

INDIGENOUS PATHWAYS

Indigenous Pathways Newsletter
Volume 2 Issue 6 February 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

Edson
Friendship
Centre

Alberta's Howl
Experience

The Outdoor
Learning Store

Resources

Professional
Development
Opportunities

Links to Guide
Professional Practice

Indigenous Pathways Areas of Focus

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

The Edson Friendship Centre - Short Film Truth and Reconciliation: What It Means

- Over three days starting on September 29, 2022, video footage from the Memorial Wake and Reconciliation Event, including interviews, conversations, music, dance, crafts, food and fellowship, was captured by Richard Spencer of Servnt Freelance and compiled into a short film.
- This film is intended for everyone; school staff, youth and their families.
- The Edson Friendship Centre invites people to view the short film, share it widely, and reflect on the messages and stories shared by " . . . *courageous, kind souls who shared their stories with us. It is our gift to the community of Edson and Yellowhead County*". The video concludes with the message: *Let's keep the conversation going . . .*
- "It was a really big goal of ours to address reconciliation in a meaningful way" - *Kristie Gomuwka, Executive Director, Edson Friendship Centre.*

- Video Link: [Truth and Reconciliation: What It Means](#)
- Website: [Edson Friendship Centre](#)
- Facebook: [Edson Friendship Centre Facebook](#)

Images used with permission



The Edson Friendship Centre





Alberta's Howl Experience - A "Gap Year" Program

- Many high school graduates and young adults wonder what direction they are headed. By enrolling in a Howl Semester, youth will gain skills for a sustainable life, volunteer experience, receive entrepreneurship training and get immersed into the Bow Valley community.
- Rockies Semesters are based in Canmore, Alberta, traditionally known as Châ Ūpchīchīyen Kudebi by the Ūyârhe Nakoda. Throughout the program, participants will travel through the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta, the traditional territories of the Ūyârhe Nakoda Nations, Niitsitapi Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, and the Mētis Nation (Region 3).
- More information can be found at: [ExperienceHowl.com](https://www.experiencehowl.com) & [Howl Semester](#)

The Outdoor Learning Store

- "The Learning Store is a charitable social enterprise offering excellent outdoor learning equipment & resources, with 100% of proceeds going back to supporting outdoor learning non-profit initiatives!"
- Professional Learning Opportunities include *Every Child Matters: 4 Seasons of Reconciliation*, *Free Virtual Workshops*, *Workshop Recordings*, *Earthy Chats Podcast*, *Customized Webinars*, *Routes to Resources*, an online equipment shop, and teacher-vetted tools. Link: [The Outdoor Learning Store](#)



Classroom & School Resources

- 2023 National Finals and FutureVerse in Moh'kinsstis/Calgary: from April 17 to 20, 2023, the top reciters from across the country will be on Treaty 7 land in Moh'kinsstis/Calgary to compete in the National Finals. National Finals will take place alongside FutureVerse, a brand new writing-intensive for high school poets. Links: [Senior National Finals](#) & [Poetry In Voice](#)
- [Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants](#) by Robin Wall Kimmerer, adapted by Monique Gray Smith
- [Western Canada Nature Guides](#) (by region for all grade levels) - of particular interest might be Rocky Nature Mountain Set (3), Alberta Nature Set (3)
- [The Night Sky - A Glow In The Dark Guide!](#)
- [Medicines to Help Us: Traditional Mētis Plant Use](#) by Mētis author and artist, Christi Belcourt

Professional Development Opportunities

- Opening on March 23, 2023, just in time for Spring Break! *Sacred Defenders of the Universe: The Four Elements* at the Telus Spark Science Centre in Calgary: "Through the story, visitors will discover Indigenous science through the Circle of Life, the four elements and directions, and keywords in local Indigenous languages." Tickets: [Telus Spark Science Centre](#)
- ERLC offering: Feb. 6, 4:00-5:00 [What Indigenous Students Want Their Teachers to Know](#)

Links to Guide Professional Practice

ALBERTA & CANADIAN RESOURCE LINKS

- [Teaching Quality Standard](#)
- [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action - English](#)
- [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action - French](#)
- [Orange Shirt Day Organization](#)
- [Teacher Guide - Beyond 94 Truth and Reconciliation in Canada](#)
- [Acknowledging Land & People](#)

GYPSP RESOURCE LINKS

- [GYPSD Land Acknowledgement](#)
- [Smudging & Pipe Ceremonies, AP 162](#)
- [Resources To Support Indigenous Competencies from TQS - Doc with links](#)

*"Choose a place.
Go there as often as you can.
Document what you are
learning from this place."*

Dr. Dwayne Donald

University of Alberta Professor & Canada Research Chair

