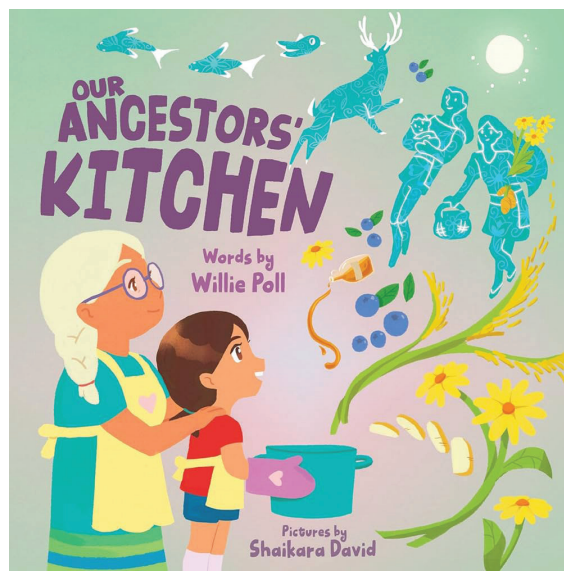
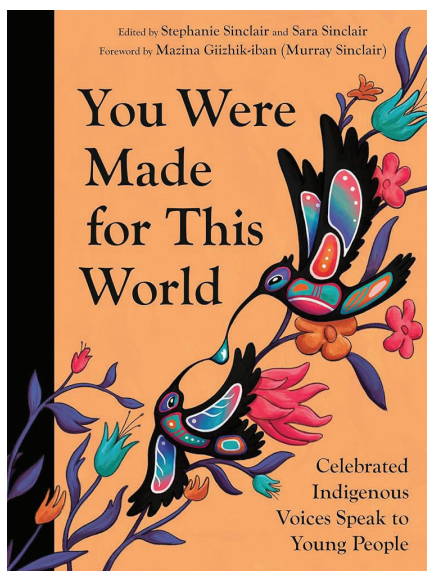
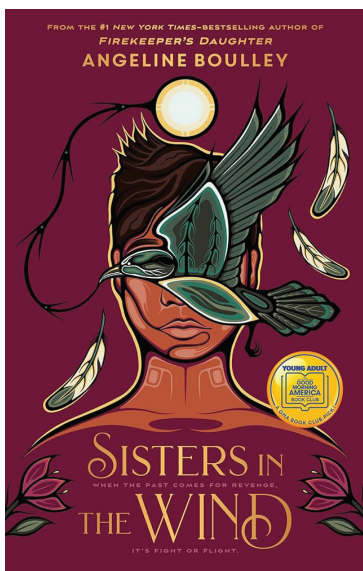
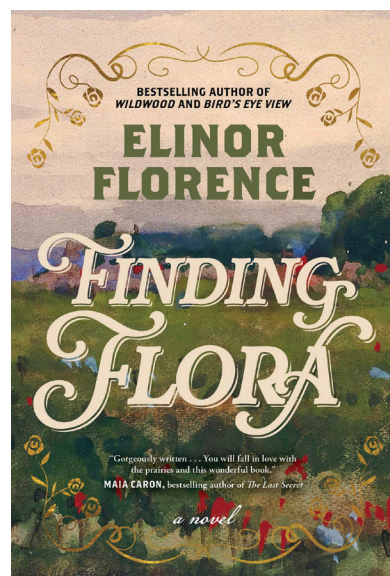
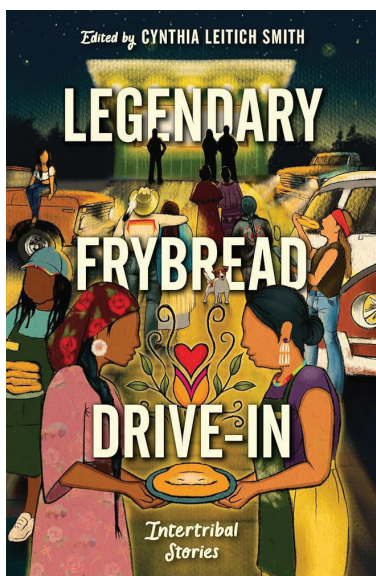
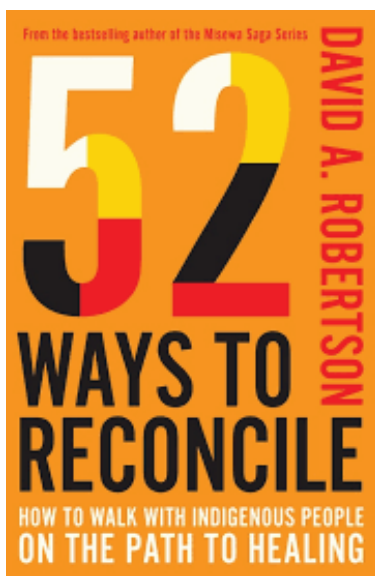




