

# INDIGENOUS WOMEN SURVIVING THE SIXTIES SCOOP HEALING THROUGH TEACHINGS AND THE FULL MOON CEREMONY

The Sixties Scoop reflects Canadian policies and practices from the 1950s-80s of forcibly removing Indigenous children from their families and communities to be placed into foster care or adopted by non-Indigenous families in Canada, the United States and overseas. Urban Indigenous women who were Sixties Scoop survivors living in a housing facility participated in a research project consisting of teaching circles led by Knowledge Carriers which culminated in a Full Moon Ceremony. In focus groups, the women discussed the impact of the Sixties Scoop and the role of culture in healing.


## SIXTIES SCOOP IMPACTS & RESPONSES



## IMPACTS OF CULTURE

Medicines & teachings have multiple uses: releasing trauma, coping with mental health concerns, decision-making and general guidance.



A sustainable world  for seven generations in the future starts with our children who are part of the millennial scoop.

## BARRIERS & FACILITATORS OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The women questioned their access to medicines and to practice their culture in their housing situation.

- What are the institutional restrictions to accessing medicines?
- Are the staff and administrators knowledgeable on the intergenerational impacts of colonization?
- Are there differences between culture in ceremony versus programming?
- Is culture used for educating, socializing, connecting, or as a meaningful and sacred practice in a spiritual space?

These questions should be considered by organizations seeking to facilitate cultural connections.

## LONGING FOR & (RE)CONNECTING TO CULTURE

Life journey involves learning from teachings, attending ceremonies & sharing knowledge.

Learning from ancestors, Grandmothers, Firekeepers, ...

Sharing with family, youth, community, ...

Ceremony

Teachings

