

## Dancing Circle of Right Relations Lending Library/Resources

### Protocol for Identifying on whose land we meet

The UCC has agreed and mandated that whenever we gather as God's people there needs to be an acknowledgement of the place, the land and First People's Nation where we meet.

A simple statement that brings hearts and minds to awareness goes a very long way towards building Right Relations.

Begin by recognizing the Indigenous group (First Nation, Metis or Inuit) within whose traditional territory you are meeting. Thank them for the privilege of gathering on their territory.

Something like:

Brothers and Sisters - Friends in Christ, we gather today mindful of the (river, lake, hills, flat rocks, trees...whatever words Creation herself speaks to your situation...perhaps in a large city there needs to be an acknowledgement of the land beneath the concrete...still offering up gifts of trees and grass.)We are mindful of the spirit of those who walked here before us...(Anishnabe ...or Cree or...?)

In the language of the Mohawk people we acknowledge here today, as on our UCC Crest - Akwe Nia'Tetewa:neren - All our relations.

Welcome, welcome, welcome.

<b>Resource – Books and DVD’s</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Aboriginal Beliefs, Values and Aspirations</b>	<p>Co-publishers Pearson Education Canada, GoodMinds.com (2011)</p> <p>This is a student text book written for the Ontario Ministry of Education's Native Studies Grade 11 course. A collaborative process involving First Nations, Inuit, Métis and non-Aboriginal teachers, cultural consultants, advisors, language consultants, artists, editors, and writers was used. The four key units are: Spirit of the Land; Diverse Identities; Sovereignty and Self-Determination, and Resilience, Renewal, and Rejuvenation. Photographs, maps and charts assist students in learning about the beliefs, values, and aspirations of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada past, present and future. The book is informative, respectful, and engaging in its format and content It includes a helpful glossary of terms, pronunciation guide, index, and opening and closing prayers, greetings and farewells in several Indigenous languages.</p> <p>Source: Ontario Ministry of Education</p>
<b>Aboriginal Peoples in Canada</b>	<p>Co-publishers; Pearson Education Canada, GoodMinds.com (2011)</p> <p>This is a student text book written for the Ontario Ministry of Education's Native Studies Grade 10 course. A collaborative process involving First Nations, Inuit, Métis and non-Aboriginal teachers, cultural consultants, advisors, language consultants, artists, editors, and writers was used. The four key units are: Identities and Cultures; The Land; Governance; and Communities. The text is informative, respectful, and engaging in format and content. It includes a helpful glossary of terms, pronunciation guide, index, opening and closing prayers, greetings and farewells in several Indigenous languages.</p> <p>Source: Ontario Ministry of Education</p>

<p><b>The Box, the Book &amp; The Preacher (DVD)</b></p>	<p>In 2009, United Church minister Rev. Rob Dalgleish talks with National Indigenous Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada, Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald. This DVD brings us into the room while this conversation unfolds. Mark MacDonald encourages the Christian churches in the prophetic role of looking beyond survival to naming and celebrating God at work in every circle – both within and beyond the church. He gently and so eloquently challenges us to claim “the power of the message to touch and shape peoples’ lives.”</p> <p>This is recorded in two sessions – about 15 min. each- and would be a very worthwhile two Sunday series.</p>
<p><b>Blackfoot Physics</b></p>	<p>David Peat is a British physicist, founder of the international Pari Centre for New Learning in Italy. An exploration of knowledge and language among native Canadians in company with another physicist, the late David Bohm, most especially within the Blackfoot Confederacy, led him to see the linear Western science, in which he has been trained and excelled, in a new context.</p> <p><i>Blackfoot Physics</i> is the account of this transforming encounter: a multidisciplinary comparison Western and Native Canadian medicines, myths, languages, understandings of reality. The physicists found striking resonances between native teachings and the insights of modern science, and were fascinated by the remarkable relative ease with which Algonquian speakers could express the sorts of ideas that were emerging from the leading edge of modern theoretical physics.</p>
<p><b>My Mi’kmaq Mother by Julie Pellissier Lush</b></p>	<p>Julie Pellissier Lush grew up on Lennox Island First Nation, P.E.I., and Dundas, Ontario, and now works with the Mi’kmaq Confederacy back in P.E.I. Her book of childhood memories and vignettes is a collection that draws the reader into frights and delights, fears, sadness, whimsies, impetuosities, joys, meals, pets, calamities, adventures, losses and reckonings... childhood insights and experiences that make connections with us all, but also also reveal detail from the “other side” of Canada’s wretched racial divide.</p>

