

Walk with: ALGONQUIN ELDERS to protect Ottawa's Sacred Site

Friday June 17th, 2016



IT IS SACRED

Algonquin Spiritual Grandmothers & Elders invite you on a walk with Indigenous Nations, inter-faith groups, organizations & supportive Canadians - to protect our common heritage - the Algonquin Sacred Site, Akikodjiwan, at the Chaudière Falls & Islands behind Parliament.



Condos or a sacred forest & falls?

10:00 AM – Ceremony at Victoria Island
11:00 AM – Walk along Wellington Street
12:00 to 12:30 PM – Parliament Hill event

Instead of destruction, the sacred site would offer an entire island of public forest, beautiful free falls and an Indigenous space for peace and healing. (pictured left)

THE SACRED SITE WAS NEVER MEANT TO BE DESTROYED

It is meant to be a prominent international visitor attraction just like other sacred sites around the world (*Stonehenge, UK; Prophet's Mosque, Saudi Arabia; Uluru, Australia*).

Help us stop the massive development slated for September 2016. A proposed \$1.2 billion condo development threatens to cover over the Sacred Site. In 1613 Samuel de Champlain described, in his journals, sacred ceremonies at the site where Indigenous People had worshiped for thousands of years. After settlers, arrived industry polluted the site for 200+ years thereby preventing ceremonies. Since the 1950s, plans were drawn up for the site by officials to eventually become green space. Veering off course, the Harper government initiated the sale of the sacred site. By acting now, we could eventually enjoy a peaceful forest (*similar to Stanley Park in Vancouver*) and breathtaking views of the falls instead of allowing our common heritage to be sold off. This condo speculation and high rise towers are *not* as 'green' as a public forest on a sacred site - fit for the world stage and a focal point for a long-term tourist economy.

Walk with us, be on the right side of history.

**STOP THE MASSIVE CONDO DESTRUCTION - DECLARE THE SITE SACRED
PROTECT PUBLIC HERITAGE**

Article 12 of the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states: "Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural sites." Canada pledged to respect this declaration in 2016.