



# An Anti-Racism Project in Amiskwaciâskahikan ᐱᓃᑦᑐᕋᔭᒃᓴᖅᓵᓂᖅ (Edmonton, AB)

---

---

# Who We Are



Turtle Island is a cultural awareness and anti-racism project in Edmonton, Alberta, whose volunteers guide and support businesses/organizations in their efforts to disrupt racism in their establishments.

To participate, businesses/organizations agree to 5 Calls to Action (authored by Indigenous youth ages 13-15) and display a Turtle Island logo sticker on the window or door of their establishment. The "Turtle Team" regularly engages with these businesses/organizations to support them in their journey of learning and allyship.



**How can we make Indigenous youth feel safe, valued, and honoured in Edmonton?**

Alongside Indigenous youth we decided to establish Turtle Island Safer Spaces, which is modeled after Wake the Giant in Thunder Bay. Indigenous youth in Thunder Bay report that the Wake the Giant project makes them feel safe, supported, and honoured. They also report that their sense of community, self-esteem, and self-efficacy have grown due to the project. Therefore, we have brought our own iteration of the project here to amiskwaciwâskahikan.

—

**Few Edmontonians Understand the Historical, Social, and Political Dynamics of Where They Live; They Do Not Recognize or Address the Ways in Which We Continuously Harm Edmonton's Indigenous Community Members.**

# To participate in Turtle Island:

local businesses and organizations make a commitment to learn and act to make their space safer. They display a Turtle Island logo decal at their location and a list of calls to action, which show their commitment to the process. Turtle Island Safer Spaces are then provided with a Cultural Awareness Package that has educational resources to share with staff, clients, and the community. We continue to facilitate their learning/allyship journey in other ways, such as answering questions or connecting them to Indigenous-owned education agencies.

Our goal is to build a  
community  
that honours and supports  
Indigenous youth.





## Turtle Island Commitments for Businesses and Organizations

Business owners and staff commit to...

1. **Work** to make First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people feel welcome, respected, and represented in this space.
2. **Educate** ourselves about issues that affect Indigenous people in Edmonton.
3. Always **address** racist language and/or actions when we witness it or when it is reported.
4. **Actively** listen to Indigenous people when they talk about their experiences and concerns
5. Continuously **work** and **learn** in order to make our space safer.

# Turtle Island: Become a Safer Space

Become a Turtle Island Safer Space

kamiaromin@gmail.com [Switch account](#)



\* Required

Email \*

Your email

Your Business or Organization \*

Your answer

Your Name and Pronouns \*

Your answer



**It is important that businesses and organizations who display our logo are actively working to make their spaces safer. However, we recognize the following:**

→ Any space can cease to be safe at any moment. No space is ever 100% safe, even if it is a Turtle Island location.

→ **Our locations are all at different points of their learning journeys.**

→ Generally, it is more productive to support businesses/organizations in their commitment to make their space safer than it is to automatically dismiss them from Turtle Island Safer Spaces.

——However, we operate on a case-by-case basis.

**Most Importantly,**

**We will listen to and believe people who report that they have felt unsafe or unwelcome in a Turtle Island Safer Spaces location.**

# Accountability Form

Please fill in as much information as possible. Thank you so much for sharing your experiences.



(not shared) [Switch account](#)



\* Required

Which Turtle Island Safer Spaces location did the incident happen? \*

Your answer

Approximately when did the incident happen? \*

Date

yyyy-mm-dd



Who was involved in the incident?

Your answer

---

**Some of the work  
we do...**

THE BEAUTIFUL SMUDGE KITS WE  
GET TO GIVE TO THE KIDDOS THANKS  
TO @KOOKUMSHOUSE.



Partnering with  
Indigenous-owned  
businesses to remove  
barriers for youth and to  
provide them with  
culturally relevant  
opportunities.

---

This is a space where Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members can connect, ask questions, and discuss approaches to anti-racism and cultural awareness.

**This is a space where Indigenous community members are honoured and where their voices are amplified.**

This is a space where we build bridges between Indigenous community members and local businesses/organizations.

**This is a space where we hear from a variety of community advocates and leaders.**





# Turtle Island Safer Spaces Resources

A library of resources to help you continue your learning journey.

## Land and Treaty

### Treaty Map: Alberta

ACKNOWLEDGING LAND AND PEOPLE



PDF

PD-WT-17c-TreatyMap

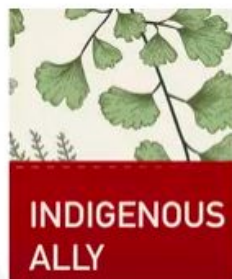
### Indigenous Territories Interactive Map



native-land.ca

## Allyship

### Ally Toolkit



PDF

INTRODUCTION ALLY TOOLKIT

### 150 Acts of Reconciliation



activehistory.ca

...ve moons, just like the  
...e and after, is freedom.

## Colonization and Government Relations

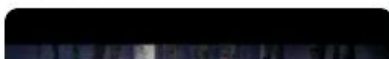
### Short Film: Four Faces of the Moon



YouTube

"Four Faces of the Moon" - Canada's dark colonial past | Animated Short Doc

### Short Film: How to Steal a Canoe



## Books & Arts

### Indigenous Relations by Bob Joseph



Indigenous Relations Insights, Tips & Suggestions To Make Reconciliation A Reality

### 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act



## You

### Mourning Back

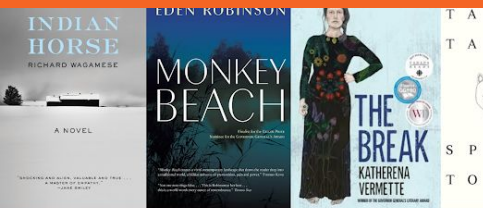


YouTube

Mourning  
Talk, Br  
Nichola

BSEC  
the S

TRENDY  
FROM YOUR



Turtle Island Safer Spaces Presents

**A Celebration of Indigenous Stories:**  
Community leaders share their favourite Indigenous books, music, stories, and artist.

September 2nd, 2021, 6pm-7pm via Google Meets

Free to attend, register on Eventbrite



## Honour Orange Shirt Day

Turtle Island Safer Spaces is partnering with Root for Trees. We will be handing out native trees/plants in honour of Residential "School" victims/survivors. Come by and chat with us about honouring the people who belong to this land.

**Sept 30**  
**Hawerlak Park**  
**10 AM - 2 PM**

## ROTARY ORANGE SHIRT INITIATIVE

Need an Orange Shirt for Sept. 30th? Get yours through the YEG Passport Rotary Club, the net proceeds go to **Turtle Island**, The Girls and Boys Club of Sattle Lake, and the Orange Shirt Society!

Prices for Adult Shirts

S	\$20
M	\$20
L	\$20
XL	\$20
2XL	\$21
3XL	\$22



To order, please contact  
**Yvonne Ewanicke**  
[yewanicke@gmail.com](mailto:yewanicke@gmail.com)

We are so excited about this one, and we hope you will make space in your life to join us.



June 24 @ 6-7  
**TRAUMA-INFORMED ALLYSHIP**