

FIRE

RESPECT KNOWLEDGE BALANCE

SOURCES OF KNOWLEDGE 15TH ANNUAL FORUM

FORUM AGENDA	
Friday October 24, 2025 – PARKS CANADA VISITOR CENTRE	
1:30 PM	<p>PENINSULA BRUCE TRAIL CLUB HIKE TO VIEW CONTROLLED BURN. Join Brian Popelier, Bruce Trail Conservancy Land Stewardship Coordinator, for a guided hike to learn about the unique features of the Vanishing Streams Nature Reserve and the “controlled burn” method of meadow restoration. A controlled burn, or prescribed burn, is a controlled fire that consumes ground-level fuels. This practice is a widely used and scientifically recognized method of controlling invasive and weedy plant species, allowing for the growth and regeneration of native grassland species. Be prepared for variable weather - wear layered clothing, sturdy, water resistant footwear, gaiters. Maximum Registration: 20. Terrain: relatively flat, but uneven. Hike Start Time: 1:30 p.m. Please arrive a few minutes early. Duration: 1 ½ hour. Pace: Relaxed and leisurely. Hike Meet-up Location: Street parking on Urban St at Bruce County Road 9 - Colpoys Bay.</p>
5:00 PM	<p>SACRED FIRE kindled at 5P.M. outside Visitors' Centre - with firekeeper from Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON), David Root</p>
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	<p>REGISTRATION OPEN 6p.m. Wine and Cheese Social</p>
	<p>7p.m. WELCOME Land Acknowledgement & prayer from SON Elder FIRE: Opening address Indigenous Stories of Fire – from the Sun to the Earth's Core. Speaker: David Root, firekeeper and elder, Saugeen Ojibway Nation</p>
	<p>7.30p.m. FIRE & WATER: how they are related in Indigenous understanding – Speaker: Teresa Root, teacher and elder, Saugeen Ojibway Nation</p>
	<p>8.00 – 9.00 p.m. AROUND THE HEARTH – Speaker Dr. Michael Chazan, Director & Professor of Archaeology, The Archaeology Centre, University of Toronto - <i>Our human / cultural relationship with Fire – from Stone Age hearth to the impact of wildfire on our present and future human story</i> ... The cultural, social, economic history of Fire as centre of warmth, gathering place, sacred centre ... Our personal relationship with Fire. Fire in our future ... Climate change</p>
6:26 PM	<p>Sunset</p>
9:00 PM	<p>Closing Prayer from SON Elder ... Invitation to spend time at the fire on the way home</p>

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Saturday October 25, 2025 – PARKS CANADA VISITOR CENTRE	
7:56 AM	Sunrise – come early and spend time at the fire if you wish
8:00 AM	Registration and Refreshments
8:30 AM	WELCOME Opening prayer from SON Elder Land Acknowledgement and Formal Welcome, The Forum Planning Committee Ethan Meleg, Acting Parks Canada Superintendent Mayor Milt McIver, MNPB
9:00 AM	FOREST LANDSCAPES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH FIRE IN BRUCE PENINSULA NATIONAL PARK Speaker: Sean Liipere , Parks Canada
10:00 AM	WILDFIRES IN CANADA – Speaker: <u>Natasha Jurko</u> , Wildfire Danger Science Specialist, Great Lakes Forestry Centre, Natural Resources Canada, Sault Ste Marie. This talk will explore the increasing scale and impact of wildfires in Canada. We'll examine how recent record-breaking fire seasons are affecting communities directly, while their effects—like smoke and economic disruption—are felt far beyond local borders.
10:50 AM	STRETCH AND REFRESHMENT BREAK
11:10 AM	FIRE PREVENTION / EDUCATION – Speakers: <u>Joint Parks Canada & MNPB Fire Department</u>
NOON	LUNCH
1:15 PM	FIGHTING FIRE / FIRE MANAGEMENT IN NORTHERN SAUGEEN PENINSULA – Speaker: <u>Jack Burt</u> , MNPB Fire Chief ... Possible representatives of Fire Department and Parks who were deployed to Jasper in 2024. The human impact of wildfire
2:05 PM	WILDLAND FIRE: MITIGATION & RESILIENCY – <u>Kennith Cox and Zach deCock</u> , Provincial Fire Advisors, Ontario Southern Region, Aviation, Forest Fire & Emergency Services (AFFES)
2:55PM	STRETCH AND REFRESHMENT BREAK
3:15PM	WEIGHING THE COSTS ... TRUCKS, FIREFIGHTERS, PREVENTION, EDUCATION? – Allocating limited resources <u>Speaker: Rod Anderson, MNPB Councillor</u>
3:30 PM	GROWING OLD GROWTH: RESTORING DISTURBANCE. Why human intervention is necessary to bring back old-growth forests to protected lands, through the reintroduction of ecological disturbances such as fire. <u>Speaker: Thomas Heinrich</u> – Naturalist, designer and student of ecology at the University of Sherbrooke, Quebec

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Saturday Evening Event – TOBERMORY COMMUNITY CENTRE	
5:30 PM	SOCIAL HOUR – cash bar
6:24 PM	Sunset
6:30 PM	BANQUET MEAL – locally catered by <u>Princess Hotel, Tobermory</u> ; SoK Bill Graham Award of Excellence GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION: CANADA'S WILDFIRE WATCH – <u>Speaker: <i>Natasha Jurko</i></u> , Wildfire Danger Science Specialist, Great Lakes Forestry Centre, Natural Resources Canada, Sault Ste Marie. A look at the systems used to predict and monitor fire danger - This talk will look back at close to 100 years of forest fire science at the Canadian Forest Service and the development of Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System, a System adapted internationally for fire danger prediction. We will then look into the future, at how the Danger Rating System is evolving and how new tools and technology will provide valuable information for wildfire mitigation, prediction and monitoring. Closing Prayer from SON Elder
Sunday October 26, 2024 – PARKS CANADA VISITOR CENTRE	
7:58 AM	Sunrise – time at the Fire if you wish
8:30 AM	Refreshments
9:00 AM	Opening Prayer from SON Elder SUMMING UP – Speakers in Dialogue ... Speakers reflect on what we have heard during the forum with their own closing statement and then engage in open, moderated public dialogue. Moderator: <u>Chris Sumpton</u>
10:15 AM	STRETCH AND REFRESHMENT BREAK
10:30 AM	PANEL & QUESTIONS – SPEAKERS RESPOND TO PARTICIPANTS' QUESTIONS Seeding questions ... box to be kept in foyer with form and pens for people to submit directed questions throughout the weekend. Moderator: <u>Rob Klea</u>
11:45 AM	FORUM WRAP-UP – 2025 Forum Chair Closing Prayer from SON Elder ... Final visit to the fire and prayers there.