



PRESS RELEASE

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**THE HURON-WENDAT NATION HONOURS THE MEMORY OF GRAND CHIEF JOE TOKWIRO
NORTON**

Wendake, August 15, 2020 - It is with great sadness that the Huron-Wendat Nation learned of the passing of our Brother, Grand Chief Joe Tokwiro Norton of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake. His contribution to the defence and advancement of First Nations rights, interests and issues for more than three decades was one of the defining moments in our collective political history. Grand Chief Norton has been a strong rallying force and has participated in many assertive actions in an often complex and constraining environment. A natural leader, he has always promoted the pride of his people and his Nation, as well as that of the great Iroquoian family, in the image of his ancestors.

"He has always been a peacemaker and a tireless defender of our fundamental rights. Grand Chief Norton strongly affirmed that our Nations were still and always intact. He did not want to endorse the theory of victimization and abdication, despite so much suffering and dispossession. He was proud and honourable. During our political engagements, our paths often crossed, in conditions that were not always easy to follow. On behalf of the Nation, let us humbly gather and ask Yoskaha to take good care of our Brother, Joe Tokwiro Norton, just as he took good care of all of us during his life," said Grand Chief of the Huron-Wendat Nation, Konrad Sioui.

The Huron-Wendat Nation wishes to recognize and honour his memory and offers to his family, his community of Kahnawake, as well as to the Mohawk Nation and the entire Haudenosaunee Confederacy, our most sincere condolences and our best wishes, in fraternity.

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