

The Sixties Scoop

The Sixties Scoop describes Canadian policies and practices from the 1950s to 1980s of forcibly removing Indigenous children from their families and communities. Children were placed into the foster care system or were adopted by non-Indigenous families in Canada, the United States and overseas.

Survivors have discussed the ways in which the Sixties Scoop has negatively impacted their lives. This includes having identity struggles, forming unhealthy relationships with their adoptive families, having poor health, and feeling disconnected from their indigeneity.

Reconnecting to Indigenous culture and knowledge can be a source of healing for Sixties Scoop survivors and may also contribute to restoring ties to indigeneity.

Miigwech, Nia Wen, Thank you

We live and work on the traditional territories of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe. We are grateful to the past, present and future caretakers of these lands and waters.

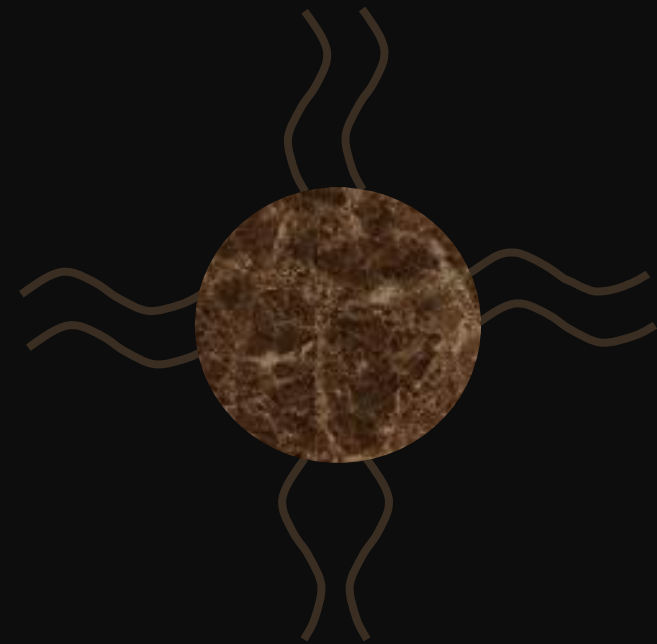
This guideline is not a rule book. These responsibilities were developed by community members with the understanding that not all ceremonies will be the same, but these responsibilities are important to understand when attending the Full Moon Ceremony at Winona's Place.

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**FULL MOON
CEREMONY AT
WINONA'S PLACE**

RESPONSIBILITIES

Community Members

- Honour the seven Grandfather teachings.
- If you are triggered, step out if you need to and return when you want. You may speak to the Knowledge Carrier or host. Cedar will be available for you.
- Be mindful that commenting on certain issues may trigger or harm others in the circle.
- Speak in your language if you choose.
- Speak one at a time and make sure the next person has completed their thoughts before you begin.
- You may bring a Full Moon journal that includes words or pictures to discuss or describe some experiences in ceremony.
- Be mindful of your state of being to engage with those in the circle respectfully, including the protocols of the Knowledge Carrier.
- Keep what is said in the circle, in the circle.
- Turn off and put aside recording devices, such as phones or tablets.

FULL MOON CEREMONY



The Full Moon Ceremony is an opportunity for Indigenous women to come together and acknowledge their connection to Grandmother Moon. It is also a time to sit together in a circle, let go of painful cycles in the presence of family, friends, community members, and ancestors.

There are variations of the Full Moon Ceremony across the land. The common connections are to the moon in all its phases, acknowledgement of water, and the ability of women to bring forth life.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Knowledge Carriers

- Please explain your protocols for conducting ceremony.
- Please be prepared to answer questions or address concerns community members may have.
- Be aware that some stories may be triggering, so community members might need to step away to ground themselves & determine what is best for them.
- Check in with community members if they appear concerned or worried.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Host

Leading up to the ceremony, the host has several duties. At the time of making a request to a Knowledge Carrier, they must:

- Offer tobacco,
- Provide details of the request, and
- Ask what the Knowledge Carrier may need prepared by the host.

Preparing the space involves:

- Arranging the chairs in a circle with openings in the East and West directions,
- Preparing the medicine bundle & the four medicines and placing it by the Knowledge Carrier with strawberries and water,
- Laying out yellow cloth and tobacco for making ties,
- Covering windows for privacy,
- Having the meal ready by the start time,
- Making the space easily accessible and safer for community members,
- Ensuring there is enough cedar for women who may need to use it, and
- Letting the Knowledge Carrier know to pass the feather around the circle at least twice, as community members may need more opportunities to share.

Be mindful of the historical & ongoing colonial experiences of Indigenous women who may prefer to limit ceremony or circles to tenants or staff who are Indigenous. This decision should be respected.

"It's very filling and it feels good, its grounding, its direction, its guidance, and things make sense. They begin to make sense, to make more and more sense."

"I wanna learn more. There was so much I didn't know even though I've attended Full Moon Ceremonies and I've attended teaching circles and healing circles, there's so much to learn and know."