

Working together and giving back
December 9, 2021



Sarina Perchak is a person of mixed ancestry (Métis, Ukrainian and Irish) originally from Treaty One Territory, currently residing on the Haldimand Tract in Kitchener, Ontario, the traditional territories of many Haudenosaunee, Anishenaabe, Neutral, and Métis Peoples. She is a daughter, an auntie, a sister, a Land-based educator, a weaver, an activist and a life-long learner.

Sarina is passionate about the wellbeing of all of her relations: the people, animals, Lands, and waters all around her. Sarina is a Master's degree candidate at the University of Guelph, focused on the processes of creating and maintaining Indigenous places in an urban context.



Dave Skene is Métis and a citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario. He is the Executive Director of White Owl Native Ancestry Association, a community-based Indigenous agency that has endeavoured to enhance the lives of Indigenous People in the Wellington, Dufferin, and Waterloo regions since 1975. He is one of the founding members of Wisahkotewinowak an Urban Indigenous Garden collective and has been a grass-roots educational innovator for over 30 years, leading numerous teams of Canadian youth on international education projects focused on justice and community development from an Indigenous perspective. His current focus is around issues of Urban Indigenous and land sovereignty, Indigenous agricultural practices, and land-based education.



Tim Alamenciak is a PhD candidate at the University of Waterloo in Social and Ecological Sustainability. His work focuses on participation in ecological restoration. His research draws on the work of Ivan Illich in an effort to re-envision ecological restoration as a convivial community-led process. He is currently the communications manager for Reep Green Solutions, an environmental charity focused on helping people live sustainably in Waterloo Region and beyond.



Judith Jones, M.S., is an environmental consultant and owner of Winter Spider Eco-Consulting, where she works with clients from all sectors: private, government, and First Nations. She has extensive experience with surveys of plants, birds, wildlife, vegetation, species-at-risk, and preparing balanced development, management, conservation, and recovery recommendations. She currently coordinates the Manitoulin Phragmites Project, which aims to bring Invasive Phragmites under control across the Manitoulin District. The Project has successfully controlled or eradicated Phragmites at more than 90 sites with the help of ongoing volunteer stewardship.



Martin Tamlyn is a community builder and teacher focused on restoration ecology within a decolonized framework. Originally trained as an elementary school teacher, he has spent the last 20 years dedicated to climate change mitigation action. He has designed and led programs in environmental home building, forest gardening, permaculture design, sustainable farming, and ecology. He currently manages the Ignatius Old-Growth Forest Project, where he facilitates community-led ecological restoration and nature connection programs.