

Summer Reading List
Right Relations Resource Team

Non-Fiction

THIS PLACE: 150 YEARS RETOLD By Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm, Sonny Assu, Brandon Mitchell
Explore the past 150 years through the eyes of Indigenous creators in this groundbreaking graphic novel anthology.

Five Little Indians, the 1st novel of Michelle Good. It's a powerful account of the lives of 5 residential school survivors.

The Other Side of the River: From Church Pew to Sweat Lodge, by Alf Dumont. (Alf is from Shawanaga and was the first Speaker of The All Native Circle Conference. Will says it is a good read and just available now at UCRD.

Blanket Toss Under Midnight Sun by Paul Seesequasis
A collection of photographs and stories about life in 8 Indigenous communities.

One Drum by Richard Wagamese
A collection of stories and ceremonies inspired by the foundational teachings of Anishnaabe tradition.

From the Ashes by Jesse Thistle
CBC Canada Reads finalist. Told in short chapters interspersed with poetry, details how his issues with abandonment and addiction led to homelessness, incarceration and his eventual redemption through higher education.

A Mind Spread Out on the Ground by Alicia Elliot
Alicia Elliott explores the systemic oppression faced by Indigenous peoples across Canada through the lens of her own experiences as a Tuscarora writer from Six Nations of the Grand River.

77 Fragments of a Familiar Ruin by Thomas King
His first poetry collection, 77 Fragments of a Familiar Ruin, collects 77 poems that lament what we have lost, lecture us for what we have allowed and looks at what we might still be able to save.

Activist Alphabet: a Primer on How, and Why, to Act on Our Love For This Planet By Donna Sinclair
Not specifically about Indigenous issues but relevant information on how to work for justice. She has a great segment on Reconciliation! Her book is available from the UCRD

Fiction

[Moon of the Crusted Snow](#) by Waubgeshig Rice

A post-apocalyptic thriller from former CBC radio host.

[Son of a Trickster](#) by Eden Robinson

Canada Reads finalist - blends humour with heartbreak in this compelling coming-of-age novel.

[Bone Black](#) by Carol Rose GoldenEagle

"With vivid prose and an intense page-turning plot, *Bone Black* examines police indifference, systemic racism, and the power of prayer and spiritual guidance, and reminds us that the crisis in Canada of missing and murdered Indigenous women continues to need our attention."

[Chasing Painted Horses](#) by Drew Hayden Tayler

The fairy tale-esque quality of *Chasing Painted Horses* and Taylor's strength as a storyteller and keen, funny observer of human nature make for an unforgettable novel. Set on a reserve north of Toronto and populated with characters who stick with a reader long after the book is closed.

[Moccasin Square Gardens: Short Stories](#) by Richard Van Camp

The characters of Moccasin Square Gardens inhabit Denendeh, the land of the people north of the sixtieth parallel.

Articles/Websites

Indigenous Ally Toolkit – excellent information here on how to be an ally

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/86d28ccd43d4be0fc11c71a1/files/102bf040-e221-4953-a9ef-9f0c5efc3458/Ally_email.pdf

National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls – Final Report –
should be recommended reading for everyone in my opinion

<https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/final-report/>

The Department of Justice – Government of Canada – Transforming the Legal Justice System

**specifically the sections under the “over representation of Indigenous people in the justice system”

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/tcjs-tsjp/index.html>

The United Church of Canada - Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice – links to some good resources

<https://www.united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives/reconciliation-and-indigenous-justice>

APTN News or CBC News – Indigenous – I recommend looking at Indigenous News sites to see another perspective of national and international news

<https://www.aptnnews.ca/>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous>