

# Living Into Right Relations – September 2023

Note: a PDF version is attached.

Hello,

September is a month of new beginnings, often in more ways than January is. I could wax long and deep about the significance of new beginnings, but I'll leave that pondering to you. One thing it means for us is that there's a lot going on! This newsletter is no different; there's a lot of content. If you can find one thing that draws you in, perhaps just follow that.

September also marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a day to remember and reflect on the truths we need to know and accept and the ongoing responsibility to make reparations. In Section 1 are events and info I know about to date. I expect you'll hear about more in your community closer to Sept 30. Remember - wear orange!

May you walk in good company,

Nancy ([nancydykstra@gmail.com](mailto:nancydykstra@gmail.com)), with many thanks to Henriëtte and Bev for ongoing editing and other support!

## 1. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- a. **Sept. 16, 6 p.m.** [Community Gathering - living off the land](#) hosted by [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) at Joseph Schneider Haus, 466 Queen St. S. Kitchener.
- b. **Sept 18, 11 a.m.-noon** [Truth and Reconciliation Presentation](#) Waterloo Public Library and Woodland Cultural Centre, Virtual. Register through the link.
- c. **Sept 25, 12:30-2:30** [Roads to Reconciliation](#) Health Sciences Library, McMaster University, 1280 Main St W., Hamilton.
- d. **Sept. 25, 6:30-9 p.m.** Kairos Blanket Exercise, MCC Community Room, 50 Kent Ave., Kitchener. For more information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).
- e. **Sept. 25-29** [Truth and Reconciliation Week Lunch and Learns](#) from The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. Register through the link.
- f. **Sept. 29, 30** Two events [U Waterloo](#), register for each separately through the link.
- g. **Sept. 30, 10 a.m.** [Every Child Matters Walk](#) Kitchener, Healing of the 7 Generations. Meet at 300 Frederick St. and walk to Victoria Park Clock Tower.
- h. **Sept. 30, 12-4 p.m.** [Ode to My Ancestors](#) Book Launch and poetry reading with Inaugural Poet Laureate of Smart Waterloo Region, Sarah Siembida. McDougall Cottage Historic Site, 89 Grand Ave. S. Cambridge.
- i. **Sept 30, 1 p.m.** Official opening and Commemoration of Truth and Reconciliation of a new exhibit at Martin Luther University College (at WLU): A Visual Reconciliation: Cross Cultural Reflections on the Seven Sacred Teachings. Runs **Sept 11- Dec 8**.
- j. **Sept 30, 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.** Settlers Vigil, Trinity Lutheran Church, 23 Church Street, New Hamburg. Hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church and the New Hamburg community members. See poster attached to email.

### Other resources to deepen understanding:

- [Woodland Cultural Centre Sept Virtual Programming for schools and organizations](#)
- Short videos selected by [UW Office of Indigenous Relations](#)
- MCC resources for personal learning [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Follow [Reconciliation Thunder](#)
- [Provincial Website](#) and [Federal Website](#) for the National Day.

## 2. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - read their Facebook posts
  - i. Learn about and support the [permanent gathering space they will be opening](#)
- b. [1492 Land Back Lane](#) Supportive actions -
  - i. **Friday Lunches for 1492 LandBack Lane. Our next delivery date: Sept 22.** Cash donations can be made by e-transfer through Parkminster United Church (admin@parkuc.ca). Please identify your donation as 1492 LandBack Lane and include your street mailing address if you would like a tax receipt. For more info or to lend a hand, contact me at [nancydykstra@gmail.com](mailto:nancydykstra@gmail.com). Thank you!
  - ii. Support their [legal defense fund](#).

## 3. Indigenous-led organizations with ongoing intercultural opportunities:

[Woodland Cultural Centre](#) 184 Mohawk St Brantford. They have ongoing programming and events including virtual and in person screenings of their new film, [Silent No More](#) and talks throughout September. See listing [here](#).

[Crow Shield Lodge](#) in Waterloo Region has a range of events related to education, healing, land stewardship and reconciliation. This includes community work days at their two sites. Please see the current events listing [here](#).