New Reads: Indigenous Voices

Resource Guide 2026



This resource guide represents a selection of new materials in the VIRL Indigenous collection. All books are available in print, and some are also available as Book club kits, eBooks, or e-audiobooks. Please get in touch with your local library staff to learn more about accessing digital formats.

Vancouver Island Regional Library is an uninvited institution that provides library services on the territories of over 55 Indigenous Nations who have lived on these lands since time immemorial. It is with respect that the staff at VIRL acknowledge the following:

VIRL staff acknowledge that we operate libraries on the territories of the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw, Haida, Halalt, Hupacasath, Klahoose, K'omoks, Kwakiutl, Kwiakah, Malahat, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, Nuxalk, Pacheedaht, Qualicum, Quatsino, Quw`utsun, Scia'new, Snaw-Naw-As, Snuneymuxw, Stz'uminus, Tla-o-qui-aht, Toquaht, Tseshaht, T'Sou-ke, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Wei Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum, W̱SÁNEĆ (Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, and Tseycum) and Yuułu?ił? First Nations.

We also acknowledge that we provide remote library services to the territories of the Ahousaht, Da'naxda'xw/Awaetlala, Ditidaht, ʔiihatisath/činaḡint, Gwawaneuk, Heiltsuk, Hesquiaht, Hupačasath, Huu-ay-aht, Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h', Lyackson, Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em, Nuchatlaht, Penelakut, Tlatlasikwala, Tlowitsis, Uchucklesaht, Wikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis and Wuikinuxv First Nations.

We honour our relationships with these nations, the Homalco First Nation and all other First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples who reside in these territories*

* VIRL staff recognize that we are on a learning continuum. As such, this land acknowledgement will change as we continue to learn and listen.

ADULT FICTION

He who would walk the Earth

Bjerke-Clarke, Griffin (Métis)

Felix walks alone through a decaying world until he is challenged to remember his past and build his future — an anti-colonial western exploring trauma, memory, and healing.

[book](#)

An honored vow

Blair, Melissa (Anishinaabe-kwe)

TKeera's epic quest to avenge her lover, save her people, and bring down a tyrant king. Final installment of the Halfing saga, a romantasy showcasing BIPOC and queer representation.

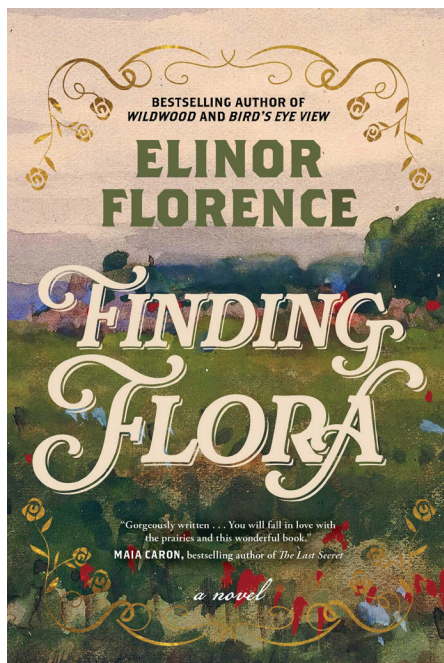
[book/eBook/eAudio](#)

Small ceremonies

Edwards, Kyle (Anishinaabe)

Governor General Award winner for fiction, 2025. A poignant coming-of-age story following the friendships, hopes, fears, and struggles of a group of Native high school students from Winnipeg's North End.

[book/book club set](#)



Finding Flora

Florence, Elinor (Métis)

Métis and immigrant women come together in early 1900s Alberta when a hostile government threatens to expropriate their homesteads.

