June 2024

EDI NEWSLETTER

INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

How much do you know about Indigenous history, cultures, languages, and governance across the Northwest Territories? Indigenous History Month is an opportunity to learn more about Canada's treaties with Indigenous nations and its ongoing colonialism, including its genocide against Indigenous Peoples through residential schools and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Relations (MMIWGR).

This month is also an opportunity to celebrate and share Indigenous culture, joy, art, and resilience.

Learn more about the nations in your region, support Indigenous artists, speak up against anti-Indigenous racism, learn a few phrases from the Indigenous language(s) in your region, or attend events in your community for Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21st.

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released 94 Calls to Action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation. 11 have been completed with another 39 in progress, how can you take action in your own role? Before there can be reconciliation, the truth about the treatment of Indigenous Peoples in this country must be understood by all Canadians. We all have a role in reconciliation. We encourage everyone to consider what it means to you beyond the month of June and make reconciliation part of your daily life.

Expanding Knowledge

Timeline of NWT History

Indigenous Studies Portal

EDI - An Indigenous Context

<u>Supporting Indigenous Inclusion</u> at Canada's Polytechnics

My Journey Home by Northwest Territories artist Melanie Jewell

nisitohtamowin のけつ による An Introduction to Understanding Indigenous Perspectives in Canada

'Cultural Genocide': the shameful history of Canada's residential schools

Reports and Action Items

<u>United Nations Declaration on the</u>
<u>Rights of Indigenous Peoples</u>

<u>Truth and Reconciliation Commission:</u>
94 Calls to Action

Missing and Murdered Indigenous
Women and Girls Final Report:

231 Calls to Justice

Are you interested in joining the EDI Committee?

We are looking for individuals who are passionate and driven to promote EDI principles across the entire college. For more details, **email us at EDI@auroracollege.nt.ca** with a short blurb explaining your interest in EDI and equity-seeking initiatives.

PRIDE MONTH

RESOURCES

Gender Theory

A Guide to Gender Identity Terms

Pride at Work Canada

History of Canadian Pride

Northern Mosaic Network

<u>Trans Summit: Two-Spirit</u> <u>and Indigenous Identity</u> Happy Pride! Do you recognize the acronym **2SLGBTQQIA+**? It stands for **Two-Spirit**, **Lesbian**, **Gay**, **Bisexual**, **Transgender**, **Queer**, **Questioning**, **Intersex**, and **Asexual**, however there are many identities not included in the acronym.

This is why the + is included, to **bring** awareness to how expansive gender and sexuality is and all the identities not listed outright in the acronym.

While some people have reclaimed the term "queer" as including everyone, it is still considered a slur by many and should not be used by those outside the community.

DEAFBLIND AWARENESS MONTH

Did you know that nearly 500,000 Canadians over the age of 15 are living with some degree of dual sensory loss?

Deafblind refers to a condition where an individual has **combined hearing and vision loss**, limiting their access to both auditory and visual information.

Instead of accessing tools aimed at persons with deafness <u>or</u> blindness, solutions and accessibility should be tailored to meet the needs of the individual based on their unique experience with deafblindness.

RESOURCES

<u>Canadian Helen Keller Centre</u>

<u>Understanding Assistive</u> <u>Technology</u>

<u>Teaching Students with</u> <u>Deafblindness</u>

Academic Communication Equity-British Columbia

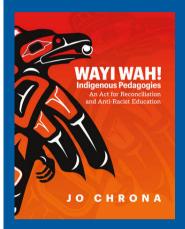






JUNE

EDI Book of the Month



Wayi Wah! Indigenous Pedagogies

An Act for Reconciliation and Anti-Racist Education

This powerful and engaging resource is for non-Indigenous educators who want to learn more, are new to these conversations, or want to deepen their learning.

Visit any one of our three campus libraries to borrow a copy!

Epistemic Racism

Jo Chrona defines Epistemic Racism as,

"the valuing and devaluing of knowledge
systems of specific cultures." She
discusses this in Chapter 4 of the book, you
can also read her blog post on the topic here.

Due to Epistemic Racism, Indigenous
Knowledge and Worldviews are often seen
as less valuable, accurate, or important than
Western Knowledge Worldviews.

Reflective Questions:

How do you engage with Indigenous Knowledges within your role at AC?

How would you respond to someone asking why Indigenous Knowledges should be included in educational spaces, systems, and materials?

lune 1st:

Intergenerational Day

June 18th:

International Day for Countering Hate Speech

June 20th:

World Refugee Day

June 10th:

World Anxiety Day

June 19th:

Juneteenth

June 27th:

Canadian Multiculturalism Day

This Newsletter is presented by the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee.

Reach out to us at EDI@auroracollege.nt.ca

