#### Historically, the Hodihnosyonih have used the Oral Tradition to share and transmit lived experiences and knowledge. The emphasis on Oral Tradition has created Great Story Tellers and Speakers who are able to draw on memory to share stories of their lives. The Hodihnosyonih have stories since time immemorial to the present the lines between ancient history and the present often blur. In addition, the Hodihnosvonih have also used mnemonic devices that serve as memory aids to the oral stories. Examples such as Wampum belts codify agreements and serve as living documents. The Condolence Cane serves as a reminder through pictographs of Hereditary Chief Titles.



Adihwisósra Dekni Deyoha:de

Belt



Hayehwatha Belt



# Swegéha esadahó: do

### You will ask about long ago

Documenting lived and remembered history has never been easier. With the latest technology and its widespread usage, it allows for people to record their lived history. Social media allows for people to document their lives like never before. History matters and so does the experiences of all generations. Oral history interviews are one way of documenting the lives



of people and their incredible stories. Additionally, the memories of people provide windows into the past. The Hodihnosyonih have and continue to use the oral tradition of storytelling as way of learning, sharing and teaching. There is an urgent need for community based documentation. We need to document ourselves and portray ourselves through our own eyes. Preserving oral knowledge is important for our future generations and by conducting interviews you are helping preserve the knowledge for the future generations.

Dęho'dę: ęswahs né Swegéha' ęsadahó:do'

#### What you all will do to ask about long ago:

Find someone, Parents, Grandparents, Uncle or Aunt or older family friends or yourself. You should try to find someone who is comfortable with sharing and talking about their past. Also you should ALWAYS make you have permission to record the person you are interviewing. Remember to thank the person for giving the time to do the interview.





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## Ne Deho'de: esehs - What you will use:

Gahne:gá: Ehyádohkwa - Pen né hni Gahyádohsra - Paper

Gawenaye:na:s -Recording Device (The best recording device is the one you know how to work.)

List of Questions

### Tips:

ęsathaohsiyohs né hni Ga'nihgohi:yo ęsá:wi - Carry a good mind and listen.

There are no set rules on how to do an oral interview. This only serves as a guide line. You have to be flexible and creative on how you do your own interview.

Have a list of questions and topics prepared, however, be flexible and follow the flow of the conversation.

Let the person doing the interview do the speaking, try to speak as little as possible only to acknowledge what's being said or follow up with a another question.

Try to have topics lined up for an interview and have a casual conversation beforehand and give the person you are interviewing time to think about their answers.

Try to ask open ended questions or questions that could have more than one possible answer to stimulate conversation.

Avoid yes or no questions.

Find a quiet comfortable atmosphere with little to no background noise.

Interviews should be about 30 minutes to 1 hour.

Take your time and do not rush through, do your interview in sections if needed.

#### **Example Questions:**

What is your earliest memory?

Do you remember hearing any stories growing up?

What did you like doing as a child?

What languages did you hear growing up?

Do you remember a popular phrase growing up?

Try to use the language if possible and if the interviewee knows the language try to get them to speak as much as they can.

Finally, have fun and an enjoyable experience recording our history.

Please consider giving Deyohahá:ge: a copy of your oral history recording to preserve for posterity and future generations.