[book/eBook/book club set](#)

Joe

GoldenEagle, Carol Rose (Cree, Dene)
Joe, a vampire and alcoholic, feeds his addiction by feeding on others who have consumed too much alcohol. Blends vampire lore and Indigenous culture.

[book](#)

Bones of a giant

Isaac, Brian Thomas (Okanagan)
A teenager's struggle to become a man in a world of racism and hardship in this haunting and tender story set on the Okanagan Indian Reserve.

[book/eBook](#)

Beaver hills forever : a Métis poetic novella

Kerr, Conor (Métis)

Giller Prize finalist's riotous, uncompromising look at the intertwined lives of four characters, each an abstract expression of the few paths available to Métis people on the Prairies

[book](#)

Seventhblade

Laird, Tonia (*Métis*)

A fast-paced, anti-colonial action-adventure fantasy that explores twisted power dynamics and the effects of settler colonialism.

[book/eBook](#)

The Cree word for love : sâkhitowin

Lindberg, Tracey (*Cree, Métis*),

Littlechild, George (*Plains Cree*)

Through original fiction and select iconic paintings, author Lindberg and artist Littlechild consider a teaching from an Elder that in their culture, the notion of love as constructed in Western society does not exist.

[book](#)

Wheetago War. Volume 1, Roth

Van Camp, Richard (*Tlichio Dene*)

Ross, half-transformed after being bitten by a monstrous Wheetago, must form an alliance with a mother and her child, as well as escaped prisoners, to reach his wife and daughter trapped in the city.

[graphic novel](#)

Hole in the sky

Wilson, Daniel H. (*Cherokee*)

A gripping sci-fi thriller and Native American First Contact story asks probing questions about nonhuman intelligence, the Western mindset, and humans' understanding of reality.

[book/large print](#)

Taaqtumi. Volume 2 : an anthology of Arctic horror stories

Featuring authors from across the Canadian Arctic, this horror short fiction collection weaves together contemporary Arctic settings with ancient monsters and beings said to stalk the tundra for centuries.

[book](#)

ADULT NONFICTION

Kihiani : a memoir of healing

Aglukark, Susan (*Inuk*)

Uplifting memoir of Juno-award-winning Inuk singer-songwriter's journey to healing and self-discovery.

[book](#)

Indigenous disability studies

This book provides a comprehensive approach to the perspectives, lived experiences, and socio-cultural beliefs of Indigenous scholars regarding disabilities through a distinctions-based approach.

[book](#)

Elements of Indigenous style : a guide for writing by and about Indigenous Peoples

Younging, Gregory (*Opaskwayak Cree*)

Second edition of groundbreaking Indigenous style guide, offers crucial guidance to anyone who works in words or other media on how to work accurately, collaboratively, and ethically on projects involving Indigenous Peoples. .

[book](#)

From the rez to the runway : forging my path in fashion

Allaire, Christian (*Ojibwe*)

Growing up on the Nipissing First Nation reserve with a passion for fashion, Allaire shares the joys and challenges of pursuing his dream to be a fashion journalist in New York City.

[book/eBook](#)

REDress :

art, action, and the power of presence

Black-Morsette, Jaime (Métis)

Powerful anthology of Indigenous women, Elders, grassroots community activists, artists, academics, and family members affected by the tragedy of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit people from across Turtle Island.

[book](#)

Dark chapters : reading the still lives of David Garneau

Garneau, David (*Métis*)

A singular collection of creative responses (poets, fiction writers, curators and critics) to the still life paintings of Governor General Award winning artist.

[book](#)

The teachings of Mutton : a Coast Salish Woolly Dog

Hammond-Kaarremaa, Liz

Indigenous oral history and archival research combine to tell the fascinating story of the now extinct Coast Salish Woolly Dog, bred for thousands of years for its woolly fibres, which were woven into traditional blankets, robes and regalia.

[book/eBook](#)



21 things you need to know about Indigenous self-government

Joseph, Robert P.C. (*Gayaxala Chief*)

Indigenous self-governance is already happening and not to be feared--and negotiating more such arrangements, sooner rather than later, is an absolute necessity.

