

# INITC



*The InterNātional Initiative for Transformative Collaboration (INITC)*

An InterNātional Gathering 

Sharing of experiences and insights from Oceti Sakowin Camp, Standing Rock, North Dakota. Continuing the conversation and discovery process of what it means to be a Human Being, and how to work together for Cultural, Social and Environmental Equity.



## An invitation

To our relatives, friends and allies: join us for a five - day Intercultural, Interfaith experience. A distinctive opportunity, looking deeper into and discussing the **profound social, cultural, economic, legal and environmental** issues reflecting the impacts to the health and well-being of our planet and the implications for our collective Nations.



Through our collective experience, cultural and educational exchange, presentations, interactive and experiential workshops and discussion, this retreat offers insight into a growing recognition for the need to define what it means to work together, what it means to be a human being. Through Five Days of interactive experience, sharing stories and discussion we invite guests to consider not just what we think, but *how* we think along with the opportunity to recognize the experiences and insights arising from and since Oceti Sakowin Camp.

- \* At this collective convening, we invite you to investigate and consider:
- \* What are 'Good Mind' or 'Mindful' intentions?
- \* How do we understand and practice Cultural Safety?
- \* What are processes for Decolonizing Conversations?
- \* What is Transformative Collaboration?
- \* What might a genuine collaborative effort for an InterNātional Summit Inquiry include and what might it look like?

We hope you can join us!

**Dates:** Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2018

**Location:** St Gabriel's Church Camp, 2443 Highway 24, Solen ND 58570

**Accommodation and Meals:** Where we do not charge for the retreat, accommodations or meals, should you wish to contribute to the retreat, all offerings will be gratefully received. We do need to have an idea of any special food needs or considerations, please follow instructions on the link provided. St Gabriels offers group lodging houses and both Men's and Women's showers, you are also welcome to bring your own tent.

For more info contact:

Karen VF - karenvanfossan@gmail.com 701 202 2421

Johnnie A - initc@attglobal.net 605 545 4545

## Other Important Information and Considerations

We ask all participants to please consider arriving on Wed the 15<sup>th</sup> and depart on the 19<sup>th</sup> in order to facilitate and maintain continuity for the weekend retreat.

Please RSVP reservations for place at the camp to the provided link. There is limited space. Please describe yourself as individual or group booking. Tell us with whom you would be comfortable sharing or other cultural considerations for accommodation. Generally, men will be assigned spaces with men and women with women unless otherwise indicated. To confirm accommodation/meals or transportation needs to and from airport please go to the following link: <http://www.initc.net/>

### **Introduction Sessions for Newcomers**

**INITC foundations for working together** - For those who will be attending for the first time, and for those newer to our convening and wanting to review or continue our conversations it is highly recommended that you please attend our introductory session for investigating what it means to work together as Human Beings, Inter-Nationally and through Councils structure. *W/Johnnie and Karen VF Wed and Thurs*

**Lighting of the Fire** - The Opening Prayer and lighting of the Fire takes place on Wednesday night before the evening meal

### **Mindfulness and Compassion Retreat program**

Mindfulness is an innate human quality and begins with cultivating awareness and compassion to observe the intricacies of our present moment experience. It enables us to make discerning choices with implications for the health and wellbeing of ourselves, our relationships with each other and the planet. Throughout this retreat we will introduce the practice of learning from the inside out as a process for recognizing our natural state of clarity – our emotional, mental, physical and spiritual bodies.

Trauma that is historical, intergenerational, current and future, creates separation and disconnection through patterns that influence health and wellbeing. Healing these conditioned patterns can be supported by practices that bring together the wisdom of ancient traditions recognising the importance of healing through balancing social, emotional, physical and inner wellbeing. *W/Australian Psychologist and Mindfulness Practitioner Lisa B*

The experiential practice sessions will integrate a diversity of First Nations traditional healing and western practices to address the effects of trauma through mindfulness and self-compassion. Sessions will include:

- Introduction and Background
- Trauma and Mindfulness
- Cultivating compassion
- Gentle mindful movement
- Embodying mindfulness - our connection with ourselves, each other and the earth

We look forward to seeing you there!

2433 Highway 24 Solen, North Dakota 58570 (701) 445-3346

St Gabriel's Church Camp is approximately 50 minutes from Bismarck Regional airport [Get Directions](#) - [standingrockepiscopal.org](http://standingrockepiscopal.org) - [Hotel & Lodging](#) <https://www.facebook.com/CampGabriel/>

**A SPECIAL REQUEST – In order to avoid unforeseen consequences to our members and participants we respectfully ask that this information is not shared through social media of any kind. In honoring each other, each person that has received this invitation may choose to invite another in the same manner.**