

JUNE 2017



LOCATION:

Heart Lake Conservation Area (HLCA), Etobicoke Creek Watershed

DATE:

Tuesday June 13, 2017

REGION/MUNICIPALITY:

Region of Peel, City of Brampton

PARTNERS:

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), Region of Peel, Four Colours Drum Circle, Local Seniors Group



Heart Lake CA Medicine Wheel Garden (Gitigaan Mashkiki) and Pollinator Habitat Seniors Walk

TRCA, Four Colours Drum Circle and a local seniors group gathered at HLCA to learn about HLCA's Medicine Wheel Garden (Gitigaan Mashkiki) (MWG) and pollinator meadow plots.

The group were taken on an interpretive hike through HLCA ending at the MWG. Four Colours Drum Circle engaged the participants in a smudging, performing an Aboriginal welcome ceremony with drumming songs, traditional teachings and an educational overview of Gitigaan Mashkiki. Participants were provided with an educational overview of maintenance protocols including the placing of berries and tobacco on the Grandfather and Grandmother stones which circle the inner area of the quadrants to honour plants and representative animals for each direction.

An brief talk was conducted by to bring awareness of globally declining pollinator species and the importance of TRCA's efforts in creating meadow plot habitat. Local residents, students and community groups have been actively engaged over the years in maintaining this area to ensure continued success.

These types of educational activities assist with a better understanding to the importance of a diverse ecosystem within urban areas.



POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

# of Participants	Participant Hrs Contributed
~24	60