

# INDIGENOUS PATHWAYS

Indigenous Pathways Newsletter



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### Indigenous Pathways 2021-2022 Areas of Focus:

- Encourage school staff and students to demonstrate knowledge and respect for diverse cultures.
- Build awareness/understanding around traditional territories and how they can be learned about and acknowledged appropriately.

### Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards, 2022

- The Alberta School Boards Association, Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards 2022 is open for nominations! Students from K-12 can be nominated by other students, teachers, principals, superintendents, education directors, trustees, school staff, Elders, or members of the education community.
- GYPSD students have been well-represented in years past; this is a wonderful opportunity to recognize Indigenous students who demonstrate exemplary leadership, courage, and commitment to their culture and educational pathways

Link: [ASBA Awards Page](#)



### HEADSTRONG - Metis Nation of Alberta & Mental Health Commission of Canada

- HEADSTRONG is a national health promotion program from the Mental Health Commission of Canada. This initiative aims to de-stigmatize youth mental health by inspiring them to be brave, reach out, and speak up. HEADSTRONG invites Métis youth aged 12 - 29 to join the summit to help make stigma extinct!
- Hear lead singer, Charlie Kerr of Hotel Mira share his journey with mental health!
- Experience an exciting fiddle performance with Alex Kusturok!
- Listen to amazing pop artist and producer Terez Goulet!
- Get those feet tapping with Brianna Lizotte!
- Register January 10 - Link: [HEADSTRONG Registration](#). More info: [youth@metis.org](mailto:youth@metis.org)

## Survivor Holiday Special - National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

- In case you missed it - The Survivor Holiday Special aired on Sunday, December 19. Special guests include Susan Aglukark, Tom Jackson, Steve Wood, the Ivan Flett Memorial Dancers, Chef Ray Bear, Elder Harry Bone, Dr. Sean Lessard, comedian Skinny KooKoo and many others! The 4-hour event is time well-spent and may serve to inspire those who tune in during the cold, dark winter months. Link: [Survivor Holiday Special](#)



## CAREERS Youth Internship Incentive Program

- CAREERS Youth Internship Incentive Program - internship opportunities for all youth. There are opportunities to arrange internships for high school students and young adults, as well as secure financial support for local businesses (up to \$3600) Do you know of a local business that might benefit from this program? Learn more: [CAREERS Internship Incentive Program](#)

## Remembering Candy Palmater

- Canadian speaker, actor, and comedian, Candy Palmater died at age 53. Educators and youth alike may be familiar with the work of Candy Palmater - think Trailer Park Boys and The Candy Show. She was also a featured keynote speaker at the 2020 North Central Teachers' Convention. Links: [CBC Article](#) & [Candy Palmater](#)



## Moose Hide Campaign

- The Moose Hide Campaign values education as an essential part of seeing an end to gender-based violence. It's a way to build lasting, systemic change. Moose Hide wants young boys - and girls - to learn about this problem, about its history and particular impact on Indigenous women, about reconciliation and building healthier ideas of masculinity. Moose Hide works with tens of thousands of K-12 students across Canada, bringing the moose hide medicine into classrooms and designing modules for all ages. Link: [K-12 Moose Hide](#)

## Student Activity Bank

- Author, Monique Gray Smith has written a number of books that will speak to children, youth and young adults including the titles, *When We Are Kind*, *Tilly and the Crazy Eights*, *Lucy and Lola*, *Speaking our Truth - A Journey of Reconciliation*, *You Hold Me Up*, *Tilly: A Story of Hope and Resilience*, and *My Heart Fills with Happiness*. Link: [Monique Gray Smith's Book List](#)
- Talking to youth about residential schools is the topic of a recent YouTube video by Monique Gray Smith. Educators will find this video helpful and informative. Link: [Talking About Residential Schools with Monique Gray Smith](#)
- Canada Film Director, Trevor Mack, debuts his award-winning film, *Portraits From a Fire*. The film captures the culmination of Trevor's youth growing up on his northern BC reserve and healing from intergenerational trauma. The film will be available on the Crave platform in March 2022. Link: [Portraits From a Fire - A Global News Story](#)



## Professional Development Opportunities

- Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society - A Cultural Night With a Twist! Join *Practise As Ceremony's Cultural Connector*. Link: [Bent Arrow Cultural Event Series](#)
- Monique Gray Smith, award-winning author, speaker and consultant offers *The Ripple Effect of Resilience* course. "Monique is Cree, Lakota and Scottish and has been sober and involved in her healing journey for over 29 years. She is well known for her storytelling, spirit of generosity and focus on resilience".
- Links: [The Ripple Effect of Resilience](#) & [Monique Gray Smith](#)
- This Tea Tastes Colonial* - from *Think Indigenous*. To learn more about upcoming sessions related to Indigenous issues in Education, visit [Facebook - Think Indigenous](#)

## Links to Guide Professional Practice

### ALBERTA & CANADIAN RESOURCE LINKS

- Teaching Quality Standard
- Leadership Quality Standard
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action - English
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action - French
- Teacher Guide - Beyond 94 Truth and Reconciliation in Canada
- Acknowledging Land & People
- Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC) January 2022 Professional Development Opportunities with an Indigenous Focus

### GYPSD RESOURCE LINKS

- GYPSD Board Approved Land Acknowledgement, Administrative Procedure 204
- Indigenous Family & Student Resources

*"Mentors are really important because everyone needs to know someone's got their back."*

*Susan Aglukark - Singer & Songwriter*

