

Living Into Right Relations – August 2024

Hello,

I'm collating this month's input while basking in the glow of the [2024 Two Row paddle](#) on the Grand River that about 100 of us completed on Aug 2. For me, the [Two Row On The Grand](#) is a powerful gift and important annual renewal - creating a community as we paddle, experiencing the river together, and learning with our physical bodies, our minds, spirits and emotions. Deep gratitude to all of the people on land and on water who make it possible and to all who participated as paddlers this year.

This newsletter provides connections and entry points for people who are interested in learning about and living into right relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, particularly those living in the Grand River watershed. It's August, and September has a way of sneaking up on us, so I've included more "On the Radar" items than usual. Thank you to everyone who contributed information about the events, opportunities and information found here. Please continue to send those in!

Wishing you all a lovely month of August,

Nancy (nancydykstra@gmail.com). Thank you, Henriëtte and Bev for ongoing editing and other support!

1. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - at Willow River Centre, 243 King St., Kitchener.
 - i. Read their Facebook posts
- b. [1492 Land Back Lane](#)

2. Special section for educators who are thinking about next year...

- a. Register now for [Truth and Reconciliation Week](#) (Sept 23 to 27) events and resources. From the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.
- b. [Facing History Canada](#) Jasmine Wong.
- c. [29 must-read books for children and teens by Indigenous writers](#), curated for CBC by Phyllis Webstad, the creator of Orange Shirt Day.
- d. **2024 imagineNATIVE Tour** is accepting bookings for their 2024 Tour until November 1, 2024, so you can bring Indigenous-made films and VR works to your school, workplace, community group, youth program, or other gathering. With feature films, short film programs, and virtual reality works, we have content curated for all age groups. Screening fees go directly to the artists for their work. Visit the [imagineNATIVE website](#) for more information. Book a tour [here](#). (From W.I.N.D. newsletter.)

3. Repeated Section from July: Pow Wows

Whether you've been often or haven't yet experienced a pow wow, attending one can be a wonderful opportunity to appreciate Indigenous culture.

- a. [Great Lakes 2024 Pow Wow Guide](#) See p. 31 for info about pow wow etiquette. Pow wow listings start on p. 32. Thanks for sending this in, Bev McNabb.
- b. **Aug. 15-18** (Thurs to Sun) [Cape Croker](#), "Let Your Heart Beat with the Drum", Cape Croker Park, 112 Park Rd, Warton, ON.
- c. **Aug. 24&25** (Sat/Sun) [Rama](#) Held on Chippewas of Rama First Nation territory, at the John Snake Memorial Community Multi-Purpose Grounds.

4. Supporting Indigenous-led organizations: [Healing of the Seven Generations backpack program](#). Donations of new items, gift cards and cash are all welcome.

5. Learning at home and connecting in person

- a. [Crow Shield Lodge](#) in Waterloo Region has a range of events related to education, healing, land stewardship and reconciliation, including a monthly women's full moon ceremony (Aug 19) men's sharing circle (Aug 21), and more. Events listing [here](#).
- b. **Until Oct. 20** [Billy Gauthier: Sila](#) Billy Gauthier is a sculpture and activist of Inuit ancestry, from Newfoundland and Labrador. At Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery. Thanks, Marlene deGroot-Maggetti.
- c. **Sat. Aug 3 - Mon. Sept 30** Woodland Cultural Centre - Indigenous Art 2024: 49th Annual Juried Exhibition.
- d. **Tues. Aug 6 - Thurs. Aug 15** [Grand River Water Walk 2024 Facebook Auction](#). In support of the [Water Walk](#) which takes place September 15 to 21.
- e. **Sat. Aug. 17 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.** [Annual Smoke Dance Competition](#) - Woodland Cultural Centre.
- f. **Wed. Aug. 21, 6-7:30 p.m.** [Virtual screening of Silent No More](#). New virtual tour of the Mohawk Institute.
- g. **Fri. Aug. 23, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.** [River Talks](#) series. Learn more about Six Nations while cruising the Grand River. Topic for this cruise: "Six Nations Land Claims" with Phil Monture. Presented by Grand River Cruises and Six Nations Tourism.
- h. **Sat. Aug. 24, 10:30 a.m. - noon**. Stratford Festival Meighen Forum. [Valley of the Birdtail](#) Conversation with co-authors Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) and Andrew Stobo Sniderman. Tickets [here](#).
- i. **Sat., Aug. 24, 1 - 3 p.m.** [Old Haus. New Stories: A Journey Through Time](#). Schneider Haus National Historic Site, 466 Queen St. S., Kitchener.
- j. **Wed. Aug. 28, noon - 2** Grandmothers' Tea at Grace Anglican Church, Brantford. Potluck lunch and sharing time. Contact Joan (519-754-8786) or Shirley (519-753-5789) for more information.

- k. **Sat. Aug. 31, 8 a.m.** [Grand River Water Ceremony](#), at [Schneider Park](#), Kitchener, parking off King St, across from Freeport Hospital.
- l. **Tues. Sept. 3, 23;30 p.m.** The Concerned Lay Catholics' Indigenous Teachings book study. [The Reason You Walk](#) by Wab Kinew. Online, facilitated by Donna McGreal. See attached poster for the 2024/5 schedule. To register and for more information contact concernedlaycatholics@gmail.com.
- m. Other events in your area may be found on [Eventbrite](#).

On the radar...

- n. **Sat, Sept. 14, 2024 at 2 p.m.** ET. [Indigenous & Catholic Ecosystems: A Path to Reconciliation](#). Free webinar offered in partnership by [Concerned Lay Catholics in Canada](#) and Mouvement Laudato Si' Movement -[Faith & the Common Good](#).
- o. **Wed. Sept. 18**, Toronto, [Grassy Narrows River Run](#).
- p. **Sept. 21, 9:00am - 8:30pm.** [Seeking Transformation Day Retreat: Kairos Blanket Exercise](#) Hosted by [Five Oaks](#), 1 Bethel Rd., Paris.
- q. **Sept 23 to 27**, [Truth and Reconciliation Week](#) with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. Register early. Thanks, Carolyn Sullivan and Henriëtte Thompson.

6. Good Reads, News and Views

a. Reads

- i. [Holding the Crown to Account: Restoule v. Ontario](#) First Peoples Law Report.
- i. A couple of articles from the blog of Indigenous Corporate Training Inc [The Indian Act & the Politics of Exclusion](#); [Indigenous Membership vs Citizenship: What's the Difference?](#)

b. News

- i. [Strawberry communion at Six Nations](#) Canadian Mennonite Magazine. Thank you, Dorothy Wiebe.
- ii. [Canada supporting Brantford's Woodland Cultural Centre](#) Two Row Times.

c. Views

- i. [UCW produces six-part series Understanding Indigenous History: A Path Forward](#) Phil Fontaine & Kathleen Mahoney in conversation with Lisa Laflamme.