


Anishinabek Nation Agricultural Round Table

Anishinabek Nation Food Map

Presenter: Janice Brant, Ratinenhayen:thos Co-Chair

Moderator: Lynn Moreau Lands and Resources Coordinator-
Agriculture and Food

January 19, 2022 - 11 to 11:50 am



KENHTE:KE

**SEED
SANCTUARY**

EST. 2018

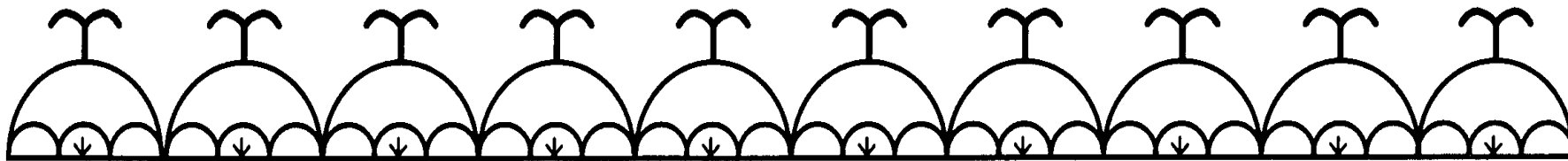
“Few people recognize that much of the success of our current agriculture is owed to the efforts and knowledge of Indian farmers who have been growing corn in New York state for more than 800 years.”

Jane Mt. Pleasant, 1989, p.33
Northeast Indian Quarterly

Historical impacts on traditional food systems...

Years of forced assimilation and disrupted food systems have eroded many agricultural traditions such as seed keeping, planting the Three Sisters in hills or mounds, and following the cycles of the moon and stars.

National Truth and Reconciliation and
the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP)
are asking us to look closely at this history and we are being called to action.

