

Living Into Right Relations – February 2021

Hello,

This month's email is trying to shine a light on 1492 Land Back Lane. I have been learning more as I attend meetings of an ecumenical group which is focussed on looking for ways to provide supportive witness to the current challenges there. The more I learn about it, the clearer it becomes that this requires dialogue and resolution between the Haudenosaunee and the Federal Government; it's a treaty issue. Meanwhile the people involved have been criminalized by other levels of law enforcement. The [letter](#) that the group has put together is worth the read to get an overview of what's at stake. I encourage you to read it, and sign it resonates for you. And spread the word! Ask your church clergy and members to sign; tell your friends; circulate it in your online communities. It is open for signatures until Feb 16.

All of that said, I feel like I still have lots to learn. I know I learn better when I'm learning with others. If you feel the same way and would like to join me, I'd love to hear from you! I think the tool kit sent with November's email is a good place to turn for information. It's included again here in Section 2b. We only need 2 or 3 of us to make it a useful learning opportunity. If there are more of us, so much the better. Send me an email if you're interested!

Thanks,

Nancy
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1. From the community of [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - Land Back Camp

- a. Thurs., Feb. 4, 3-4 pm Shawn Johnston is part of a Land Protectors panel during Indigenous Awareness week at Western University in London. Check out Section 4a for the week's events. Here's a short cut to the [zoom link](#) for the Feb. 4 panel.
- b. Feb. 15 at noon Launch of the first [zine about the Land Back Camp](#) showcasing the camp, artwork, accomplishments and the people who work to keep it going.

2. From [1492 Land Back Lane](#)

- a. [Winter Supply Drive](#) - goal to have all supplies by Feb 1. Not a lot of time left but check it out. Maybe they'll still accept things after that date?
- b. Supportive actions from the ecumenical group:
 - i. **Friday Lunches for 1492 LandBack Lane.** They are continuing into the spring and we welcome your support! Please consider donating food or funds. We have a core of about 4 worker bees and would love more. Our next food delivery date is Fri., Feb.12. Contact me at nancydykstra@gmail.com
 - ii. [Letter](#) decrying criminalization of the land defenders and calling on the Federal Government to participate in talks. Again, please read it, sign if it's something you support and spread the word!
 - iii. [Background InformationTool Kit](#). If you're interested in joining me for a more focussed reading of some of these, please email me. (See intro)

c. See also Section 4d below.

3. **Supporting Indigenous entrepreneurs and agencies** - is one way to build relationships and strengthen communities. We offered a listing of a variety of Indigenous entrepreneurs in November and December, and a list of great books by Indigenous authors in January. If you celebrate Valentines, consider those resources for gift options!

4. Learning at home

a. **Feb. 1-6** [Indigenous Awareness week at Western University in London](#). Scroll through for a variety of events.

b. **Feb. 6, 8pm** APTN broadcast of the documentary, [Haudenosaunee Canoe Journey](#), by Roxann Whitebean. It follows Hickory Edwards, an Onondaga man who has devoted his life to the rediscovery of the path of the "Peace Maker."

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/ci1br1GWW9c>

c. **Feb. 4-25** Thursdays **Online Book Study** - [Unsettling the Word](#)
Exactly a year ago we started our own book club on this book, which got cut off by the pandemic in mid March. If you want to revisit it, there's an interesting [4 week online option](#) starting Feb 4, with guest speakers, including the editor, Steve Heinrichs. Thanks, Henriette Thompson.

d. **Feb. 16** [Treaty as Sacred Covenant Storytelling](#) from MCEC - next episode - Adrian Jacobs from Six Nations, Keeper of the Circle at The Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre. This series has a wealth of resources and background information. Previous episodes and related resources are available [here](#). One resource recommended by Joni Gosselin is [Treaty Talk and Treaty Walk](#). Thanks, Ron Flaming, for sending us this series.

e. **Feb. 20 - June 19** The [Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre](#) is hosting a series entitled **Introduction to Indigenous Lands and Issues in Canada**. It includes a session about 1492 LandBack Lane on March 20. [Information and tickets here](#).

f. **Feb. 27** [Virtual Powwow](#) at Conestoga College. Thank you, Laura Cudworth.

g. ESPECIALLY FOR TEACHERS!

i. **Feb. 4 and repeated Feb. 23** Learn about teaching resources available through the National Centre for Collaboration in Indigenous Education. An NCCIE Virtual Gathering. [Tickets available here](#) Thank you, Gail Prasad.

ii. **Haudenosaunee Culture through Art and Design**. Colouring book and teacher's guide. Lots of insight on the meanings of Haudenosaunee Design, and cultural stories. Activities for grades K-8, following the Ontario Curriculum. Available from [Sapling and Flint](#). Thanks, Bev McNabb.

h. **Sounding Thunder - the Song of Francis Pegahmagabow** - created in consultation with Wasauksing First Nation and the Pegahmagabow family, recommended by Beverly McNabb. We missed the event at the end of January, but it may go on the road post-pandemic. Here's a short [intro video](#). [Francis Pegahmagabow](#) is a name we may

not know, so I'm including this as a way to add to our knowledge.

- i. **Book Recommendation:** Rupert Ross [Dancing With a Ghost: Exploring Aboriginal Reality](#) 2006. It's an older book but reviewers agree that it's a helpful read. I looked for it in the local libraries but couldn't find it. It's now on my list though. Thanks, Susanna Reid.

If you have a book recommendation or an event that you hear about and would like others to know about, please feel free to send it my way. Thanks .