



Thinking Outside the Box
Lacrosse in Historical and Contemporary Perspective

October 2 – 4, 2014
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Hosted by the Centre for the Study of Sport and Health

CALL FOR PAPERS

Submissions are invited for an international conference to discuss issues related to the game of lacrosse, its historical evolution and its place in contemporary culture. We are interested in papers that include lacrosse as a critical point in indigenous worldview and culture (both past and present); as a game appropriated, codified and played by Victorian amateurs; its flourishing at the community, collegiate and professional levels; its borderland and transnational development and relationship to the Olympic movement; the growth of women's lacrosse, notably in Britain; the development of box lacrosse as an alternative to field lacrosse; the close connection between lacrosse and hockey; and its growing popularity at the present. In addition, the conference will address the re-appropriation of the game in the modern era by indigenous peoples and to movements for social emancipation and national recognition. In this regard we also invite global comparison with other indigenous sporting practices and the struggle for liberation.

The conference coincides with Treaty Day. In 1986, Grand Chief of the Mi'kmaq Nation, Donald Marshall Sr., invited all Mi'kmaq to observe October 1 as Treaty Day to commemorate the unique and special relationship that exists between the Mi'kmaq and her Majesty. Since then, Mi'kmaq organizations and associations have spearheaded the organizing of activities for the celebration of October 1st - Treaty Day. October is also recognized as Mi'kmaq History Month to promote public awareness about the Mi'kmaq culture and heritage for all citizens of Nova Scotia.

Breaking tradition of anchoring the event with a guest speaker, the Saint Mary's University Lacrosse Team will be hosting an exhibition game with Lacrosse team members of the Haudenosaunee and Mi'kmaq Nation, and local clubs in the spirit of peace and friendship. Lacrosse enthusiasts will have a chance to pick up traditional and contemporary sticks and toss the ball around with players. In addition lacrosse experts will host coaching clinics to showcase the breadth of lacrosse in both field and box games. These activities promote the inclusion of youth to elders in all aspects of the game of Lacrosse. Ideas for panels from practitioners, heritage organizations and the academic community are welcomed as well.

Those interested in presenting papers should send abstracts of approximately 200 words to Heidi Weigand, Administrative Director, Centre for the Study of Sport and Health, Saint Mary's University at CSSH@smu.ca by **February 15th, 2014**. Visit our website at <http://transnationallacrosse.com>.



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