

## Living Into Right Relations – November 2021

Hello,

This month is chock full!! I've tried to give a range of possibilities for Treaties Recognition Week coming next week. I wanted to get this out a bit before Nov 1 to give time to check these out.

As well, as we think about how to use our money well in the gift-buying time ahead, please note the listing of Indigenous-led organizations that welcome support.

In addition a couple of attachments:

1. a **list of books related to residential schools**. If any titles resonate with you and you'd like to read something with others, please let me know. We are hoping to create a book study group or two in the new year.
2. the recent recommendations to Waterloo Regional Council from the **Anti-Racism Advisory Working Group**. Very valuable for moving forward in this region.

As always, if you have information or events you'd like to share about Living Into Right Relations with First Nations locally feel free to pass them my way.

Be well,

Nancy ([nancydykstra@gmail.com](mailto:nancydykstra@gmail.com))

**1. Nov 1-7 is Treaties Recognition Week.** There are numerous events happening related to this and other resources you can check out at your leisure. A number of these are geared to younger people, and useful for teachers. Here's a sampling:

**a. Events:**

- i. **Nov 1 7-8:45p.m. [We are all treaty people](#) - MCC Canada - Maurice Switzer and Rebecca Seiling**
- ii. [Treaties Recognition Week | ontario.ca](#) - links to events and information, some for younger children, most for secondary school age to adults.

**b. Books and Media**

- i. **Wilfrid Laurier Office of Indigenous Initiatives** of : [Treaties Recognition Week: Books and Media](#). "... foundational works that lay out historical context of treaty rights and sovereignty that are local to the areas in which Wilfrid Laurier University is situated".
- ii. [Treaty making and the Significance of the Royal Proclamation](#) Cdn Historical Society, Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, 2016. Follow this link and you'll see lots of other YouTube videos on the topic.

**c. Map Resources:**

- i. [Whose Land](#) a friendly starting place to learn where traditional territories were, what treaties cover what areas, where the residential schools were, building Land Acknowledgements and more. Good for teachers - and all of us!
- ii. [Native-Land](#) similar content, more interactive and detailed

## 2. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - read their Facebook posts
  - i. [Letter Campaign](#) for Indigenous Hub in Kitchener. This is an ongoing and important conversation.
  - ii. Event: Oct 29, 7p.m. Apollo Cinema [Two-Spirit and Indigiqueer Short Films Screening](#)
  
- b. [1492 Land Back Lane](#) Supportive actions -
  - i. **Friday Lunches for 1492 LandBack Lane - Our next delivery date: Nov 5**  
Cash donations can be made through [Parkminster United Church](#). Please identify your donation as 1492 LandBack Lane. For more info or to lend a hand contact me at [nancydykstra@gmail.com](mailto:nancydykstra@gmail.com). Thank you!
  - ii. New list of in-kind donations for winter prep - see Facebook post for Oct. 13
  - iii. Support their [legal defense fund](#)
  
- c. **Arrowdale Reclamation** - former golf course at Brantford - welcomes food, wood and supplies. In case you're newly aware, here are some recent news articles, (thanks, David von Wahl):
  - i. North Shore [Onkwehon:we and Brantford residents unite and #landback Arrowdale – North Shore Counter-Info](#)
  - ii. Two Row Times [Six Nations reclaims former Arrowdale property in Brantford](#)
  - iii. Brantford Expositor [Indigenous land defenders begin occupation at Arrowdale](#)
  - iv. CBC [Protester in Brantford, Ont., golf course occupation says he'll stay 'as long as the grass grows'](#)

**3. Supporting Indigenous initiatives.** Last month we highlighted Indigenous entrepreneurs you might consider supporting if you're shopping for Christmas or any other reason. Sometimes donations to support organizations are welcome gifts as well. Here are some Indigenous-led organizations in the KW and Six Nations regions that you could consider supporting in this way. Thanks to Henriette Thompson, Mary Thompson, Beverly McNabb for your input.

### K-W area:

- [Anishnabeg Outreach – Centre for Indigenous Healing](#)
- [Crow Shield Lodge](#) See "In Case You Missed It" below for a recent event and info.
- [The Healing of the Seven Generations](#)
- [KW Urban Native Wigwam Project](#) accepting donations and volunteers
- [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - see 2.a above for more information
- [White Owl Native Ancestry Association](#)

#### Brantford/Six Nations area:

- [Mohawk Village Memorial Park](#) - see Nov 10 below for an event supporting this
- [Save the Evidence](#) : Woodland Cultural Centre - see Nov 16 below for an event supporting this
- [Six Nations of the Grand River Hospice](#) A new initiative of [Six Nations Health Foundation](#) at 1745 Chiefswood Road, Ohsweken, Ont., N0A 1M0
- [1492 Land Back Lane](#) - see 2.b above for more information

