

September/October 2025

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

September 22 - Fall Equinox

September 29 - Orange Shirt Day in schools

September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

October 13 - Thanksgiving

October 22 - Jordan River Anderson's birthday (He would be 26 years old today.



A Warm Welcome Back from the IED Department!

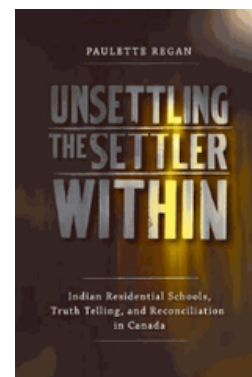
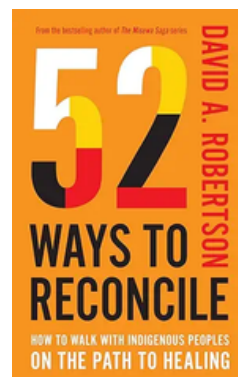
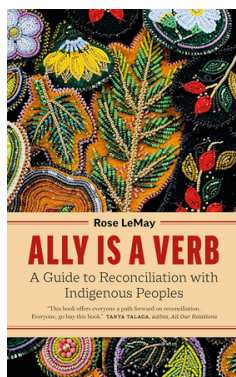
We give thanks and acknowledge the ləkʷəŋən people, past and present, on whose traditional territory we live, we learn and do our work.

Ideas for Orange Shirt Day



Here is a lesson plan idea shared by Caitlin Baker. Make Orange Shirt Day heart pins with orange wool roving, a felting needle, and a heart-shaped cookie cutter. Felt the wool inside the cutter on a sponge, shaping both sides. Smooth edges, then glue or sew on a pin back. Trim excess fibers. Let dry—your handmade pin is ready!

Featured Resources for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



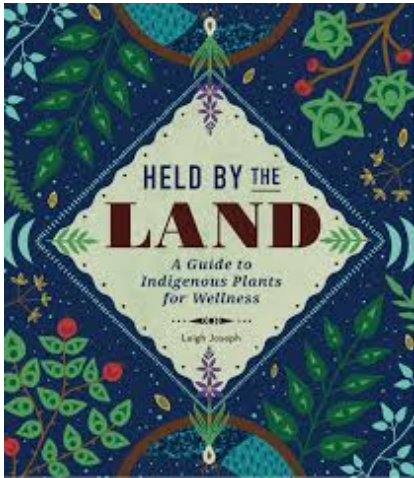
Allyship is an ongoing commitment to listening, learning, and standing in solidarity with Indigenous peoples. It involves recognizing one's own role in systems of power and using that awareness to support meaningful change. At its heart, allyship is about building respectful, trusting relationships rooted in humility, accountability, and reciprocity. Cultivating strong relationships is essential—not just for learning, but for walking together in a good way toward reconciliation and shared understanding.

[National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Resource Collection](#)

iedlibrary@sd61.bc.ca

View the IED Library Catalog at destiny.sd61.bc.ca

Resource Highlight



The Held by the Land book and card deck are teaching tools that connect students to Indigenous ways of knowing and relationships with the land. In class, you can use the book for stories, teachings, and reflections, and the cards as prompts for discussion, journaling, or group activities. Each card offers an entry point for conversation, art, or land-based learning, helping students reflect on their own relationship with the natural world while learning respect for Indigenous perspectives.



Indigenous Education Library Team

Metthea Maddern
mmaddern@sd61.bc.ca
IED Teacher-Librarian
Friday PM



Francine Spahan
fspahan@sd61.bc.ca
Elementary Teacher Consultant
T

Tanya Adams
tadams@sd61.bc.ca
Middle School Teacher Consultant

Emma Milliken
emilliken@sd61.bc.ca
Secondary School Teacher Consultant

The role of Indigenous Teacher Consultants is to work with SD61 staff to help build capacity of Indigenous knowledge, resources and Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

To view and browse the IED library collection online, please visit Destiny@sd61.bc.ca and select *Indigenous Education Library* from the bottom right.

[Click here to browse the Library Collection on Destiny](#)

To borrow items from the IED Library please email iedlibrary@sd61.b.ca and allow a day or two for reply.

Contest Alert!

Want to win an amazing prize? If you're reading this, YOU could be our next winner! To enter, [fill out this form](#) with your name and email before Oct. 30, 2025.