

RE: National Indigenous Peoples Day

As we continue to learn more during Indigenous History Month, it is important to also note that Today, June 21, is National Indigenous Peoples Day.

The UTMSU acknowledges that the campus which we call home is located on the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and, most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, it is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

We also want to honour the lives of the over one thousand two hundred and counting, missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG), and the loss of too many indigenous children, culture, and history to the residential school system.

It's been over 153 years of an ongoing process of colonization and genocide here in Turtle Island and systemic racism and police violence play a huge role in this system of oppression.

Therefore, It is incumbent that those of us who are settlers on this land, continue to advocate for justice for various indigenous communities and support the Indigenous students on our campus. The UTMSU will always be ready to support Indigenous students and community members should they decide to form a campus group here at UTM.

On Friday, June 26 from 6 - 8 p.m., the UTMSU will be hosting an "Indigenous in Post-Secondary" panel to highlight the existence and experiences of Indigenous students across post-secondary institutions. Please register to attend the event through the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YVy9i-frR7i39aKeugZSgA

To encourage your learning and unlearning process about indigenous history, we want to share some resources to help you with this.

Here are some books to read:

21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act

By Bob Joseph

From the Ashes

By Jesse Thistle

The Right to Be Cold

By Sheila Watt-Cloutier

Seven Fallen Feathers

By Tanya Talaga



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Here are some Films to watch:

- [Invasion](#)
- [We Were Children](#)
- [Kanehsatake 270 Years of Resistance](#)
- [Foster Child](#)
- [Our People Will Be Healed](#)
- [Trick or Treaty](#)
- [Nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up to the top](#)

UTM Resources:

- utm.utoronto.ca/indigenous-centre/welcome-indigenous-centre

Please remember that Indigenous lives and history matter always and not just in the month of June. If anyone needs additional support or has questions, please contact our VP Equity, Noha Farawi at vpequity@utmsu.ca.