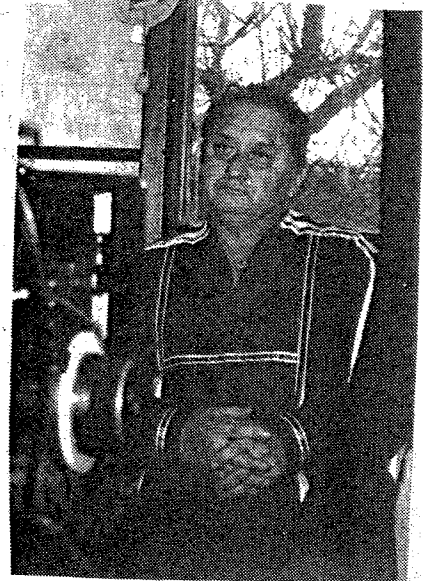


Mohawk Wisdom Keepers A Must See Movie By Danny Beaton



Lehman Gibson Danny Beaton and Alice Gibson



Tom Porter-Bear Clan



AKWESASNE –Mohawk Wisdom Keepers, a 43 minute documentary movie by Danny Beaton a Mohawk of the Turtle Clan presently living in Toronto depicts the Traditional Teachings and beliefs of five noted Mohawks. Harriet Jock of Akwesasne, Judy Swamp of Akwesasne, and Tom Porter formerly of Akwesasne are depicted in the film

Alice Gibson, and Lehman Gibson of Six Nations Territory are also noted Wisdom Keepers who share their knowledge and logic within the film who's setting is in a cabin in the woods.

The three women and two men speak of Medicines, The Great Law of Peace and Keeping our world sacred for the future seven generations that will come. Harriet Jock recounts how her mother Ann Jock lived a life of the spreading the Great Law of Peace. She explains how elders, and grandparents get to a time when they have to pass on their teachings to their children. Having lost her mother nearly two years ago, Harriet realizes that she tried to teach her many of the things she had been born with. "I know I have this book of knowledge that was passed on to me, and that it is now my responsibility to be a teacher to the children of today, to mine and my grandchildren, for them to learn the things that we have come to know."

Tom Porter, Bear Clan, said all people are equal in the eyes of the Creator, but added, "That power has corrupted the world, the Rockefellers, the Rothmans, are proof of this, we must go back to the original truth and tongue. You can see in this day that it is not a day for Jones vs Jones, because the Mother Earth suffers."

Judy Swamp, spoke of the Traditional medicines, and gave thanks for it. She said today, many people forget to give thanks for the simple things, for what they have. Because of pollution and the destruction of our Mother Earth, destruction, we have to give respect to get it back. "In our area, we can't use the water, we were told to bathe in it, but we know its contaminated, we can't do laundry. We were told there would be a time to come, when we see fish belly up, the time has come. We are told to give thanks to the wind, know we know how those winds have changed, and destroy. We carry a heavy burden, she said.

Alice Gibson stressed the importance of keeping our language. She remembered the one room school house which housed grades 1-8. She remembered the long mile walk to and from school each day. At home she spoke Mohawk but at school she wa reprimanded for using her native tongue. She said children these days are physically and mentally abused, "they kill babies, if you don't want to care for them, she advised, "then don't have any children."

Lehman Gibson explained that we are a product of the earth. That we have prophecies, and that basically all bad n the world at present is caused by greed. "If we were to only take from this earth what we need to survive, we might be okay, we should use only what we need to sustain life."

This is the fourth film of Toronto based director Danny Beaton, for more information on the film you may contact Danny at 416-921-0014.