationship with the earth and the environment; creating peace between indigenous communities, Canada and the United States.

Equity 11:00 AM
Equity and fairness in incorporating indigenous knowledge in modern-day society; seeking true justice in treaty and land matters; restoring gender balance.

(LUNCH BREAK 12:30 – 1:30)

Friendship 1:30 PM
Building lasting friendships between neighbors; issues of governance, jurisdiction, food sovereignty and economic justice.

Consciousness Now 3:30 PM
What has been achieved since 1977? What still needs to be done to ensure peace, equity and friendship for many generations to come?