



# JOINT STEWARDSHIP BOARD

## ENVIRONMENTAL INTERPRETATIVE CENTRE

### VISION

**ONE – We inherit a responsibility to make decisions on behalf of the coming faces, so that they may enjoy what we have today.**

We understand that we are all connected to a community, a community that is not bound by a specific time period or generation, a community whose present actions are accountable to the future.

In the words of G. Peter Jemison (Faithkeeper, Cattaraugus Reservation - Seneca Nation)  
*“Everything that we have now is the result of our ancestors who handed forth to us our language, the preservation of the land, our way of life and the songs and dances. So now we will maintain those and carry those on for future generations.”*

**TWO – By better understanding our past and our present, we prepare for a resilient future.**

We are the bridge between the past and the future of the Red Hill Valley. We stand here together, to share with each other our stories of the past told in the landscape. Embodied in the valley is a reciprocal relationship between this earth and generations before us. We look to the past, to reflect on the things our ancestors got right, to breathe new life into our inheritance by adding our own thoughts and experiences in the present.

As we stand here, it is also our duty to engage the future by finding new ways to manifest our connectedness to family, community and the land. At the edge of the bridge, we can find the capacity to recover the path to peace, a good mind and a big love, to the right decisions now so that those who come after us can benefit.

**THREE – By building emotional connections to the land and each other, we can be part of something good in the future.**

In facilitating a deeper, understanding of our place in the world, the Centre translates experiences into a shared universal visual and physical language that can be felt.

In listening, tasting, smelling, touching, living and telling the landscape and our histories we remove our distance of the things that ensure our well-being. If we are aware of and can engage in experiencing these things more deeply, they will matter to us more than they do now. Can we then find within each one of us the commitment to take responsibility for the one piece of a more resilient future? It is our own behavior that will profoundly affect the well-being of those who inherit the results of our decisions.