

Living Into Right Relations – February, 2024

Hello,

From a national book club to the monthly water ceremony on the banks of the Grand, from multiple arts events to Have A Heart Day 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). Thank you, Henriëtte and Bev for ongoing editing and other support!

1. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - read their Facebook posts. There's a lot going on at the Willow River Centre, 243 King St E. Kitchener, including art shows, craft markets and more.
 - i. How to support? [Support us | O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#)

- b. [1492 Land Back Lane](#)
 - i. **Friday Lunches for 1492 LandBack Lane.** Breaking news: the need for lunch delivery has changed as most of the people living at LandBack Lane have found housing on the reserve. We will try to maintain a connection with the people we have met and will see what the future holds. Thank you, cooks, drivers and donors, for all of your support over the past 3-plus years!

2. Highlighting Indigenous-led initiatives and organizations: Wisahkotewinowak

In an effort to familiarize ourselves with local Indigenous-led organizations we're writing about one each month. If you'd like to tell us about one, please forward info along. Thanks.

Wisahkotewinowak is a Métis word meaning *the first green shoots that come up from Mother Earth after a fire has gone through the land*. [Wisahkotewinowak](#) is also an urban Indigenous and settler-ally gardening collective that supports community development and Indigenous food sovereignty in Waterloo Region and Wellington County. Their four locations provide food for the local community. Not only do they grow food, but they also cook, and preserve the food from these sites.

They are always looking for volunteers in their gardens and kitchens. This spring they will be tapping maple trees to boil maple syrup. Whether it's growing and harvesting, or cooking and preserving, they appreciate helping hands. Their website invites interested folks to contact them at wisahkotewinowak@gmail.com. (Adapted from the [WISC February IndigeNEWS](#).)

3. An Occasional Section - The Arts: exhibits, theatre, etc.

- a. **To March 3** [Bound - Online Film Release](#) Against the Grain Theatre.
- b. **To March 22** [We Remain Certain](#) “explores Haudenosaunee land tenure and the complex history, treaty agreements, and displacements along the Grand.” At McMaster Museum of Art. Curated by [Protect the Tract](#). Related news article [here](#).
- c. **To May 12** [ᓂᓰᓂᓴ Tautuppaa | Long Looking](#) Tim Pitsiulak, Art Gallery of Guelph.
- d. **Feb 10 - May 20** [Bangishimo: The Medicines We Carry](#). Feb 9, 7-10 p.m. [Opening Reception](#). Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery.
- e. **Feb 10 - May 20** [Alex Jacobs-Blum: Living and Lost Connections](#) Art Gallery of Hamilton. Opening Reception, Feb. 24, 3-5 p.m. Artist in attendance.
- f. **Feb. 28, 8-5**, Workshop [Art, Art Museums, and Data: Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Addressing Data Bias](#) Guelph Civic Museum.

4. Learning at home and connecting in person

- a. **Feb. 8, 3-4:20** [Indigenous Speakers Series presents Chelsea Vowel: âniskôhôcikan, Like a String of Beads: Indigenous Futurisms](#). Modern Languages Theatre of the Arts UW and online. Everyone welcome. Registration appreciated but not required.
- b. **Feb. 10, 8 a.m.** [All Nations Grand River Water Ceremony](#) at [Schneider Park](#), 3595 King St E, Kitchener. Parking off King St, across from Freeport Hospital.
- c. [Six Nations Polytechnic](#) Lunch and Learn - Mini Language lessons, Mohawk or Cayuga. Registration required using links below. If you register, please show up!
- d. **Feb. 14, 12-1 p.m.** [Ohsweken campus](#) (2160 4th Line Road, Ohsweken)
Feb. 21, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. [Brantford campus](#) (411 Elgin Street, Brantford)
- e. **Feb 14** [Have a Heart Day | First Nations Child & Family Caring Society](#). See link for ideas for your classroom, Sunday School, family or youth group. Here's a Sunday School activity from the [United Church](#).
- f. **Feb. 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** Have a Heart Day Gathering and Round Dance Social at UW Cambridge Campus. Details and registration [here](#).
- g. **Feb 21, 6-7:30 p.m.** [Woodland Cultural Centre Museum Virtual Tour](#).
- h. **Feb 12 & 28** [Winter Storytelling: A Celebration of Indigenous Film](#) At the Princess Twin Cinema, hosted by Canadian Federation of University Women K-W in partnership with UW. Free. Donations to Indigenous Youth Roots welcome at the door. Discussion following films.
- i. **Feb 28, 12-2 p.m.** Grandmothers' Tea. Potluck lunch and sharing time at Grand River United Church, 1585 Mohawk Rd. Ohsweken. Contact Grand River at 519-445-0955 for more information.
- j. **Feb 26, 1:30-3:30 p.m.** [Nations Uniting](#) Sharing Circle on Zoom -Topic: Lands. Speakers will be Norma General Lickers and Donna McGreal. To join this event and be part of their mailing list contact Rhonda Johns at nations.uniting@gmail.com.

- k. Other events in your area may be found on [Eventbrite](#).

On the radar...

- l. **March 3: Deadline to register for [Nationwide Book Study: So We and Our Children May Live](#) *Following Jesus in Confronting the Climate Crisis*.** Co-authored by Sarah Augustine and Sheri Hostetler. Authors will be guests in this online study, sponsored by Mennonite Church Canada. Thank you, Ron Flaming.
- m. **March 16, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. [14th Annual Pow Wow at Conestoga College](#).**

5. Good Reads, News and Views

a. Reads

- i. [Odagahodhes- Reflecting on our Journeys](#) McGill-Queen's University Press. Author [Norma Jacobs](#) has served as Elder-In-Residence at WLU Brantford Campus.

b. News

- i. The Ontario Government says these mines are necessary to advance clean technologies like electric vehicle production.
[Ontario First Nation chiefs ask for moratorium on mining claims](#). Two Row Times.
[First Nations mull legal action, plan protests over Ontario's online mining claims system](#) CBC.
[Ontario First Nations call for pause on mining claims](#) The Narwal.

c. Views

- i. From KAIROS Canada [Groundbreaking videos showcase stories of Sixties Scoop survivors](#).