



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 28, 2014

**The Story of Our "Grandfathers": Our Original Medicine
A special exhibit at MOA**

The Museum of Ontario Archaeology is featuring a special exhibit: *The Story of Our "Grandfathers": Our Original Medicine* guest curated by Dakota Ireland. This exhibit runs from May 28th to August 25th, 2014.

This exhibit demonstrates how plants, food, medicines and First Nation spirituality are interconnected. It illustrates the importance of a reciprocal relationship between all living things from plants to humans. Visitors will journey back to the origins of our Mother Earth and learn about nature's roots through the Haudenosaunee creation story. Interactive herb scents and artifacts accompany the imagery and story. The exhibit is complemented by a feature video of the Haudenosaunee creation story filmed specifically for this exhibit.

The Story of Our "Grandfathers" will inspire visitors to learn more about the indigenous plants of the Great Lakes region and the symbolism and teachings of the First Nation creation story. Different plants, how to collect them, their medicinal and practical uses are highlights that visitors have expressed interest in learning.

About Dakota Ireland:

Dakota is from the Bear clan on the Oneida Nation of the Thames. She feels that curating this exhibit helps fulfill her clan's responsibility to learn about plants and medicines, their preparations and uses. As a curator, Dakota was able to use her knowledge and creativity to show our deeper ties to plants and medicines.

About the Museum of Ontario Archaeology:

The museum is located in North London beside the Lawson Prehistoric Iroquoian Village, a site occupied by the Neutral Iroquoians in the 16th century A.D. MOA's collections reflect 13,000 years of human habitation in South Western Ontario. We are open daily from 10 am - 4:30 pm. Regular admission rates apply. Visit <http://www.archaeologymuseum.ca> for more details.

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