#### 4. Learning at home and events - there's a lot going on!

- a. **Nov 1, 7 p.m. All Saint's Day Vigil [Together in Song](#)**  
*Light a candle and remember all those who never got to go home*  
Indigenous and non-Indigenous, we join together with songs of hope and healing.  
For more information contact Thérèse Samuel, Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice United Church ([TSamuel@united-church.ca](mailto:TSamuel@united-church.ca) ).
- b. **Nov 3-19 - [Bridge: Honouring the Lives of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirit People](#)** annual installation since 2016 for 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence at the University of Waterloo. Opening Ceremony and Fire on Wed., Nov. 3 at 1 p.m. at the bridge between Environment 3 and St. Paul's University College. Closing ceremony - Fri., Nov 19 at 1p.m. pm
- c. **Nov 5 - Dec 5 [Guelph Film Festival](#)**, including film Stories from Land Back Camp
- d. **Nov 6 & 7, 12:30 - 4 p.m. each day **KAIROS** event: [Furthering Reconciliation Great Lakes St. Lawrence Virtual Regional Gathering](#)** \$10 – \$15
- e. **Nov 7, 2p.m. [Welcome to my Fire](#)** A safe place to ask your questions as together we move towards reconciliation. Email Sandi Boucher at [sandi@sandiboucher.com](mailto:sandi@sandiboucher.com) to register and get a Zoom link. "Sandi Boucher supports both sides of reconciliation by creating safe spaces, not only for the Indigenous peoples she empowers through example and education, but for the non-Indigenous as well, providing them with the answers and guidance they seek."
- f. **2 more Tuesdays: Nov 9 & 23 2--3:30 p.m. [Engaging the TRC Calls to Action](#)**  
Become acquainted with the Calls to Action and consider a faith-filled response.  
Nov 9 Session3: What has been done? What can we do next?  
Nov 23 Session 4: Networking and Planning  
For more information contact Thérèse Samuel, Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice ([TSamuel@united-church.ca](mailto:TSamuel@united-church.ca) )
- g. **Nov. 10, 7p.m. [Indigenous Voices Speaker Series '21](#)** Elder Renee Thomas- Hill Six Nations Elder "Living in Two Worlds" An educator, elder, grandmother living on Six Nations near Brantford, Thomas-Hill says,"My walk in life is to share awareness and the uplifting of the spirit through the teachings of Our Mother, the Earth and the Understanding of the Good Mind."  
  
Suggested donation: \$10.00 per session. Net proceeds to support the Mohawk Village Memorial Garden.

- h. **Nov 10 & 27, Dec 1, 7 p.m. Mohawk Institute Virtual tours.** Click the date for a link to tickets: [Nov 10](#) [Nov 24](#) [Dec 1](#)
- i. **Nov 12 [Re-Storying the Medicine Line as Indigenous Land Guardianship](#)** sponsored by St. Jerome's University's Lectures in Catholic Experience. Melissa K. Nelson, Professor of Indigenous Sustainability, Arizona State University, Tempe AZ. *Native spiritual practices have always been about land. ... The revitalization of land guardianship roles and practices is often characterized as protecting the medicines of the land so that they can continue to give life to all of creation. This movement is a claim to territorial and spiritual sovereignty*
- j. **Nov. 14 2 p.m.** Honouring the Missing Students of Indian Residential School System through Community Prayer and Dialogue. Neenahnew Oskapewasik in partnership with Five Oaks. Registration [here](#)
- k. **Nov 16 6:30 - 9 p.m.** Friends and Neighbours of WCC and Wilfrid Laurier University [In Conversation with Mike Downie and Bob Watts](#) Proceeds support the Woodland Cultural Centre's Save the Evidence Campaign. The event will begin with a screening of the film Secret Path at 6:30 p.m. prior to a live conversation with our guests. Register [here](#). To be on the mailing list contact [denuma@rogers.com](mailto:denuma@rogers.com)
- l. **Nov 18, 7 – 8:30 p.m.** Jesse Wentz: [In Conversation](#)
- m. **Nov 29, 1:30-3:30 [Nations Uniting](#)** Sharing Circle - learning about what the term Reconciliation can mean from an Indigenous perspective. Nations Uniting is an Indigenous-led education and support group hosted by the United Churches of Six Nations. To join this event and be part of their mailing list contact Rhonda Johns at [nations.uniting@gmail.com](mailto:nations.uniting@gmail.com).
- n. **Lots of other events online through [Eventbrite](#)**
- o. **In case you missed it....**

i. [Crow Shield Lodge](#) - thanks to Henriette Thompson

On Oct 3 some of us participated in the fedge planting at Pfenning's Farm in New Hamburg. After about 30 people of all ages planted a variety of plants -- fruit and other bushes, strawberry plants -- at the end of the forest next to the fields, Clarence Cachagee led us to the place where Crow Shield Lodge established an outdoor gathering space.

Clarence opened the day for us -- through teaching, drumming/singing, and smudging. I was struck by how much Clarence was welcoming us to return to this place and continue to work together to experience a land-based approach to learning.

Crow Shield Lodge offers focussed on land-based approaches to education, healing, reconciliation and land stewardship to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people alike. Follow their programs and events on their [facebook page](#). Clarence is happy to speak with groups who want to learn more and learn how to support them.



ii.Oct 21 [The Benjamin Eby Lecture | Conrad Grebel University College](#)  
Composing Louis Riel's Dream, Karen Sundabacka

## 5. Good Reads, News and Views

a. Check the attachment for a list of fiction and non-fiction reading related to Residential Schools. Think about books you might want to read with a group. Thank you, Deb Siertsema!

b. [10 books about truth and reconciliation to read with your kids](#)

c. WE VALUE DIVERSITY lawn signs.

If you would like one contact:

[gladysbender@hotmail.com](mailto:gladysbender@hotmail.com).

Thanks!



d. Others who are putting out regular information related to Indigenous relations:

- New newsletter from UW Indigenous Initiatives Office, [Indigenous Connections](#)
- [Woodland Cultural Centre Newsletter](#)
- [KAIROS](#)
- W.I.N.D. (Weekly Indigenous News Digest) packed with information, events, articles - to join the mailing list contact Pam at [wind.redeemerchurch@gmail.com](mailto:wind.redeemerchurch@gmail.com)