



The day a decision was made to create the Horn was a beautiful time for the camp and the People. Through the balance of the good and bad that has come to our Oc'eti S'akowin) Wic'oti (sacred camp), we gave our best to stand together in a positive manner. As Headsmen of this sacred space which is called the Horn, we have united in prayer reflecting on all of the Wic'oti's accomplishments; yet we also realize the need to reflect and plan for our future decisions to uplift our People holistically and for the future.

When we look to the four directions, we realize there are still many needs in what we are facing as a People. We have decided to carry the sacred fire to the various People of the Oc'eti S'akowin, who continue to support us in many ways as we protect Mni Wiconi in this Wic'oti. We understand the sacrifices that have been made in order to sustain our movement and still have the means to keep a home for everyone's family. The Fire needs to be shared to the four directions, and we have decided to strengthen the Sacred Hoop by taking the Fire to the Tios'paye throughout our territories. Our People need to know that our first concern will be to share with them what we have learned from our new relatives that came from many nations. Rather than expect them to come to this Wic'oti, we will go to our People that need us. These Prayers can continue to unite even stronger for not only Standing Rock, but Unc'i Maka and her mni wic'oni to the four directions of all the tribal nations throughout Turtle Island. We have realized in spending time around the sacred fire how powerful that is and what it has done for us. We want to continue sharing this knowledge; the stories and teachings of our ancestors and the relatives that have visited with the education in sustainable development, teaching the importance of growing our own food and harvesting our territories through the Elders that reside in them from whom we want to hear. We want to show our Youth in these territories that we care for them and teach the values that define us as a People. We intend to ensure our healing with the rebirth of the Oc'eti S'akowin; gaining the much needed support of each of the bands represented in the Oc'eti as we protect our way of life for the coming generations, as well as our treaty rights and territories.

We want to acknowledge the many nations that have joined us in our spiritual movement, we are incredibly humbled and rejoice in the amount of solidarity that continues to flow through the Dakota Territory.

The sacred fire can be lit in our hearts internally and spirituality forever.

The Horn has been filled with water and love and now the seeds of this water and love are being given to the world. The Oc'eti S'akowin Fire be allowed burn down to powerful ashes, but continue to travel on a sacred journey to the four directions beginning at 1:00 pm at the Horn along the Mni S'os'e (Missouri River). All current occupants of the Oceti grounds are invited attend and offer prayers as the Peta (fire) goes to sleep. The headsmen and helpers of the Oc'eti S'akowin will stay around to assist with cleanup of the camp beginning January 12, 2017. As we are caretakers of this land we are familiar with the oncoming flooding of the land of Mni S'os'e (Missouri River) we ask occupants of the Oc'eti Oyate to evacuate as soon as possible for safety reasons.

Hetc'etu (that is the way it will be),

John Brave Bull - Hunkpapa
Manape LaMere - Mde Wankanton/Isantee

Dallas Gold Tooth - Mde Wakanton
Lewis Grassrope - Kul Wic'as'a
Norman Red Wing - Wah'petonwan