

Skä•noñh will be a Learning Experience

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Sainte Marie Among the Iroquois will become the Skä•noñh Great Law of Peace Center. © 2015 Laura Molina

AUDIO

Skä•noñh will be a Learning Experience

By Laura Molina SYRACUSE, N.Y. (NCC News) — The Skä•noñh Great Law of Peace Center that stands in the shore of the Onondaga Lake is almost ready for its grand opening on November 21.

Two years ago, the Onondaga Historical Association took over the Sainte Marie Among the Iroquois facility and decided to repurpose it.



"This is going to be a lot of new information that people didn't have before." Daniel Connors © 2015 Laura Molina

The facility named Skä-noñh, meaning peace and wellness, will tell the story of the Haudenosaunee Nations and its three founders, The Great Peacemaker, Jigonhsasee and Hiawatha.

According to Daniel Connors, General Manager of Skä-noñh, many people don't know the full story of the Haudenosaunee.



Everything is being set at Skä-noñh Great Law of Peace Center for its November Opening.

“This facility will be the place in which people can come and learn more,”Connors said.

He added that the Haudenosaunee histories were passed down orally through generations, but at Skä-noñh people will find *wampums*, or belts formed with beads of clam shells that are thought of as the documentation of Haudenosaunee history.



Skä-nofh Great Law of Peace Center is located at 6680 Onondaga Lake Pkwy, Liverpool, N.Y. (c) 2015 Laura Molina

Connors stated that the Haudenosaunee Nations have contributed in many ways to the American lifestyle. For example, the Haudenosaunee diet consisted of the “Three Sisters,” that were corn, beans, and squash. This is one of the well-known contributions of the native groups, as they taught the Europeans how to grow these crops when they first arrived in North America.

Another big contribution from the Haudenosaunee was the invention of the lacrosse game.

Furthermore, the Haudenosaunee’s clan system inspired leaders like Matilda Joslyn Gage to start the Women’s Rights Movement in the United States.

“This is going to be a great learning experience for a lot of visitors and will hopefully be an eye-opening experience for the community to see the world from the Haudenosaunee perspective,” Connors said.