[book/eAudio/book club set](#)

Walking with your spirit totem animals : discovering the four animals that guide you through life

Leonard, Shawn (Mi'kmaq)

Build your unique team of spirit totem animals to be your personal guides through your life. From Mi'kmaq medium and APTN TV's Spirit Talker host.
[book](#)

Decolonization and me : conversations about healing a nation and ourselves

McLeod, Kristy (Métis) Webstad, Phyllis (Secwépmc)

A response to the increase of residential school denialism. Invites readers to step into a space of reflection on their personal relationship with truth, reconciliation, and Orange Shirt Day.
[book](#)

We survived the night : an Indigenous reckoning

NoiseCat, Julian Brave (Secwépmc)

Award-winning director of Sugarcane (2024) combines investigative journalism, colonial history, Salish Coyote stories and a deeply personal father-son journey in a searing yet uplifting portrait of contemporary Indigenous life.
[book/eBook](#)

A steady brightness of being : truths, wisdom, and love from celebrated Indigenous voices

Sinclair, Sara & Stephanie (Cree-Ojibwa)

A groundbreaking collection of letters from Indigenous writers, activists, and thinkers -- to their ancestors, to future generations, and to themselves.
[book/eBook](#)

Ally is a verb : a guide to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples

LeMay, Rose (Tlingit)

Your next step on the journey of reconciliation starts here. What can you do to be a better ally for your Indigenous colleagues, community members, and friends?
[book](#)

The rise of indigenous economic power : deconstructing Indian Act economics

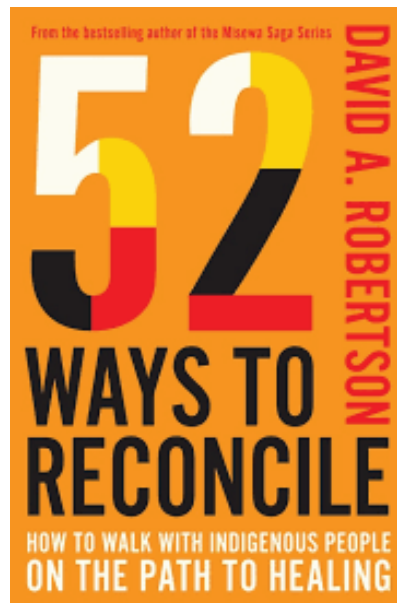
Hilton, Carol Anne (Hesquiaht)

The Indigenous economy is surging, but full Indigenous economic participation is still lacking, thwarted by the colonial and racist policies of Canada's Indian Act. The Rise of Indigenous Economic Power deconstructs these historic and systemic barriers and presents an ethical response based on Indigenomics in action
[book/eAudio](#)

Nothing more of this land : community, power, and the search for Indigenous identity

Lee, Joseph (Aqinnah Wampanoag)

From award-winning journalist Joseph Lee, a sweeping, personal exploration of Indigenous identity and the challenges facing Indigenous people around the world
[book/eBook](#)



52 ways to reconcile : how to walk with Indigenous people on the path to healing

Robertson, David A. (Swampy Cree)

Under his gentle guidance, these fifty-two steps will help readers of all ages to walk in the right direction, towards a healthier relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples
[book/eBook/eAudio/Bool Club Set](#)

Sem's Map

Thomas, Rebecca (Mi'kmaw)

Recognizing the importance of acknowledging the traditional lands we live on, and unlearning colonial ways of the past, Sem shows his teacher and his classmates how the stories of the land, the Indigenous place names, are far older than any map.
[book](#)

Miya Wears Orange

John-Kehewin, Wanda (Cree-Métis)

A beautifully illustrated book that gently explores the complicated feelings a young girl experiences as she learns about tragedy and injustice.
[book](#)



Our Ancestors' Kitchen

Poll, Willie (Métis)

With an emphasis on the importance of thanking the land for what is given to us, sharing with our community, and offering a plate to our ancestors, this gentle and thoughtful tale is a joyous exploration of love, food, and culture
[book](#)

Raven's Ribbons

Spillett, Tasha (Cree/Trinidadian)

A boy shares his dream of wearing a traditional ribbon skirt to the community's round dance with his grandmother.

[book](#)

The Game

Charles, Henry (x^wməθk^wəyəm)

A vibrant introduction to Musqueam language and culture and inspires readers to rediscover a sport we know and love.

