

# ATN NEWSLETTER

A Time of Reflection



## LISTENING TO VOICES

**From the desk of the ATN's guest writer: Kaylah - Grade 6 student**

Welcome to the fourth issue of the Antiracist Teacher Network Newsletter. This month, we're sharing a student reflection following a visit to Blackfoot Crossing, written by Kaylah, a grade 6 student in Calgary:

Located on one of the many bends of the Bow River, Blackfoot Crossing is recognized as a National Historic Site. The variety of natural and archaeological resources and its sacred place in Siksika traditions have made it important over many generations. The lands along the Bow River were recognized and respected for its landscape features and natural resources.

At Blackfoot Crossing on September 22 1877, representatives of the Siksika, Piikani, Kainai, Nakoda and Tsuu T'ina peoples met with representatives of the Crown to sign Treaty No. 7. The Blackfoot Crossing site, which is part of the Siksika Indian Reserve No. 146, includes landscape features and archaeological remains that were important during the signing of the treaty.

Blackfoot Crossing is an important traditional meeting place in Blackfoot territory. This crossing of the Bow River was historically a bison-hunting and gathering place for the Siksika people and their allies in the Blackfoot Confederacy. The Crossing was used for centuries by the Blackfoot Confederacy as a natural fording place and encampment site, as they followed migrating bison herds. It was also here that Crowfoot, chief of the Siksika, is believed to have died and been buried.

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### DATES OF NOTE FOR JUNE

#### All Month:

**National Indigenous History Month**

**Filipino Heritage Month**

**Start of Pride Season**

**June 18th - International Day for Countering Hate Speech**

**June 19th - Juneteenth**

**June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day**

**June 27 - Canadian Multiculturalism Day**

**June 28 - Stonewall Riots Anniversary**

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# OUR MONTHLY BOOK RECCS

From the ATN Resource  
Bank!

**K to 4 - The Sharing Circle (Medicine Wheel)** by Theresa "Corky" Larsen-Jonasson, **Amik** by Sharon King, **Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids** edited by Cynthia Leitch Smith, **The Spirit Bear Books** by FN Caring Society ([some of which are available for free here](#)), **Nibi's Water Song** by Sunshine Tenasco

**5 to 9 - The Barren Grounds** by David A. Robertson, **Borders** by Thomas King, **A Girl Called Echo** by Katherena Vermette,

**\*Megan Tipler** has created an **Indigenous Book Recommendations list for grades 6-12 here for free!**

**10 to 12 - The Marrow Thieves** by Cherie Dimaline, **The Outside Circle: A Graphic Novel** by Patti LaBoucane-Benson, **Walking in Two Worlds** by Wab Kinew, **Treaty Words: For As Long As the River Flows** by Aimee Craft

**For Teachers - 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act** by Bob Joseph, **Seven Fallen Feathers** by Tanya Talaga, **Highway of Tears** by Jessica McDiarmid, **Unsettling Canada** by Arthur Manuel & Ronald Derrickson

**Reading (and more) Challenge!** - Over the course of the summer break, we invite our readers to "[Decolonize Your Shelf](#)" by [checking out this bingo challenge](#).

## COOL STUFF!

- Etienna Moostoos-Lafferty** developed **Ten Days of Truth THEN Reconciliation** which can be used in the lead up to the **National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th** for any grade level. [Check out this amazing resource here.](#)
- All settlers and people who benefit from living in Canada should be educated on the Numbered Treaties and Land Claims. It is important to understand our responsibilities and the phrase "We are all treaty peoples". [Click here to access an educational infographic from experiences CANADA.](#)
- All Canadians have a responsibility to work towards Truth and Reconciliation. [Educate yourself and your class by clicking here to access the TRC \(Kid Friendly\) Calls to Action by the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada.](#)
- Canadian Encyclopedia** has released the **Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada** [which is available online here](#) or for physical purchase.
- The Secret Life of Canada** provides a variety of episodes connected to Indigenous history and current events. For this month's newsletter we'd like to highlight episodes with accompanying **teaching guides** like: [The Secret Life of the North](#), [The Secret Life of Water](#) and [The Indian Act](#)
- Historica Canada** has released a **Heritage Minute** to highlight [the story of Tom Longboat which you can watch here.](#)
- 2022 marks 6 years since the **White Goose Flying Report** was first published in Calgary and **The Sprawl** poses the important question of [what has actually changed since the report in this article.](#)
- Megan Tipler (@tiplerteaches)** has created an **Indigenous History Month Posters Set** and an **Indigenous NHL Players Poster** that can be used for a variety of classrooms!
- The **MusiCounts Kanata: Contemporary Indigenous Artists** Learning Resource is a grade 6-12 resource where students can learn of issues facing Indigenous community through lyric analysis of music written by Canadian Indigenous musicians.

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# ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES IN CANADA



Interested in joining the Local 38  
Anti-Racist Teachers Network?

Email [LDECChair@ata38.ab.ca](mailto:LDECChair@ata38.ab.ca) for  
more information!