

# SEED CONFERENCE 2024

February 17th & 18th - Knights of Columbus



PRESENTED BY:

## FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Kahnawà:ke Collective Impact  
In collaboration with,  
Ratsenhais Stephen McComber

# Day 1 Schedule - Saturday February 17

<b>OPENING</b> 8:30am -9am	
FERTILIZERS, CONCERNS & PROGRAMS Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office	9:30am -10:30am
ORGANIC GARDENER, SEED SAVER Teprine Baldo	10:30am -11am
PLANTING BY THE MOON Stephen McComber	11:00am -12pm
<b>LUNCH</b> 12pm— 1pm	
ORGANIC FARMING Alex Godly	1pm -2pm
4H CLUB INTRODUCTION Phillip & Stephanie Quinn	2pm -3pm

# Day 2 Schedule - Sunday February 18

<b>OPENING</b> 8:30am—9am	
PERMACULTURE Graham Calder	9am-10am
MARKET GARDENING Daniel Brisebois	10:30am— 11:30am
<b>LUNCH</b> 12pm -1pm	
<b>SEED COMPANY SALE</b>	1pm -3pm

# Meet the Presenters

## **GRAHAM CALDER**

### **Presentation: Permaculture**

Graham has more than 14 years experience teaching permaculture and regenerative ecological design. In 2009, he finished his BA in Environmental and Ecology Studies at Concordia University, (Montreal, Qc). Dissatisfied with the traditional academic environmentalist approach and its lack of ability to meet the challenges of our time, he turned to permaculture. In the same year he obtained his Permaculture Design Certificate (PDC) from Jesse Lemieux at Pacific Permaculture. Afterwards, he became an apprentice, Geoff Lawton, at the Permaculture Institute of Australia, (PRI).



He founded P3 Permaculture in October of 2009 and has ever since been teaching and consulting with the goal of making it accessible to everyone. To date, Graham has certified over 450 students in permaculture design and has offered design services in more than 9 countries around the world; from urban gardens in Montreal, to the 7000 Hectares in the deserts of Gansu in China, and the tropical rainforests of Costa Rica and Cameroon.

He is dedicated to creating new courses and projects that will inspire and facilitate the transition to abundant regenerative solutions for our society and redefine what it means to be a human today in this world.

## **RATSÉNHAIENS STEPHEN MCCOMBER**

### **Presentation: TBA**



Stephen Silverbear McComber is a longhouse faith keeper from the Kahnawà:ke Mohawk Territory. He has been an avid gardener and has been collecting seeds throughout the Haudenosaunee Confederacy for the last 30 years. He is very well-known and recognized as a keeper of the Haudenosaunee seeds both in Canada and the United States.

Learning all his knowledge from his grandmother, he teaches about planting by the moon phases. Through his Facebook group, Steve's garden tips, he shares information on planting by the moon and cultivating heirloom varieties.

He is also an accomplished sculptor and some of his works are in museums and galleries across Canada. The main subjects of his sculptures are legends and stories of the Mohawk people. Some of his pieces are part of the permanent collections in many museums and archives in Montreal, as well as the Ministry of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada in Ottawa.

He was recently elected as a Chief on the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke and was granted a new portfolio, which includes sustainable development, agriculture, and food security/sovereignty.

## DANIEL BRISEBOIS

### Presentation: Food Basket Production



Dan is one of the farmers at Tourne-Sol co-operative farm in Les Cèdres, Quebec. Tourne-Sol produces certified organic seeds for an online seed store and a wholesale rack program; They also grow vegetables for 500 weekly veggie baskets.

Dan is also the host of the Seed Growers Podcast and blogs about seed at <https://danbrisebois.com/>

## TEPRINE BALDO

### Presentation: Soil Amendments

Growing up near Senneville, I was surrounded by farms, forest, ponds and nature! This beautiful childhood allowed me to develop my love for the outdoors, and a strong desire to protect it. Our family moved out of the city of Montreal years ago to come to the beautiful village of Stanbridge East where we have a 5 acre farm that meanders along the Pike River. Here we practice organic gardening and learn from many different seed savers, gardeners and farmers about their traditional gardening practices.



We take to heart the importance of protecting the Indigenous seeds that have been shared with us, and strive to share the stories of the people who grew them before us. We work with open pollinated seeds, and enjoy a wide variety of seeds from around the world, as they make it from our plate into our tummies.

## PHILLIPE & STEPHANIE QUINN

### Presentation: Fruit Trees

Phillippe Quinn's great-great-great grandfather arrived from Ireland in 1843 and started a subsistence farm to feed his family and start a new life in eastern Canada. Today, Philippe is the 6th generation to take the helm of his family's farm and, along with his wife, Stephanie Maynard, they are intent on creating the same opportunity for their two sons, to be the 7th generation if that's what they choose.



Phil's father and mother, Elwood Quinn and Marie Gourley, started at the current location for Quinn Farm in 1982. Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot was a rural village surrounded by farmland just beginning the transition to a bedroom community for commuters into Montreal. While some traditional mixed acreage farms were selling off for housing developments, Quinn Farm became one of the early pioneers for selling produce direct to the burgeoning suburban population surrounding the farm.

# NIAWENHKÓ:WA

To everyone who attended and participated in this year's Seed Conference, and to all the guest speakers that traveled to share their knowledge with us.

**And to those who helped make this event happen:**

Food Sovereignty Action Team

Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office

Messy Kitchen Catering

Ratsenhaiens Stephen McComber

Kahnawà:ke Collective Impact



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