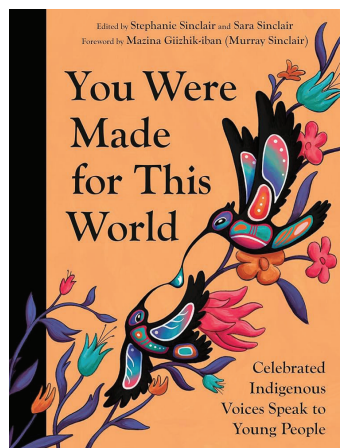
[book](#)

Dad, I Miss You

Sammurtok, Nadia (Inuit)

Told in the voice of a boy and his father by turns, this book takes a thoughtful and heartfelt look at the emotional toll of a child being taken from their family and community to attend residential school.

[book](#)



You Were Made for This World

Sinclair, Stephanie and Sara (Cree/Ojibwe)

A joyful, proud and groundbreaking collection of letters and art for young people. Every young person deserves the chance to feel like they belong, that they are recognized, that they matter.

[book](#)

Maddy's Sash

Gonneville, Marion (Michif)

A story of a young girl who connects with her Métis roots while she spends time with her Moshôm, Kohkom and their special dog Max.

[book/eBook](#)

I Am My Name : a girl's journey to finding her Cree family

Na'kuset (Cree)

An autobiographical picture book about Cree activist Na'kuset's life as a young girl taken from her home along with thousands of other Indigenous children during the 1960s, and the journey of discovery that leads her to reclaim her life and culture.

[book](#)

I Am Connected

Kung Jaadee (X̱aayda)

Along the backdrop of Haida Gwaii's breathtaking landscapes, Indigenous storyteller, Kung Jaadee, invites you to witness the many threads of relationship that connect us across time and space.

[book](#)

I Am On Indigenous Land

Phillips, Katrina M. (Red Cliff Ojibwe)

Simple poetry and portrayals of children and families enjoying rivers, bike paths, beaches, and parks exploring the beauty and resources of thirteen ancestral Indigenous lands and how we use those lands each day.

[book](#)

I am Métis

Ellefson, Karen Hourie (Métis)

Feel the author's pride in her Métis identity, and her love for her father, as she relives childhood memories.

[book](#)

Spirit rider : a Lillian mystery

Partridge, Lynda (Algonquin of Pikwakanagan)

In book 3 of the Spirit of Nature series, Lillian once again navigates a world where spirits and mysteries collide when a mischievous spirit boy begins appearing outside her window.

[book](#)

Sarah Ponakey, storycatcher, and Maskwa's tipi tales

MacMillan, Sita (Zagime Anishinabek)

A young Indigenous girl moves to the city and struggles with homesickness and making friends, but finds a sense of belonging by embracing her Cree culture and identity.

[book](#)

One Beaded Earring

Skene, Pat (Métis)

In this illustrated early chapter book, Delia loses one of her mother's treasured beaded earrings, leading her to learn about her Métis heritage when she asks her grandmother to help her replace it.

[book](#)



The Ribbon Skirt

Mukwa, Cameron (Anishinaabe)

Ten-year-old Anang wants to make a ribbon skirt for an upcoming powwow, but they are two-spirit and nonbinary and doesn't know what others will think of them. Anang sets off to gather the materials needed to make the skirt and turns to those around them -their family, their human and turtle friends, the crows, and even the lake itself -for help.

[eBook/graphic novel](#)

The Summer of the Bone Horses

Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk (Rosebud Sioux)

Homesick at the thought of staying with his grandparents for the summer, Lakota Eddie quickly adjusts to life on the reservation, embracing new experiences and bonding with his family.

[book](#)

TEEN

Ours to tell : reclaiming Indigenous stories

Yellowhorn, Eldon (Piikani)

Novelists, poets, graphic artists, historians, craftspeople, and mapmakers chronicle stories on the struggles and triumphs lived by Indigenous people, and the impact these stories have had on their culture and history.

[book/eBook](#)

The Fragments that Remain

Angeconeb, Mackenzie (Anishinaabe)

First-year college student Andy can't afford to slow down; whatever it takes to keep her from obsessing over her brother Ally's death, which was ruled suicide by overdose.

