



tekakwitha
CONFERENCE

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Heni Hotu (*Greetings All*),

A few weeks ago, I shared with each of you the challenges ahead of us as we make the tough, but necessary decisions for the good of our conference. Chief among these challenges was our need to wait and cooperate with the precautionary measures implemented by Raleigh's local government authorities throughout this entire process.

I also mentioned to you that the work of the Tekakwitha Conference with the cities and locales that host us is an equal partnership above all else. These partnerships require us to remain in dialogue. They require that we work tirelessly for a solution that keeps the good of everyone, on both sides of the partnership, in mind.

Keeping the safety of all members of the Tekakwitha Conference family at the crux of our considerations, the board of directors have unanimously voted to cancel this summer's conference. This move, however, is not a straightforward cancellation. In fact, negotiations are well underway for our conference to gather in Raleigh, North Carolina in 2024 for our 85th Annual Tekakwitha Conference. The decision to forego hosting a conference this summer was not one that came easily, it was one that came about as a matter of necessity.

At present, the planning committee for the 81st Annual Tekakwitha Conference, in coordination with the national office, is hard at work to deliver free content and resources to all of our members in the coming months. Our goal is to remain connected, and to begin offering this meaningful content not only as a supplement to the conference, which was cancelled, but as a core component of our ministry moving forward.

For all of those who have registered, the national office will be reaching out to each of you individually to discuss how you might like to proceed in light of the information and payment(s) you have already submitted. We ask that you await this forthcoming correspondence.

On behalf of the board of directors, the planning committee, and the national office staff, I offer you my prayers and support as we continue to navigate this difficult chapter together. Through the intercession of Saint Kateri, I remain,

United with You,

Robert Barbry II, Executive Director