

Living Into Right Relations – February, 2026

Hello,

From a national youth competition to the monthly water ceremony on the banks of the Grand, from a film screening of Walking Through the Fire to Have A Heart Day social time, there are many ways to listen, learn and act as we walk the path of living into right relations with Indigenous peoples in Canada.

May you walk in good company,

Nancy (nancydykstra@gmail.com) Henriëtte, Bev and Lorna, the search and edit team.

We welcome relevant information if you'd like to pass it our way. Thanks!

1. **Sat. Feb 14** is **Have a Heart Day**, sponsored every year by [First Nations Child & Family and Caring Society](#)
 - a. **Thurs, Feb 12, 5:30-8:30 p.m.** [Have a Heart Day community event](#) will include a connection to culture, song, dance, crafts, activities for kids and more. UW School of Architecture, 7 Melville Street S, Cambridge. Co-sponsored by Office of Indigenous Relations (OIR), University of Waterloo School of Architecture in Cambridge and Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Centre (SOAHAC).
 - b. Link [here](#) for ideas from the United Church for your classroom, Sunday School, family or youth group.

2. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - at Willow River Centre, 243 St., Kitchener.
 - i. Read their Facebook posts.
 - ii. Look for Feb 7 Arts Market and Feb 8 crafting event in Sections 4&5 below.
 - iii. How to support? [Support us | O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#).

3. Highlighting initiatives and organizations that are Indigenous-led or Indigenous-focussed:

If you're looking for Indigenous catering, check out [Cedar Spoon Indigenous Catering](#) Thanks, Maria Brown.

4. Arts Section

- a. **Sat, Feb 7, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.** [Love and Liberation Arts Market](#) Willow River Centre, 243 St., Kitchener.
- b. **Sat, Feb 21. 7-9 p.m.** [Walking Through the Fire - Visual Album](#) Free screening at Shantz Mennonite Church, Baden. Donations are welcome at the door. Reserve seats [here](#).
- c. **Sat, Feb 21 - Sun, May 24** [mīgīsak mīgohk / Beads in the Blood: A Ruth Cuthand Retrospective](#). Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West, Hamilton. Adults \$15, Seniors (65+) \$12.
- d. **Sun, Feb 22, 3-4 p.m. (drop in)** [Artist Talk: In Conversation with Ruth Cuthand, Shelley Niro, and Felicia Gay](#) Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West, Hamilton.
- e. **Until Tues, Feb 24.** [Familial Waters: A Solo Exhibition by Dianne Brown Green](#) Woodland Cultural Centre, 184 Mohawk Street, Brantford.

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. Events listing [here](#).
- b. *Deadline extended:* [Imagine a Canada](#) invites Canadian youth from K-G12 and CÉGEP to submit original project ideas or art/essay pieces that express their vision of a Canada reconciled. New Deadline Feb 14, 2026.
- c. **Fri, Feb 6, 3-6 p.m.** [Philosophy as Medicine, This is Not a Peace Pipe Revisited](#) Guest lecture by [Dale Turner](#). Lazaridis School of Business and Economics, 64 University Ave. W., Waterloo. Organized by the Philosophy Department, Wilfrid Laurier University. Free.
- d. **Sat, Feb 7, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.** [Lean in and Learn: Loving Indigenous Neighbours](#). For church communities. Three panelists will share their questions and stories about how they began to engage with First Peoples in their communities. Westside Church Burlington, 5050 S. Service Rd, Burlington. Register through the link above.
- e. **Sat, Feb 7, 10-11 a.m.** [Indigenous Drumming and Sharing Circle](#) Kitchener Public Library, Central Library, Reading Lounge. 85 Queen St N, Kitchener. Free.
- f. **Sat, Feb 7, 10:15-11:15 a.m.** Seedy Saturday - [Seed Saving with Kahnekanoron](#) Hamilton Public Library, Central Library, Wentworth Room. 55 York Blvd, Hamilton.
- g. **Tues, Feb 10 & 24, 6-8 p.m.** [Tea and Crafts with Totah Rhea](#), Willow River Centre, 243 St., Kitchener.
- h. **Wed, Feb 11, 6-8 p.m.** [Feeding the Next Generation](#) Presented by Hamilton Public Library (HPL), in partnership with [McMaster University Department of Anthropology](#). At HPL Central Library, Hamilton Room, 55 York Blvd, Hamilton. Free.
- i. **Wed, Feb 11, 6:30-8 p.m.** [Cultivating Climate Activism through Storytelling and Art](#) with guest speaker [Isaac Murdoch](#). At [CIGI auditorium](#), 67 Erb St.W. Waterloo. Co-hosted by UWaterloo Waterloo Climate Institute, the Office of Indigenous Relations, and the Faculty of Environment.

