

Entewatia'terò:roke' ne
onkwa'nikòn:ra akwé:tsi iohontsá:te
né:ne' tsi Tiohtià:ke ne 1701

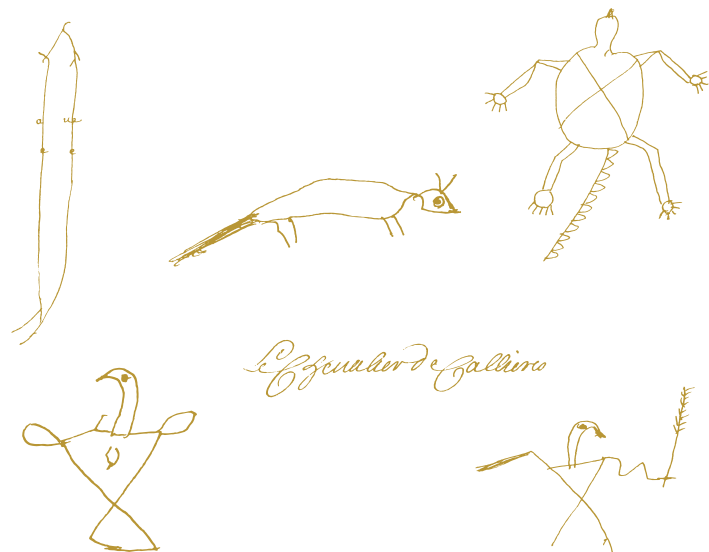
We will bring together spirits
from all over the world,
just as we did in Montréal in 1701.

Three hundred and twenty-five years ago,
Montréal was the site of a diplomatic gathering
unprecedented in the history of North America.
In both its scale and significance, the Great Peace
of Montreal marked a significant turning point in
the history of New France and in relations between
Indigenous Nations and the French.

From July 28 to September 8, 1701, more than 1,300
delegates from northeastern North America and the
Great Lakes region converged on Montréal to
negotiate a “general peace.” Bringing together nearly
forty nations, the agreement ended almost a century
of conflict between France and its Indigenous allies
on the one hand, and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy,
or Five Nations, on the other.

This symposium brings together speakers
from the United States, France, Quebec, Canada,
and Indigenous communities to offer fresh
perspectives on this pivotal moment in history
—one defined by peace, remembrance,
and cross-cultural encounter.

The presentations will be recorded and made available online after the event.
Talks will be delivered in French  or in English , and will be simultaneously translated.



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Taiaiake Alfred
Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

Catherine Desbarats
McGill University

Geneviève Godbout and Louise Pothier
Pointe-à-Callière Museum

Jonathan Lainey
McCord Stewart Museum

COORDINATION

Arianne Lalonde
Pointe-à-Callière Museum

Maria Luisa Romano
McCord Stewart Museum

Signatures on the 1701 treaty (detail), Archives nationales d'outre-mer,
France, C11A, V.19, FOLIO 41-44



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INTERNATIONAL
SYMPOSIUM

THE GREAT PEACE
OF MONTRÉAL

SEPTEMBER 17–19, 2026

325th Anniversary of the Signing of the
Great Peace of Montréal Treaty, August 4, 1701



WE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT OF THE ARTS OPPORTUNITIES FUND (McGILL UNIVERSITY)

PROGRAM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 — KAHNAWÀ:KE

1 pm - 5 pm
Visits for registered symposium participants.
Kanien'kehá Onkwawén Raotitióhkwa Language and Cultural Center.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 — POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE

Multimedia Room, L'Éperon MONTRÉAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY COMPLEX
350 Place Royale, Old Montréal

8 am
Registration

9 am - 9:15 am
Opening Address : Ka'nahsohon Deer (Kahnawà:ke)

9:15 am - 9:30 am
Symposium Introduction
Welcome from the Organizing Partners

9:30 am - 10:30 am
KEYNOTE DISCUSSION: “TELLING THE GREAT PEACE”
Emilie Monnet (Artist, Onishka Productions) in conversation with Gilles Havard (CNRS, Paris)
Moderator: Catherine Desbarats (McGill University)