[book/eBook](#)

Broken Home, Healed Nest

Ami, Pershlie (Hopi/Tewa)

Grappling with the reverberating grief of losing her beloved grandmother and the trauma of a broken home, young Jessica is reaching a place so far from herself, her community, and the traditional Indigenous teachings she once lived by, it is frightening.

[book](#)

The Others

Issacs, Cheryl (Kanyen'kehá:ka)

Avery begins to see a chilling reflection in every mirror, one that moves on its own -- and she's not the only one.

[book](#)

The Haunted Blizzard

Johnston, Aviaq (Inuk)

A teenage girl walks home in a burgeoning blizzard, happy to have an unexpected snow day. Ignoring an Elder's warning about the terror the blizzard holds, she finds herself alone in her home with an unseen presence stalking and tormenting her.

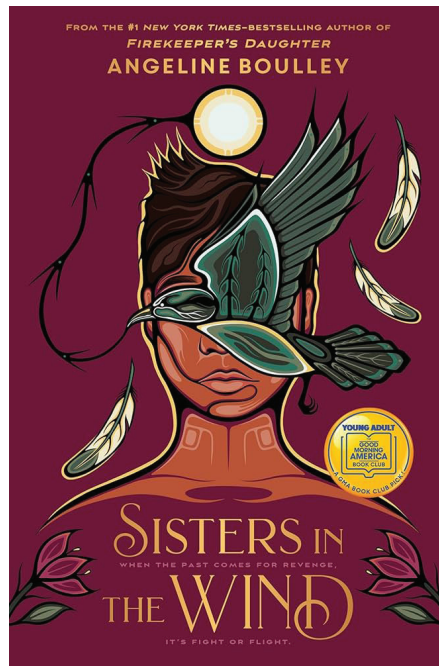
[book](#)

Undrowned

DiDesidero, G.M. (Chickasaw)

Jasper Lindstedt is fine being a high school drop out and small-time thief—until he accidentally releases a Shapeshifter and that liar Harissa blames him for its mischief.

[book](#)



Sisters in the Wind

Boulley, Angeline (Chippewa)

When the sharp-eyed and kind Mr. Jameson with an interest in her case comes looking for her, Lucy wonders if hiding from her past will ever truly keep her safe. Five years in the foster system has taught her to be cautious and smart. From the author of *The Firekeeper's Daughter*.

[book/ebook/eAudio/Audio CD](#)

7 Generations: A Plains Cree Saga

Robertson, David A. (Norway House Cree)

15th Anniversary Edition of the epic series of young adult graphic novels following one Cree family over three centuries and seven generations. Includes, *Stone*, *Scars*, *Ends/Begins* and *The Pact*.

[book](#)

Burning Cold: An Inuit and Dene Comics Collection

Qitsualik-Tinsley, Rachel (Inuk/Scottish/Cree)

A collection of stories by Northern authors from the award-winning Moonshot (Indigenous Comics Collection) volumes.

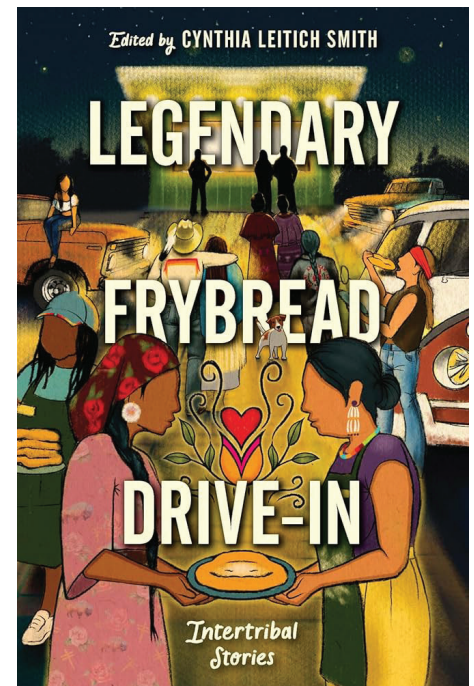
[book](#)

Secrets of Stone

Seesequasis, Coltrane (Willow Cree)

First book of the *A Wolf in the Sun* series, following a young wolf known as Silversong, and his packmates, living under the *Wolven Code*.

