The CSRC Right Relations Resource Team's 2023 Summer Reading List

NON-FICTION BOOKS

Blanket Toss Under Midnight Sun: Portraits of Everyday Life in Eight Indigenous Communities by Paul Seesequasis Written after the 2015 publication of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report on Canada's residential school system, this is a collection of archival photographs and stories about the residential school process. It is an important historical document, one that all settlers should read.



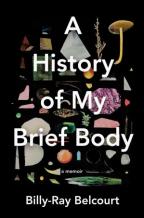


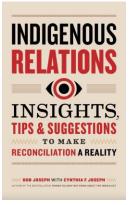
Call Me Indian by Fred Saskamoose

In 1954, after being signed to the Chicago Black Hawks, Saskamoose became the first Indigenous hockey player to hold Treaty status in the NHL. This memoir explores Saskamoose's experience in the NHL, as well as his time spent at residential school as a child, and his role as Chief of Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation.

A History of My Brief Body by Billy Ray Belcourt

In this series of essays, Belcourt explores his identity as an Indigiqueer person. His "writings invite us to unpack and explore the big and broken world he inhabits every day, in all its complexity and contradiction."





Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips & Suggestions to Make Reconciliation a Reality by Bob Joseph

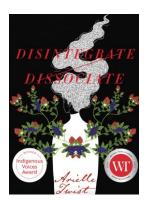
In his followup to *21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act*, Bob Joseph provides a guide for those looking to participate in the act of reconciliation. The book approaches topics such as the difference between hereditary and elected leadership, Indigenous Rights and Title, and the barriers Indigenous communities face currently. This is a great guide for non-Indigenous people looking to improve their personal relationships and business interactions with Indigenous people.

The Power of Style: How Fashion and Beauty Are Being Used to Reclaim Cultures by Christian Allaire

Christian, who grew up in Nipissing First Nation, is a Fashion and Style Writer at Vogue magazine. In his debut book, Allaire writes about the power of fashion and clothing, specifically through the lens of an Indigiqueer individual, and how clothing can be a method of empowerment and reclamation.



FICTION BOOKS



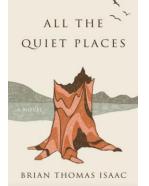
Disintegrate/Dissociate by Arielle Twist

In her debut poetry collection, Twist explores the complexities of grief, trauma, displacement, and identity. In particular, she discusses her experience as an Indigenous trans woman and provides possibilities for a brighter future.

Elatsoe by Darcie Little Badger

In this young adult, magical realism novel, readers follow Elatsoe, a young Apache woman who has the ability to raise the ghosts of dead animals. After the murder of her cousin, Elatsoe embarks on her own investigation that shatters the facade of her hometown. Both a fantasy and a mystery, *Elatsoe* is a great novel to immerse yourself in this Summer.



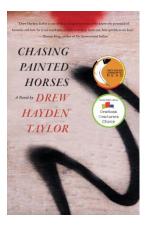


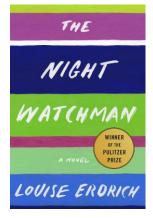
All the Quiet Places by Brian Thomas Isaac

Issac's debut novel is a coming-of-age story about young Eddie Toma, who lives on the Okanagan Indian Reserve in British Columbia. Spanning from when Eddie is six years old to the time he is a teenager, *All the Quiet Places* shows "what can happen when every adult in a person's life has been affected by colonialism."

Chasing Painted Horses by Drew Hayden Taylor

This is the story of four friends living on the Otter Lake Reserve and an art contest that draws the friends into the fantasy world of ten-year-old Danielle. Together, they come to understand how Danielle's beautiful drawing of a horse represents her life and experiences. Equal parts funny, empathetic, and entertaining, the novel does not "shy away from challenging the reader, but he offers beacons of light in the most unexpected places."





The Night Watchman by Louise Erdich

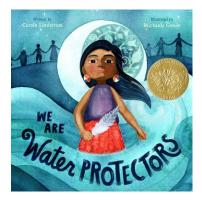
Set in the Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota in 1953, this story follows Thomas, a night watchman at a jewel factory and a member of council who is attempting to understand the new "emancipation" bill that threatens the rights of Indigenous people and their land; and Patrice, a newly graduated high school student who is on a journey to find her older sister, who has seemingly disappeared. Erdich's novel follows a memorable group of characters "who are forced to grapple with the worst and best impulses of human nature."

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

On the Trapline by David A. Robertson, illustrated by Julie Flett (ages 7-12)

This story shows the intergenerational passing of traditions and culture between a young boy and his grandpa as they take a trip together to their trapline. "This is a heartfelt story about memory, imagination and intergenerational connection that perfectly captures the experiences of a young child's wonder as he is introduced to places and stories that hold meaning for his family."



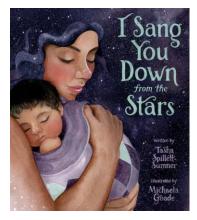


We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom, illustrated by Michaela Goode (ages 7-12)

Lindstrom's book provides a brief and simple exploration of Indigenous-led movements that advocate for the safeguarding of water sources. It is an educational story that is perfect for children to engage with, especially in the time of climate change. **Sometimes I Feel Like A Fox** by Danielle Daniel (ages 4-10) Daniel offers an introduction to the tradition of totem animals in this book, showing young children explaining why they identify with different animals. The book combines children's love for animals and disguise, making it a fun and educational read for children of all ages.



SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE A FOX Danielle Daniel



I Sang You Down From the Stars by Tasha Spillet-Sumner, illustrated by Michaela Goade (ages 2-6) This back shows an Indiannous methor to be in the process of

This book shows an Indigenous mother-to-be in the process of gathering gifts to create a bundle for her newborn child. It explores the connection between mother and child and how each generation can offer the other gifts big and small.

How Raven Stole the Sun by Maria Williams, illustrated by Felix Virgil (ages 4-12)

A retelling of a traditional Tlingit story, *How Raven Stole the Sun* shares how daylight came to exist after a lengthy period of darkness. This book holds beautiful illustrations and is a great way to show young children another way of understanding the world.