- j. **Feb 18 (Wed) & 19 (Thurs), 7-9 p.m.** [Decolonizing Ourselves: Learning Through Story](#). Online, sponsored by KAIROS Canada. Register [here](#).
- k. [Six Nations Polytechnic](#) Lunch & Learn. They are planning one online session in February. Details not available at the time of publication. Check the [SNP Calendar](#).
- l. **Sat, Feb 21, 8:00 a.m.** [Grand River Water Ceremony](#), at [Otterbein Kayak Launch](#) in Kitchener. Please arrive on time to walk to the river together and smudge. Wear ceremonial regalia as your spirit calls; drums and shakers are also suggested.
- m. **Mon, Feb. 23, 1:30-2:30 p.m.** [Nations Uniting](#) Sharing Circle - To join this event and be part of their mailing list contact Rhonda Johns at nations.uniting@gmail.com.
- n. **Wed, Feb 25, 12-2 p.m.** Grandmothers' Tea at Etonia Princeton United Church, 101 #2 Hwy, Etonia. Potluck lunch and sharing time. Contact Brenda (519-865-1436) for more information.
- o. **Mon, March 2, 2-3:30 and 7-8:30 p.m.** RC Diocese of Hamilton "Listening to Indigenous Voices" online book study. [Who We Are: Four Questions for a Life and a Nation](#). Senator Murray Sinclair. Introduction pp. 1-267. Facilitated by Donna McGreal. To register and for more information contact dwmcgreall@gmail.com.
- p. **Thurs, March 5, 7 p.m.** Online event [Deconstructing the Doctrine of Discovery](#). Afro-Indigenous resistances in the Global South with a focus on Ecuador. Thank you, Henriëtte Thompson.
- q. Other events in your area may be found on [Eventbrite](#).

6. Good Reads, News, Views and Podcasts

a. Reads

- i. 10-year report of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation entitled [Shaped by Courage: Strengthened by Hope](#), reviews the progress of the past decade and the work that still lies ahead. Download the report through the link.
- ii. [Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice News from The United Church of Canada](#) Jan. 2026.
- iii. [Bill C-5: Now What?](#) First People's Law, July 2025.

b. News

- i. [Catholic church hands over Anishinabe Spiritual Centre to Indigenous-led board](#) [CBC News](#) In spring 2025, thanks for forwarding this, Maria Brown.
- ii. [First Nation leaders call for long-term solutions amid Kashechewan water crisis](#) Jan 14, CP .
- iii. [Province fasttracking approvals process for Timmins nickel project](#) Jan 13. Lindsay Kelly, Timmins Today,

c. Views

- i. [Yellowhead Institute Treaty Map](#) new version, includes a new Indigenous Treaty-Making Layer and a Grade 8 to Post Secondary Education Guide.
- ii. [First Peoples Law - What We're Watching](#) Recommendations for film, novels and music from Nov 2025. Check them out!

d. **Podcasts** - If you know of a podcast focussed on Indigenous affairs let us know!
We'll post one here each month when we have new ones to share.

i. [MEDIA INDIGENA : Indigenous current affairs](#). Thanks Gerald Regehr.