

John Vincett and Pam Wheaton - Presenters

The Heritage Centre is pleased to welcome John Vincett and Pam Wheaton back to Red Lake as presenters for the Woodland Arts Festival. Pam and her husband, John Vincett and family maintain strong ties to Red Lake and to the artists who are such an important part of the community.

While living in Red Lake, Pam managed the successful Triple K Co-operative, an Aboriginal owned artists' co-operative for six years, distributing original Aboriginal serigraphs across Canada and abroad as well as organizing numerous art shows and exhibits both in Red Lake and larger urban centres. The Co-op became well known for its high quality, original graphics.

In the 1970's, John lived in the Red Lake area, working in the field of community development with the Ontario government's Indian Community Branch. This involved considerable travel into the Nishnawbe Aski Communities situated between resource-based towns (like Red Lake) and Hudson's Bay, as well as the privilege of working with a number of First Nations Councils and other Aboriginal organizations to find creative ways of realizing community objectives with the very limited resources available. This was a time of flourishing artistic activities in the northern communities and in the frontier towns and John had the good fortune to get to know many of these artists and artisans as friends.



Triple K Co-operative Season's Greetings Card
Art by Joshim Kakegamie
On loan from M.A. Pastoski

Pam and John's presentation will be in two segments: the first part will focus on the chronological narrative of the Triple K – how and why it started, the challenges to be overcome, the evolution of the printing process, the value of training, and the work produced by the Co-op during its active years. Discussed in the second segment will be the flow of influences, the development of the different artists and the mutual learning about techniques, subject matter and style.

Pam Wheaton is currently the Director of Aboriginal and Ministry Relationships in the recently formed Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs. Prior to this position, Pam has held several management positions in the Ontario Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat since 2002.

Pam has had a broad experience working in Aboriginal affairs. In addition to her recent policy and management experience, Pam worked in the remote Northwestern Ontario First Nation communities, developing the community infrastructure for local community operated radio and communications systems. Pam has an Honours B.A. in Political Science and a Masters of Science in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Toronto.

John Vincett has been a consultant specializing in public involvement processes and strategic planning. As Principal of Public Dialogue Alternatives, he has worked with a number of industry, government, non-profit and institutional groups to develop collaborative projects that involve citizens in constructive working relationships with decision makers, usually involving issues of sustainable futures.

He has the distinct privilege of having been the only non-native person in the room for the founding ceremonies of the Grand Council Treaty #9 as well as for the Ontario Métis and Non-Status Indian Association.

For more information visit our website at www.redlakemuseum.com.