



First Treaty of North America

THE TWO ROW WAMPUM BELT KUS-WHEN-TA

This belt symbolizes the agreement and conditions under which the Iroquois welcomed the Europeans to this land. "You say that you are our father and I am your son", "we say we will not be like father and son, but as brothers...as equals." The two rows on this belt will symbolize the paths of two boats on the same river, one path is for the white people, their laws, customs, and their ways, the other path will be for the Onkwéhonwé, their laws, customs and way of life. We shall travel side by side but in our own boats, neither of us will try to steer the others' vessel, or make laws or interfere in the internal affairs of the other.

The Onkwéhonwé have kept to this agreement...