<b>Living into Right Relations (DVD)</b>	
<b>Why the Healing Fund?</b>	
<b>A Healing Journey for Us All</b>	<p><b>Study Guide Booklet</b></p> <p>This 3-session study has been designed to promote a focus on healing and reconciliation in the period between two dates: May 26 (National Day of Healing and Reconciliation) and June 21 (National Aboriginal Day of Prayer). It offers stories, discussion questions, and worship resources to help people and congregations explore the effects of colonialism on all Canadians and to encourage practices that promote healing and reconciliation between races and ethnic groups.</p>
<b>Mamow Be-Mo-Tay-Tah</b>	
<b>Kawartha Truth &amp; Reconciliation Support Group Quilt</b>	
<b>From Truth to Reconciliation: transforming the legacy of residential schools</b>	<p>Here are 20 articulate, knowledgeable and revealing essays by people with life-long involvements and commitments to the first peoples of Canada ... but who also show deep concern for the health of Canada's social, constitutional and justice fabric. It's a big read — it addresses a big issue — but it's a constructive and hopeful one. It provides historical and contemporary context and opens discussions that illumine possible pathways to reconciliation. Published by the Aboriginal Healing Foundation in 2008, From Truth to Reconciliation is a persuasive appeal not only for change but also for personal engagement on the part of any Canadian with a concern for his or her country's future.</p>
<b>Justice and Reconciliation</b>	
<b>In Peace &amp; Friendship</b>	
<b>The Fractured Homeland</b>	

<b>Invisible Nation (DVD)</b>	<p>This dvd presenting a history of the Algonquins of Quebec raises many questions and concerns for viewers. People with a sense of justice are moved as they learn about alarming events over generations that have resulted in a nation reduced to about 9000 people spread out over about 10 communities in the province.</p> <p>For centuries the Algonquins lived on a vast territory that met all their needs. With the arrival of settlers, over time their territory was eroded and reduced without treaties. Eventually it was arbitrarily divided along the Ottawa River when the provinces of Ontario and Quebec were formed. This dvd tells the stories of those on the Quebec side. Today they have reached a crossroads. They suffer in silence under harsh conditions, wondering whether their people can survive. Their repeated requests to both federal and provincial governments for negotiation and help have been repeatedly ignored.</p> <p>Canada's capital sits beside the Ottawa River on land which has never been legally bought from the Algonquin nation. Although this dvd focuses on the Algonquins of Quebec, it gives a vivid and disturbing background picture pertinent also to the Algonquins of Ontario. Many United churches in Bay of Quinte Conference are on land formerly home to the Algonquin nation. Currently the Algonquins on the Ontario side of the Ottawa River are finally engaged in discussions with the Ontario and federal governments to reach a land claim settlement after hundreds of years of living in limbo.</p> <p>This dvd offers helpful background of what has led up to these negotiations and of the generations of injustices which settlers have contributed to with their Algonquin neighbours. It provides useful information to encourage congregations to become informed about the current land claim settlement process happening in much of the Conference region today. Although in French, for English viewing move your dvd player to set-up and switch to English play.</p>
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<b>Recovering the Sacred</b>	<p>"A fascinating read that puts into historical context the contemporary struggles of Native American communities to reclaim their tribal land, names, traditions, agriculture, and even the remains of their ancestors."</p> <p>The author explores this topic by examining a dozen cases, some in Canada, and revealing the many roadblocks, as well as the signs of hope, on this journey. There are heartbreaking realizations, such as discovering that once remains are identified in a museums, they may be coated in so many lethal chemicals to prevent deterioration that giving these items a proper burial would contaminate soil and groundwater. But there are also hopeful stories, like the formation of SHARE- Strengthening Haudenosaunee-American Relations through Education, and the purchase of ancestral land on which to facilitate the education.</p>
<b>Indigenous Diplomacy</b>	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> World Canada (DVD)</b>	<p>This challenging and moving CD is about Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug- a community in Northern Ontario. It will bring to life many of the issues facing remote Native communities in our province. Check out <a href="http://www.thirdworldcananda.ca">www.thirdworldcananda.ca</a> for an excellent preview.</p>
<b>Muffins for Granny (DVD)</b>	<p>The sad history of the Canadian government's residential school program has had a profound effect on First Nations peoples across the country. For filmmaker Nadia McLaren, it is personal history as well. Her Ojibway grandmother was forced into a residential school and its repercussions have echoed through her family. Looking to understand her loving but troubled grandmother, McLaren interviews seven First Nations elders about their experiences in residential schools. Mixing stark animated moments with human faces and home movie footage, MUFFINS FOR GRANNY is a raw and honest documentary about a difficult chapter in Canadian history - a chapter that, for many, is not over.</p> <p>Taken from Amazon.com</p>

