

# Living Into Right Relations – July 2022

Hello,

Do you feel some ambivalence about Canada Day? As I have become more aware of the history we were not taught and the systemic racism that continues today, I have shifted from first-generation Canadian enthusiasm for this country and what it is trying to become to a more skeptical place. I try to live in hope, and know that change doesn't happen without people calling for it.

Here is a Canada Day action we can take: read Section 1 and sign the Day School Survivors petition which is being supported by Kairos Canada.

I will be on the [Two Row](#) paddle at the end of July and heading straight from there to a long-awaited family reunion first planned for 2020. So I'm making no promises about the timing of an August newsletter...

Meanwhile, I hope you enjoy your summer, everyone!

Nancy ([nancydykstra@gmail.com](mailto:nancydykstra@gmail.com))

## 1. [Petition for the Extension of Federal Indian Day Schools](#)

A [Class Action lawsuit](#) seeks compensation for damages and abuses suffered by all Indian Day School students who were forced to attend Indian Day Schools and who were excluded from the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement.

The deadline to submit a claim is July 13. This is not enough time for every survivor or executor to file. Moreover, not all-day schools are included in the settlement. The Settlement Agreement provides a possible extension period of six (6) months – extending the deadline to January 13, 2023.

The Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) has created a [Petition for the Extension of Federal Indian Day Schools](#) for Canadians to sign to have this extension put in place. Because this is time sensitive, it's the first item in the newsletter. Please consider signing. Thank you. (Thank you, Henriette Thompson)

## 2. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - read their Facebook posts
  - i. July 22, 6-10:30 p.m. [Recollections & Imaginings film screening](#) 44 Gaukel St Kitchener
- b. [1492 Land Back Lane](#) Supportive actions -
  - i. **Friday Lunches for 1492 LandBack Lane - Our next delivery dates: July 1 and Aug 4.** For more info or to lend a hand contact me Thank you!
  - ii. Support their [legal defense fund](#).

### 3. Supporting Indigenous initiatives.

- Planning a trip to Manitoulin Island? Check this out: [Tourism — Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory](#). Taken from an advertising feature that offers thoughts about how [Indigenous tourism experiences are advancing reconciliation](#).
- [Crow Shield Lodge](#) has a [second site](#) at the Ken Seiling Museum. They will be needing volunteers. Keep an eye on their [Facebook page](#).
- **Aug 2-5** [Covenant of Nations - Sacred Wampum Renewal Gathering](#) A time of renewal between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and Anishinaabeg Nations. They have not had a wampum renewal gathering since 1840. If you would like to support this event, they are accepting donations and sponsors for various parts of the gathering through [CanadaHelps](#) and [GoFundMe](#).

### 4. Learning at home and events

- Until Aug 13** [Sense of Belonging: A Place Called Home](#) current exhibition at Woodland Cultural Centre: 3 artists use painting, beadwork, photography to connect the notions of identity, family, community and land.
- Until Oct 9** Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery [Mike MacDonald: Planting One Another](#). Visit anytime or join KWAG staff for a [tour on Aug 20 from 1-2:30](#)
- July 1, 8, 15 7:30-9 p.m.** [Sunset Paddle](#) at Chiefswood Park. \$25. Find other events at Chiefswood [here](#).
- July 4-25, 5-8 p.m. Mondays.** Some language required [Beginner Cayuga Language Review \(Virtual\) | Six Nations Polytechnic](#).
- July 9&10** [Kettle Point Pow Wow](#). Before you go, please review pow wow [etiquette](#).
- July 11-28, 5-8 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays** Some language required [Beginner Mohawk Language Review \(Virtual\) | Six Nations Polytechnic](#).
- July 16, Aug 13** Morning Water ceremony with Grand River All Nations Water Walk. Check their [Facebook page](#) for details.
- July 20 10-11 a.m.** [Coffee House Talks](#) Traditional Uses of Sweetgrass. In person at Scott Park, New Hamburg, for folks 55 and older. Registration info in the link.
- July 20 and Aug 17, 7 p.m. Mohawk Virtual tours.** Click the date for a link to tickets: [July 20](#) [Aug 17](#)
- July 22-24** [Grand River Pow Wow](#). 1987 Chiefswood Rd., Ohsweken (note new location this year). Before you go, please review pow wow [etiquette](#).
- July 24-29** [Papal Visit](#) Please keep this time in your thoughts/prayers.
- July 27, 12-2 p.m.** Grandmothers Tea hosted by Burgessville United. See [Nations Uniting](#) calendar.

- m. **July 27, 7-9:30 p.m.** [Kairos Blanket exercise and youth music jam](#) Trillium Church, 22 Willow St, Waterloo.
- n. **Aug 4, 7:30-9 p.m.** Stratford Summer Music [SOUNDING THUNDER](#) Thanks, Carolyn Sullivan
- o. Resources and support to help in your efforts towards Living into Right Relations - from Wellbeing Waterloo Region's newsletter: new website for [Indigenous Learn - Two Row Education Services](#) The owner, Kelly Fran Davis, is an active member of the Wellbeing WR network. In one of her many roles, she works as an Indigenous Education Consultant to collaborate and bridge expertise with reconciliation efforts.
- p. **Lots of other events online through** [Eventbrite](#).
- q. **In case you missed it....**
  - i. Ideas for summer and other learning opportunities highlighted by the Ontario Heritage Trust can be found [here](#). Thank you, Carolyn Sullivan.
- r. **Looking Ahead:**
  - i. **Sept 30 - Oct 2** [Seeking Transformation: A Retreat for Christian Settlers](#) Organized by [Five Oaks](#) near Paris, a weekend of learning and reflection about TRC Calls to Action specifically directed at churches. For anyone interested and church leaders - clergy, councils, seekers etc. Deadline for registration - Sept 23. Register early. They expect it to fill up. Thank you, Pegi Ridout.

## 5. Good Reads, News and Views

- a. **Reads**
  - i. **Pathways:** National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's quarterly newsletter. You can subscribe [here](#).
  - ii. For your summer reading list: [25 books that highlight the beauty of Indigenous literature: 'It is time to tell our own stories our way.'](#) Adult and children's books, list curated by Richard Van Camp (CBC books).
- b. **News**
  - i. [Remembering Alberta Billy](#) We Wai Kai Elder who in 1985 demanded that The United Church of Canada apologize for its role in colonization and the loss of Indigenous languages, culture, and spirituality. She passed away on June 13.
- c. **Views/Podcasts**
  - i. [New podcast One Dish. Many Stories is a 'powerful' look at Indigenous history in Hamilton](#)
  - ii. [Indigenous-themed podcasts offer richness, diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultures | CBC News](#)
  - iii. ["Kuessipan"](#) (1:56:53 film) The bond between two best friends from an Innu community is tested when one falls in love with a white boy and starts thinking of leaving the reserve that's now too small for her dreams. Thanks, Henriette Thompson.