[book](#)



Legendary Frybread Drive-in: Intertribal Stories

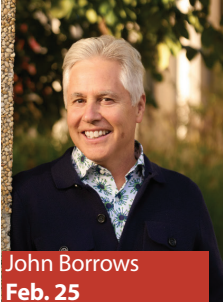
Smith, Cynthia Leitich (Muscogee Creek Nation)

Sandy June's *Legendary Frybread Drive-in* serves up more than food: it hosts live music, movie nights, unexpected family reunions, love long lost, and love found again. That big green-and-gold neon sign beckons to teens of every tribal Nation, often when they need it most

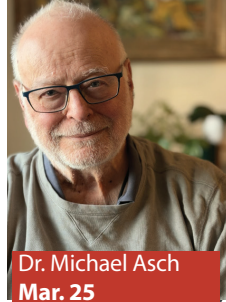
[book/ebook/eAudio/Audio CD](#)



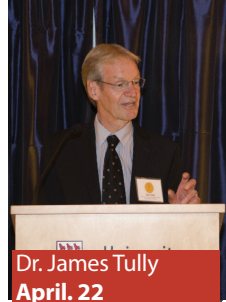
TRC57 SPEAKER SERIES



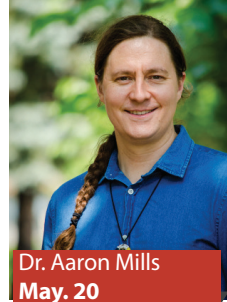
John Borrows
Feb. 25



Dr. Michael Asch
Mar. 25



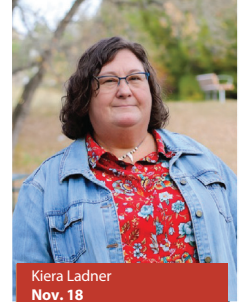
Dr. James Tully
April. 22



Dr. Aaron Mills
May. 20



Dr. Gina Starblanket
& Dr. Heidi Kiiwetepinesiiik Stark
Oct. 14



Kiera Ladner
Nov. 18

TRC57 Speaker Series is an Indigenous learning series featuring Canadian authors and thought leaders, in partnership with Vancouver Island Regional Library, UBC Press, and University of Toronto Press. Together,, we have curated a speaker series with renowned authors at the forefront of Indigenous topics pertaining to Truth & Reconciliation Call to Action #57. TRC #57 calls upon all public servants to learn about the history and reality of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, including their cultural and treaty rights.

MUSIC AND FILM

Edge of the Earth *Aysanabee (Oji-Cree)*

The songs of this collection, many borne out of conversations with friends, lovers and self, reflect on the emotional crossroads and precipices that catalyze major life changes.

CD

Boundless Possibilities *Cardinal, Celeigh (Cree)*

A tapestry of sound and emotion, designed to resonate in the deepest parts of the body, mind, and soul. Nominated for two JUNOs and two Canadian Folk Music Awards.

CD

The Truth We Hold

Rheaume, Amanda (Métis)
A Métis songbook for future generations, the new album maps events, place names and family history with a careful, loving hand, drawing untold and unacknowledged experiences into the light.

CD

Fish War

Northwest Treaty Tribes (producer)
When the state of Washington banned tribes from fishing in their traditional waters and began arresting Indigenous fishers, it ignited the violent Fish Wars.

dvd

Missing from Fire Trail Road

Johnson-Davis, Mary Ellen (Tulalip)
A riveting documentary detailing the case of Mary Ellen Johnson-Davis, a Native American woman who disappeared in 2020. Her remains were found October 31, 2025.

dvd

The Great Salish Heist

Dennis, Darrell (Secwepemc)

The Great Salish Heist is a scrappy indie Ocean's 11 with bags of charm and some authentic and deeper things to say about cultural colonialism. Vancouver Island-made caper comedy about the theft of Indigenous artifacts.

dvd

One with the Whale: An Indigenous Story of Resistance

Apassingok, Chris (Siberian Yupik)

A heartwarming yet thrilling story of one family's struggle to fight against cultural genocide and environmental racism, while regaining a foothold in both the ancient and modern world.

dvd

Alaska's Vanishing Native Villages

Talahongva, Patty (Hopi)

A look inside Alaska Native villages fighting for survival against climate change. With the Howard Center at ASU, FRONTLINE examines why communities are relocating, and struggling to preserve their traditions.

dvd



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