<b>The Mishomis Book</b>	The Mishomis Book: The Voice of the Ojibway documents the history, traditions, and culture of the Ojibway people via stories and myths. It draws from the traditional teachings of tribal elders to inform young readers about Ojibway creation stories and legends, the origin and meaning of the Ojibway family structure and clan system. It provides an introduction to Ojibway culture and an understanding of the sacred Midewiwin teachings.
<b>Sacred Earth, Sacred Community</b>	
<b>As Long as the River Flows</b>	Former Lt. Gov. of Ontario James Bartleman chose fiction as a way of presenting the harsh historical reality of many First Nations individuals over the past 60 years. Following one woman's journey of healing from residential school abuse, intergenerational impacts are explored on a Northern Ontario reserve and in a move to Toronto. This story is a good starting point to begin to understand some of the burdens carried within First Nations communities, and how reconciliation is courageously happening.
<b>Anishnabe 101</b>	
<b>Fire Keepers of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</b>	
<b>Keeper'N'Me</b>	
<b>Me Funny</b>	Drew Hayden Taylor is a playwright, author, comedian and journalist from Curve Lake, Ontario—part Ojibwa, part Caucasian. Using humor to talk about humor, his 2006 book, <i>Me Funny</i> , is a sharp discussion about some seriously sensitive issues including stereotyping, “taste” and political correctness, and an introduction to the “native sense of humor” with its all of its ironic, satirical, teasing, self-deprecatory and subversive strands and tonalities. In tackling the hard and serious stuff, though, ‘Me Funny’ is full of humor that invites readers to cross the no-man’s land of intercultural awkwardness to “get” with, not at, native wits and humorists. Drew Hayden Taylor incorporates examples from 11 fellow First Nation comedians... but there’s a whole lot more of them “out there”.
<b>Speaking My Truth</b>	

<p><b>One Native Life</b></p>	<p>Richard Wagamese is Ojibway from the Wabasseemoong First Nation and has worked as a journalist and broadcaster for radio and T.V. In this book he describes his life's journey from his traumatic childhood in abusive foster homes to his discovery of his worth as a man and as an Indigenous person. As Wagamese struggles to reclaim his identity, he teaches the reader about his spiritual connection to the land, sacred bundles, the medicine wheel and the peace and healing he finds in his Anishinaabe culture. The short chapters are grouped into four sections; Ahki (Earth), Ishkwaday (Fire), Nibi (Water), Ishpiming (Universe). This is a hopeful and inspiring book that makes us aware that we are all neighbours on this earth.</p>
<p><b>The Inconvenient Indian</b></p>	
<p><b>Toward Justice &amp; Right Relationship: A Beginning (DVD)</b></p>	
<p><b>Fatty Legs</b></p>	
<p><b>A Stranger at Home</b></p>	
<p><b>The Sharing Circle</b></p>	
<p><b>ABC's of Our Spiritual Connection</b></p>	
<p><b>Circle and Cross</b></p>	

## 8<sup>th</sup> Fire

*8<sup>th</sup> Fire* is a 4-part, thought-provoking, high energy journey through Aboriginal country showing why we urgently need to fix Canada's 500-year-old relationship with Indigenous peoples. It's a relationship now mired in colonialism, conflict and denial. With beautiful landscapes and delightful humour, *8<sup>th</sup> Fire* propels us past prejudice, stereotypes and misunderstandings and introduces us to encounters with an impressive new generation of Aboriginal Canadians who are reclaiming their culture and their confidence.

Produced by CBC the title for the series draws from an Anishinabe prophecy which declares that now is the time for Aboriginal peoples and the settler community to come together and build the "8<sup>th</sup> fire" of justice and harmony.

Aboriginal people are the fastest growing population in Canada, with more than half now living in cities. Those still struggling on reserves in Third World conditions are demanding a share of the vast mineral and energy resources in their midst.

Hosted by dynamic journalist and musician Wab Kinew from the Ojibways of Onigaming, this 4-hour series introduces us to fascinating people – as diverse as Canada itself. *8<sup>th</sup> Fire* offers the way forward to a second chance to get the relationship right.

This series is an excellent resource for a congregation to host four movie nights for their communities. Each part is best followed by discussion and debriefing of feelings and concerns raised. It is designed so that people don't necessarily have to see all parts in order to learn.