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

- a. **Now to Nov. 26**, [#hopeandhealingcanada](#) Tracey Mae Chambers at the Robert Langen Art Gallery, WLU. Meet the artist Nov 8, 4-6 p.m.
- b. **Now to Jan 2024** [SOS: A Story of Survival. Part II - The Body](#) at Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery. Includes [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) film "Stories from Land Back". [Panel discussion](#) about their work **Sept 30, 1-2:30 p.m.**
- c. **Sept. 8-10** Annual [Celebration of Nations](#) presented by the [FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre](#), [Kakekalanicks](#), and the City of St. Catharines. See schedule [here](#).
- d. **Sept. 9-Oct. 4** [Living Mino Bimaadiziwin: An Indigenous Journey through the Arts](#).
- e. **Sept 28, 3:30-5:30** [Laurier Library Indigenous Mural Unveiling](#).

- f. **Oct 12 & 15, 7 p.m.** “We Own This Now”, a play from [Ted & Company TheaterWorks](#). Looks at love of land, loss of land and what it means to “own” something. Examines how the Doctrine of Discovery is still being used and causing harm today. More info and tickets [here](#). See (6.c.) below for a warm-up debate.

## 5. Learning at home and connecting in person

- a. **Sept 8, 15, 22 ... 8-9 p.m.** Every Friday night until Dec. 1. [Climate Emergency Vigils at Waterloo Town Square](#).
- b. **Sept. 9, 8 a.m.** Grand River Water Ceremony. All Nations Grand River Water Walk, 650 Otterbein Rd. Kitchener.
- c. **Sept.13, 12-1 p.m.** 2160 4th Line Road, Ohsweken  
**Sept. 20, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** 411 Elgin Street, Brantford  
Lunch and Learn, Six Nations Polytechnic - Harvest and Seed Saving
- d. **Sept. 17-23** [All Nations Grand River Water Walk](#) from Dundalk to Lake Erie. Important information for those [wishing to participate](#). To follow the walk’s progress try this link: <https://maps.findmespot.com/s/7J67#live/assets>.
- e. **Sept. 19, 6-8 p.m.** Gordon Nicotine-Sands: Pow Wow 101, presented by the UW Office of Indigenous Relations. In person and online. Register [here](#).
- f. **Sept. 22, 8:45-4:30** [Ska’nikòn:ra: Indigenous Governance and the Future of Leadership](#) Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo. Tickets through the link.
- g. **Sept. 23, 10-6** [Gidinawendamin/Ska’nikú•lát 20th Annual Pow Wow](#) United College (was St. Paul’s University College). Location: Columbia Icefield Fieldhouse, UW.
- h. **Sept. 25, 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](mailto:nations.uniting@gmail.com).
- i. **Sept. 26, 1-4** Justice and Reconciliation Program - Culture Taken, with Renee Thomas-Hill. At [Nations Uniting](#) 1652 Chiefswood Road, Ohsweken. Includes two short film screenings: [The Impact of Colonialism in Canada](#) and [Clouds of Autumn](#).
- j. **Sept. 27, Noon - 2 p.m.** Grandmothers’ Tea. St Thomas the Apostle Church, 110 Francis St, Cambridge. Click [here](#) for a description. Contact Rhonda Johns at [nations.uniting@gmail.com](mailto:nations.uniting@gmail.com) for more information.
- k. **Sept. 28, 6:30-8 p.m.** Indigenous Sharing Circle with Kelly Welch, Kitchener Public Library, Central Library. More info and registration link [here](#).
- l. **Sept. 29 - Oct 1** Seeking Transformation 2023, [Retreat at 5 Oaks](#).

### On the radar...

- m. **Oct. 19,** - book ahead: [Black & Gold - Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery](#). Celebrating Bangishimo, Kitchener Artist in Residence and co-founder of [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#).

## 6. News and Views

### a. News

- i. [Hamilton launches its first Indigenous health strategy](#) Two Row Times
- ii. [Changes coming to Six Nations election code, including two-term limit](#) Two Row Times
- iii. [University of Waterloo to build new, 500-bed residence prioritizing Indigenous design principles](#) UW News

### b. Views

- i. Starting Sept 20. [Bones of Crows](#) premiering on CBC, CBC Gem and [APTN](#).
- ii. **Sept. 30, 1p.m.**, Guelph Civic Museum, 52 Norfolk Street Guelph, [The Nature of Healing](#) film screening, limited seating, reserve tickets.
- iii. [The Catholic Church's] [Repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery: A symbolic act or a new beginning with Indigenous Peoples?](#), with Bruce McIvor and Michael Higgins. Hosted by Macdonald-Laurier Institute.