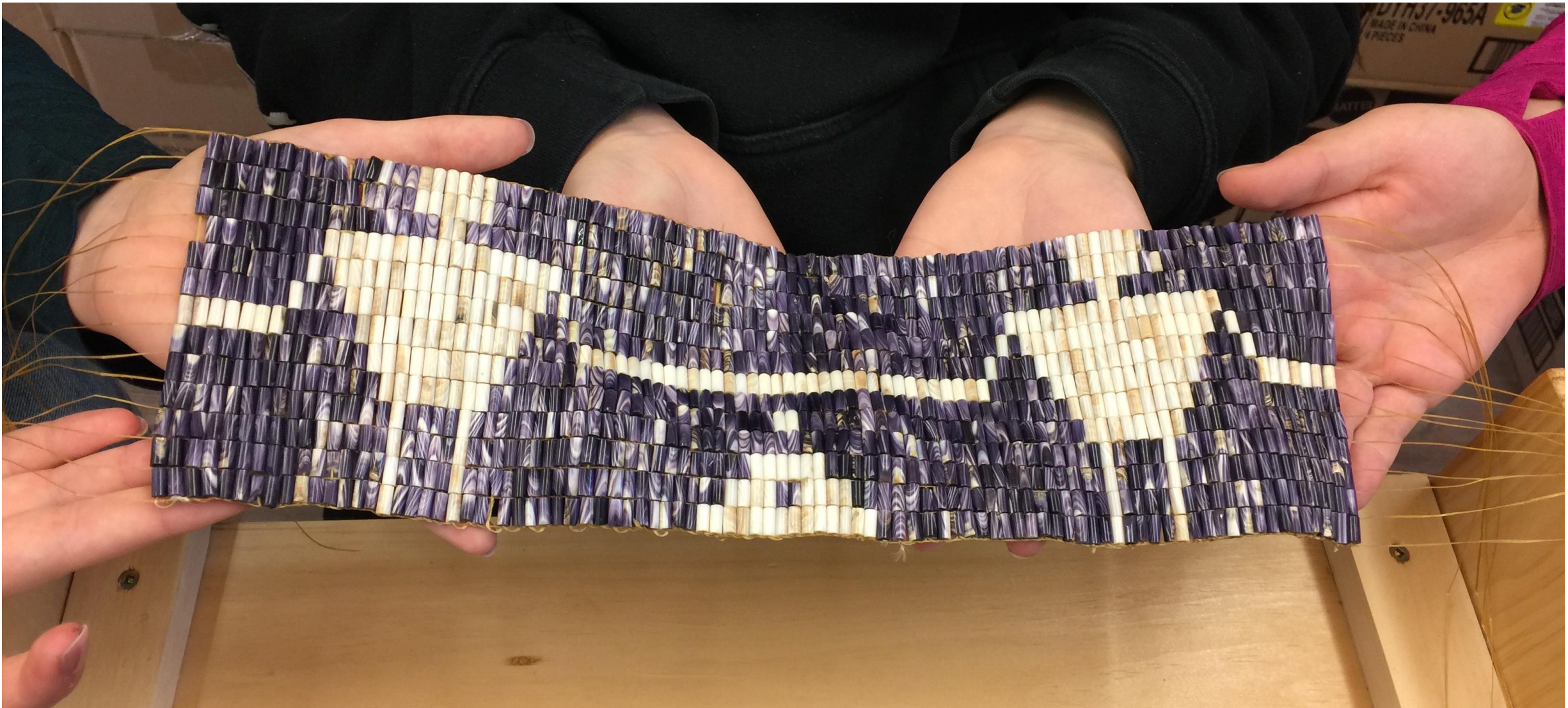


Our Seed Story:

Rotinonhsyon:ni World view is
*“a complete way of seeing &
experiencing the world”*

- Creation Story - Skywoman
- Thanksgiving Address,
“words before all else”
- Cycle of Ceremonies; follow
the changing seasons,
ripening of crops, & the
movement of animals and
fish





A Seed Rematriation Story - Spiritual connections, Truth and Reconciliation, Healing

Indigenous and heirloom seed conservation



Seed to Seed Practices



What are the best seed saving practices?

- High quality locally adapted seed
- Organic
- Grown sustainably
- “Seed-to-Seed” practices
- Ceremony
- Observing and documenting
- Seed education and experiential learning
- Drying, sorting, cleaning and labeling
- Seed Rematrition at low or no cost to people and programs that have places to grow them



Food Sovereignty, Health, Environment



- Living our traditions and balanced lifestyle
- Food is our medicine, eating a traditional diet
- Food access and availability, slow food and making more time to prepare meals at home or in community kitchens
- Physical activity and interaction with the natural “LAWS” Land, Air, Water, Sun

Who are the seed keepers and allies?

- Mohawk Seed Keepers Society
- Haudenosaunee Seed keepers Society
- Ratinenhayen:thos
- Seed Change /USC Canada and Buata Family Initiative
- Sovereign Seeds (Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba)
- Seed Savers Exchange USA
- Community Seed Network, International Canada, USA and Mexico
- Indigenous Seed Keepers Network
- You, ecological farmers

Seed Rematriations across Turtle Island

- Seed Savers Exchange, Indigenous Seed Keepers Network, and the Mohawk Seed Keepers Society
- Ratinenhayen:thos and the community of Tyendinaga hosted the 2019 Seed keepers Conference and Seed Exchange in March
- Sisters of Providence of Saint Vincent De Paul, Ratinenhayen:thos and Kingston Area Seed System Initiative
Ceremony in April 2019
- Kenhte:ke Seed Sanctuary & Learning Centre, established in 2018 - 2022

Discussion, Q&A

- Are you a seed keeper? Do you have seeds to pass along? Do the seeds have a story? How do you share your seeds and seed knowledge?
- Are you interested in being a seed keeper? How can you get involved in seed saving? What do you need to know about saving seeds? What do you need to know about seed gardens?
- Are you excited about this topic?

Nyawenko:wa!

Thank you

E-mail us at:

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Board of Directors

Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory

Please donate!

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