

Living Into Right Relations – March, 2022

Hello,

I hope you've been able to adjust to the constantly changing weather!

Two book studies are taking place at the moment. Each, from its own vantage point, is grappling with similar questions such as, What do we do with what we know? How can we engage to learn from the past and help make a better future? How do we participate in reconciliation with integrity and successfully? I know these groups are not alone with these questions. As a friend often says with a smile, "It's complicated!" I noticed that there were several items in this month's offerings that may offer support or direction about these questions, so I pulled them out and put them together in a separate section. If you are feeling this uncertainty as well and want to learn more, check out section 1. A heads up: the first event requires registration and starts on March 1.

Also, and related, the annual [Two Row On The Grand River](#) is returning to its pre-pandemic camping/paddling format, July 20-29. It is in itself an exercise in reconciliation. You might want to join their [Facebook group](#) or just keep checking the website for registration information if you're thinking this is the year you might join in.

Stay well, and may you walk in good company,

Nancy

(nancydykstra@gmail.com) *note: the PDF version is always attached. I find it easier to read!*

1. Reconciliation and Allyship

- a. **March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 7- 8:30p.m.** [Truth & Reconciliation: Community Dialogues](#) offered through Lakehead University. Almost seven years after the release of the report itself, many Canadians are ready to engage with truth and participate in reconciliation, but many continue to express uncertainty about how to start, sustain, and further work through these processes. If this resonates for you, you might want to check out this free series. Registration required. Thank you, Mary Thompson.
- b. **March 10, 1:30 - 3p.m.** [Truth Before Reconciliation](#) sponsored by regional councils of the United Church of Canada Led by:
Facilitator: Dr. Eileen Antone, member of Oneida of the Thames First Nation- Turtle Clan. During her academic career the subject of her research, professional writing, teaching and field development has been Aboriginal knowledge and traditional ways of being. Dr Antone is a member of Oneida United Church.
Elder: Rev. Dr. Grafton Antone, member of Oneida of the Thames First Nation- Wolf Clan, and Oneida United Church.
For more information, contact Thérèse Samuel TSamuel@united-church.ca
- c. **March 23, 11:30-1 Saskatchewan time!!** [How to be an ally with Indigenous peoples](#)

- d. YouTube collection of events and videos by [Sandi Boucher](#). Includes a current series called [52 Steps to Reconciliation](#). You may want to explore this if you are trying to understand what reconciliation can look like or have questions. She introduces it [here](#) along with a description of the work she does. She also has a monthly opportunity for people to ask questions called [My Fire](#).

2. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - check out their Facebook posts to see their current activities
- b. [1492 Land Back Lane](#) Supportive actions -
 - i. **Friday Lunches for 1492 LandBack Lane - Our next delivery date: April 8.** Cash donations can be made through [Parkminster United Church](#). Please identify your donation as 1492 LandBack Lane. For more info or to lend a hand contact me at nancydykstra@gmail.com. Thank you!
 - ii. Support their [legal defense fund](#)

3. Learning at home and events

- a. **Until March 5,** [Benjamin Chee Chee: Life and Legacy](#) Woodland Cultural Centre
- b. **Until April 22,** [Unmasking. Breathing. Moving Forward](#) Martin Luther University College - WLU, includes work from nine Indigenous artists. Links here to the [online gallery](#) and an [article about the exhibit](#). Thanks, Beverly McNabb.
- c. **March 3, 6:30 p.m.** [Empty Bowls: Online](#) supporting [Anishnawbe Health Toronto](#)
- d. **March 6, 7 p.m.** [Water Defenders: A Movie Screening & Experiencing Wet'suwet'en](#) featuring a member of Six Nations. Seminar sponsored by **Indigenous & Muslim Education and Justice for All Canada**.
- e. **March 9 & 23, 7-8:30 p.m. Mohawk Institute Virtual tours.** Click the date for a link to tickets: [March 9](#) [March 23](#) .
- f. **March 19, 1 p.m.** [Treaty Diplomacy: the Past and Present Perfect](#) with Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashi) Associate Professor and Decanal Advisor on Indigenous Issues, University of Toronto, Faculty of Law. Please register before March 17th.
- g. **March 28, 1:30-3:30** [Nations Uniting](#) Sharing Circle - To join this event and be part of their mailing list contact Rhonda Johns at nations.uniting@gmail.com.
- h. **Mar 30, 7 p.m.** [The Mush Hole](#) Sanderson Centre, Brantford. Theatrical dance performance by Santee Smith - very powerful. Further detail and tickets [here](#). If you are interested in going and want to go with a group, contact Beverly McNabb at beverlymcnabb11@gmail.com.
- i. **May 12-15** [Indigenous-Mennonite Encounters in Time and Place](#) Conrad Grebel University College - an academic conference and community education event. An effort to advance reconciliation and bring justice to Indigenous-settler relations. Expect academic presentations, community storytelling, artistic offerings, and both Indigenous and Mennonite ceremony.

- j. Lots of other events online through [Eventbrite](#)

4. News and Views

- a. News

- i. [Alanis Obomsawin, 89, Reflects on Life and Indigenous Storytelling as New Collection of Her Work Debuts](#)

- b. Views

- i. [Alanis Obomsawin - NFB](#) - the films of Alanis Obomsawin
 - ii. [Two Row Times](#) story about a film to watch for: [Run Woman Run](#). The article says it's playing at the Sanderson Centre on March 13 but I can't find more info about that... Could be a fun night out.