



HALL OF FAME

Although a proud Canadian, his Mohawk heritage allowed him to prevail over a life-time of political and social activism. Throughout, he focussed on human rights, women's issues, youth and the Two-Spirited.

For forty years, Dennis taught at all levels of university, a career that paralleled his political involvement with Native organizations including inter-governmental relations and communications. He edited many First Nation publications while also serving as a peacekeeper during conflicts with various government authorities. In 1981, he served the Assembly of First Nations at the House of Lords in the Palace of Westminster (U.K.) regarding the Canadian Constitution and, in 1985-89, he was communications director, photographer and media trainer for the cabinet and caucus of the Premier of Ontario.

He has worked as Native advisor for three Attorneys General, and the Consul General of France. He has worked with First Nation chiefs in Ottawa, Ontario and at the individual community level. He helped establish Casino Rama while negotiating a \$400 million revenue sharing settlement with Queen's Park. He especially enjoyed assisting in the creation of the Ted Nolan Children's Foundation.

In 2008, he accepted the challenge of being an Aboriginal Advisor for the corporate sector. But he dreams of installing a memorial to honour the Six Nations allies of the Crown on Queenston Heights during the bicentennial celebrations of the War of 1812.

At GDHS, he enjoyed the challenge of playing for the Senior Rebels (1960-63) with Coach McLaren, while many of his teachers continue to provide inspiration to this day. Miss Piercey was especially helpful when he enrolled at university in 1966 as a mature student. The confidence he acquired while at GDHS has sustained him through a volatile, often dangerous, career.



Dennis Martel