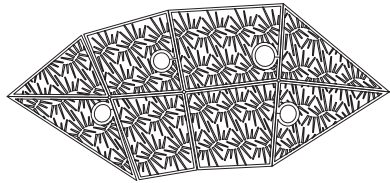


6. DBADENDIZWIN (Humility)

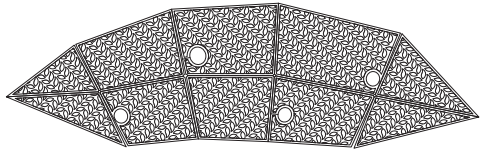
....humility is to know yourself as a sacred part of Creation. In the Anishinaabe language, this word can also mean compassion. You are equal to others, but you are not better.



**Food Forest:** The Dbadendizwin canopy design references the layer growing below the ground consisting of tubers and root vegetables. To harvest these requires hard, honest work that teaches humility. Example Species: Wild Onions, Wild Garlic, American Ginseng. This pattern is based on the roots of Wild Onion (*Allium vineale*).

7. ZAAGEDOWIN (Love)

.....to know peace is to know Love. Love must be unconditional. When people are weak they need love the most. In the Anishinaabe language, this word with the reciprocal theme /idi/ indicates that this form of love is mutual.



**Food Forest:** The Zaagedowin canopy design references the Vine layer of the food forest including Ivies, creepers and climbers that grow from the ground up, embracing other species for support to reach sunlight which teaches love. Example Species include Riverbank Grapes and Groundnut (Indian potato). This pattern is based on the braided vine of the Groundnut (*Apios americana*).

PROJECT TEAM:

- Project Leader: Town of Collingwood – Parks, Recreation and Culture
- Cultural Content: Dr. Duke Redbird
- Architects: Brook McIlroy Architects/Landscape Architects
- Landscape Architecture: Envision – Tatham
- Engineering & Lighting Design: Toque Innovations
- Foundation Engineering: CC Tatham and Associates Ltd.
- Timber Fabrication: Nicola Logworks
- Steel Fabrication: Lafontaine Iron Werks Inc
- Electrical Contractors: Wayne Spears Electric Ltd.
- Site Works: Eco Blue Systems
- Foundations: Alliance Site Construction
- Surveyors: CC Tatham and Associates Ltd.
- GeoTechnical Engineers: EBS Geotechnical
- Volunteer Site Works: United Steel Workers Union



Photo credit: Dave West

THE AWEN' GATHERING PLACE

Harbourview Park, Collingwood



# THE AWEN’ GATHERING PLACE – Harbourview Park, Collingwood

The Awen’ Gathering Place is a space of sharing, learning, teaching, ceremony, celebration and contemplation created by the Town of Collingwood to advance truth and reconciliation.

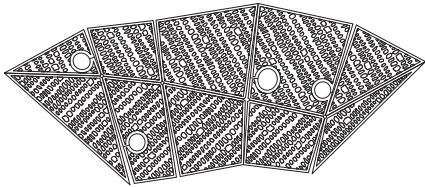
The concept for the Awen’ Gathering Place is based on the teachings of the renowned educator, artist and poet Dr. Duke Redbird of the Saugeen First Nation. The design links the seven grandfather teachings to the seven layers of the food forest. The Seven Grandfather Teachings are an ancient Anishinaabe/Midewiwin teaching on the ethics of proper behaviour and conduct or ‘the good way of life’.

These teachings are linked to the lands that were for thousands of years the source of life for the Anishinaabeg peoples who gathered foods, medicines and materials from the forest in the area that is now Collingwood. The design of the Gathering Place is the result of a collaboration between Dr. Redbird and the Indigenous design team of Brook McIlroy Architects/Landscape Architects.

## NIIZHWAASWI GMISHOOMSINAAN KINOOMAAGEWINAN (The Seven Grandfather Teachings)

### 1. NBWAAKAAWIN (Wisdom)

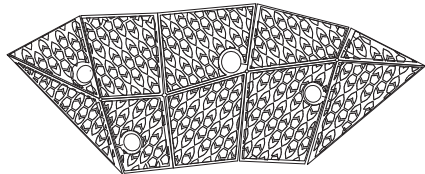
...to cherish knowledge is to know wisdom. Wisdom is given by the Creator to be used for the good of the people. In the Anishinaabe language this word expresses not only wisdom but also prudence or intelligence.



**Food Forest:** The design by the Indigenous architects for the Nbwaakaawin canopy references the overstory layer of the forest – the large, ancient trees which teach wisdom. Example species: Maple, Beech, Walnut, Hickory. The design for this pattern is based on markings made on tree trunks by the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*).

### 2. AAKIDE’EWIN (Bravery)

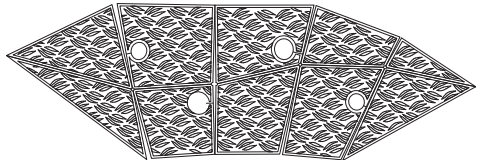
....bravery is to face the foe with integrity. In the Anishinaabe language, this word literally means “state of having a fearless heart.” To do what is right even when the consequences are unpleasant.



**Food Forest:** The Aakide’ewin canopy design references the understory layer of the food forest below the canopy, where smaller trees grow with limited sunlight including fruit and nut trees which teach courage. Example Species: Apple Tree, Chokecherry Tree, Hawthorn. This pattern depicts a stylized image of the buds on a Hawthorn Tree (*Crataegus mollis*).

### 3. MNADENDIMOOWIN (Respect)

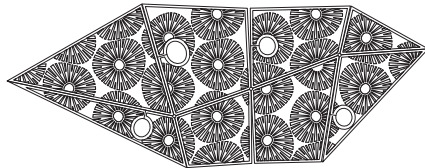
...to honor all creation is to have respect. All of creation should be treated with respect. You must give respect if you wish to be respected.



**Food Forest:** The Mnadendimoowin canopy design references the dense shrub layer below the understory that includes berries and berry bushes that teach respect. Example Species: Sumac, blueberries, raspberries. This pattern is based on the grouping of leaves of the Wild Red Raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*).

### 4. DEBWEWIN (Truth)

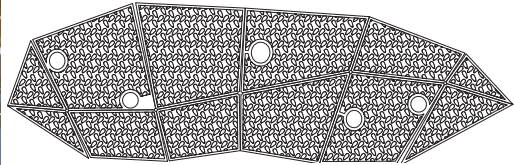
...to learn the truth, to live with truth, to walk with truth, to speak truth.



**Food Forest:** The Debwewin canopy design references low-lying species growing at ground level that are sometimes poison ous. Knowledge of these species is essential to avoid harm and teaches truth. Example Species: Mushrooms, Poison Ivy, Fly Agaric. This pattern is based on the spore markings of the Deadly Galerina (*Galerina autumnalis*).

### 5. GWEKWAADIZIWIN (Honesty)

....honesty in facing a situation is to be brave. Always be honest in word and action. Be honest first with yourself, and you will more easily be able to be honest with others. In the Anishinaabe language, this word can also mean righteousness.



**Food Forest:** : The Gwekwaadiziwin canopy design references the herbaceous layer of vegetation consisting of easy to identify species that make life simpler including culinary and medicinal herbs that teaches honesty. Example Species: Sorrel, Comfrey, Wild Strawberry. This pattern is drawn from the seeds of Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*).