10:30 am - 10:45 am
Break

10:45 am - 12:00 pm
SESSION 1. HAUDENOSAUNEE-FRENCH TREATIES BEFORE 1701
Moderator : Melanie Gilbert (Kahnawà:ke)
• Jean-François Lozier (Canadian Museum of History), “The Greater Peace? French and Haudenosaunee Treaty-Making, 1665-1667” EN
• Scott Berthelette (Queen’s University), “’To observe a perfect neutrality:’ The 1688 Declaration of Neutrality, Haudenosaunee Foreign Policy, and Laying the Groundwork for the Great Peace of Montréal of 1701” EN
• Questions and Discussion

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Lunch on your own

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm
SESSION 2. RITUALS, PRACTICES, AND NARRATIVES OF DIPLOMACY
Moderator: Maxime Gohier (University of Quebec at Rimouski) FR EN
• Gilles Havard (CNRS, Paris), “Commensality and Condolence: Kinship in the Great Peace of Montréal” FR
• Darren Bonaparte (Mohawk Author, Akwesasne), “The Purple and the White: Ruminations on Wampum” EN
• Colin Coates (University of York, Toronto), “ ‘Une espèce de comédie’: The Performance of Power in the St. Lawrence Valley, 1658 and 1701 ” EN
• Questions and Discussion

2:45 pm - 3 pm
Break

3 pm - 4:15 pm
SESSION 3. WENDAT PERSPECTIVES ON DIPLOMACY
Moderator: Jonathan Lainey (McCord Stewart Museum) FR
• Fannie Dionne (Jesuit Archives & Research Centre) and Megan Lukaniec (Laval University), “Diplomatic Language in Wendat Dictionaries” FR
• Jean-Philippe Thivierge (Onyionhwentsiio, Wendat Nation Council), “The Wendat of Lorette and the Great Peace of Montréal: Reflections on Political Relations in the St. Lawrence Valley” FR
• Questions and Discussion

4:15 pm - 4:45 pm
Presentation: “The Archaeology and Materiality of Peace,” followed by an Introduction to the Great Peace and the 1701 Treaty Museum Tour
• Louise Pothier (Pointe-à-Callière Museum) and Margot Paget (Archives nationales d'outre-mer) FR

4:45 pm - 7 pm
• Great Peace Trail and Reception

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 — MCGILL UNIVERSITY

Tanna Schulich Hall, Elizabeth Wirth Music Building
527, Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal

8 am
Registration

9 am - 9:15 am
Opening Address: Katsi'tsahen:te Cross-Delisle (Kahnawà:ke)

9:15 am - 10:30 am
SESSION 4. MONTREAL AND THE GREAT PEACE: LOCAL AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
Moderator: Catherine Desbarats (McGill University) FR EN
• Dominique Deslandres (Université de Montréal), “Indigenous Montreal at the Time of the Great Peace of Montréal” FR
• Brett Rushforth (Huntington Library et University of South California), “The Great Peace in Global Perspective: The French Empire in 1701” EN
• Questions and Discussion

10:30 am - 10:45 am
Break

10:45 am - 12:00 pm
SESSION 5. FAMILY NETWORKS AND MEDIATION
Moderator: Alexandre Dubé (University of Quebec at Chicoutimi) FR
• Roland Viau (Anthropologist), "The Great Peace of Montréal: A Canadian Idea? " FR
• Michael Davis (McGill University), “The Great Peace of Mobile: Parallel Diplomacy in the Lower Mississippi Valley, 1699-1702” FR
• Questions and Discussion

PROGRAM

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Lunch on your own

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm
SESSION 6. DETROIT AND THE GREAT PEACE
Moderator: Linda Sioui (Cégep de Rivière-du-Loup) EN
• Karen Marrero (Wayne State University), “Coming to Their Country: Indigenous and French Women and the Establishment of Detroit” EN
• Andrew Sturtevant (University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire), “A Haudenosaunee Heart: The Wyandots’ Peace of 1701” EN
• Questions and Discussion

2:45 pm - 3 pm
Break

3 pm - 4:30 pm
KEYNOTE ROUND TABLE
The Great Peace as Living History - What place in Indigenous communities and histories today? EN

Moderator: Jonathan Lainey (McCord Stewart Museum)
Panelists will include Taiaiake Alfred (Kahnawà:ke) and Nate Poyfair/Peepinšihšia (Miami Tribe of Oklahoma)

4:30 pm - 6 pm
• Visit of the exhibition *Indigenous Voices Today: Knowledge, Trauma, Resilience* and Farewell Drink at the McCord Stewart Museum
690, Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal

