

ALBERTA – INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ALIGNMENTS

www.indigenousheroes.ca

Visit the Education Hub [HERE!](#)

RESOURCE #1: [INDIGENOUS SPORT HEROES EDUCATION EXPERIENCE](#)

The first-of-its-kind educational experience, this initiative shares the stories of the 14* Indigenous Hall of Famers inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, bringing awareness to their truths and experiences. Aiming to initiate conversation about equity and inclusion, through the lens of sport, this resource was developed to help foster a more informed, united, and inclusive country. Canada's Sports Hall of Fame is committed to amplifying the stories of Indigenous Order of Sport Recipients and Hall of Famers, honouring their achievements and contributions to sport. By celebrating these remarkable narratives, we preserve legacies, emphasizing diversity and inclusion in sports, and foster the broader societal recognition of Indigenous talent.

**Note: Three additional Hall of Famers' stories are planned to be added in the coming year.*

Educational Highlights

This vetted resource, available both in English and French, creates a multimodal experience for youth using interactive chapters designed like a book that share the stories of Indigenous Hall of Famers inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame. This interactive learning platform truly is a digital experience offering rich storytelling through video, written text, 360-degree views of artefacts, and audio learning activities. It also offers twelve sets of ready-to-use lesson plans that complement four sets of digital interactivities and the chapters to bring entry points to Indigenous Ways of Knowing & Being into the classroom.

The development of this changemaker resource was led by the Indigenous Hall of Famers and their families, and it was created in the spirit of collaboration with countless Indigenous, sport, and museum partners. It supports Truth and Reconciliation through many 'Education,' 'Sport,' and 'Youth Programs' Calls to Action ([62](#), [63](#), [66](#), [67](#), [68](#), [87](#)) and we are honoured and grateful to have been gifted the permission to share these incredible role models' truths and stories.

Please allow the digital book to load completely for the best experience as we continue to make user enhancements to this resource.

ALBERTA – FEATURED TOM LONGBOAT AWARD WINNERS

- [Joy SpearChief-Morris](#)

ALBERTA – FEATURED INDIGENOUS HALL OF FAMERS

- [Chief Wilton Littlechild](#)
- [Alex Decoteau](#)

Note: Alex Decoteau was from Red Pheasant First Nation in what is now known as Saskatchewan, but moved to Edmonton in 1908 and became a police officer with the Edmonton Police Service in 1911, making him the country's first Indigenous police officer (featured in the [2018 Grade 6 English Language Arts Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing](#)).

SUBJECTS/ ALBERTA EDUCATION – TEACHING QUALITY STANDARD

- Social Studies; Physical Education and Wellness; English Language Arts and Literature; Science; Math
- French – Digital book is offered in English and French
- Alberta Education Teaching Quality Standard [See Section 5: Applying Foundational Knowledge about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples](#)

ALIGNMENTS WITH INDIGENOUS EDUCATION CURRICULAR TOPICS & THEMES

- **Truth & Reconciliation**
 - [Call to Action #87](#) – Canada's Sports Hall of Fame developing this changemaker resource in collaboration with Indigenous Hall of Famers and their families supports Call to Action 87
 - [Call to Action #62](#) – Teachers, school districts, and ministries of education incorporating this resource into curricula and lesson planning, which contains age-appropriate curriculum on Residential schools, Treaties, and Indigenous Peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada, helps support Call to Action 62
 - Chief Wilton Littlechild Chapter
 - Indian Act – WATER & AIR Lesson Plans
 - Residential Schools – LAND & AIR Lesson Plans
 - Banning Ceremonies (Potlatch) – LAND, AIR, and FIRE Lesson Plans
 - Treaties – AIR Lesson Plan
 - Forced Relocation & Reserves – WATER Lesson Plan & Interactivity
 - Loss of Language & Culture – AIR & FIRE Lesson Plans
- **Indigenous Language Revitalization**
 - FIRE, LAND, WATER, AIR Interactivities
 - Indigenous Place Names & Maps – WATER Lesson Plan and Interactivity
 - Hall of Famers' Original Indigenous Names – FIRE Lesson Plan and Interactivity
- **Oral Histories & Storytelling**
 - All Chapters
 - WATER and FIRE Lesson Plan
 - Creation Story – FIRE Lesson Plan
 - Origin Stories – WATER Lesson Plan
- **Ceremony & Culture**
 - Naming & Identity – FIRE Lesson Plan & Interactivity
 - Ceremony – LAND and AIR Lesson Plans
 - Sharing Circles – LAND and AIR Lesson Plans
- **Indigenous Plants**
 - Sacred plants (i.e., sage, sweetgrass, cedar, and tobacco) – LAND Lesson Plan
 - Indigenous Trees, Plants, Foods, and the Concept of Reciprocity – LAND Lesson Plan
- **Interconnection & Indigenous Pedagogy**
 - Water Interconnects and Sustains All Living Beings – WATER Lesson Plan
 - Significance of a Circle – AIR Lesson Plan
 - Ceremony, Medicine, Healing, and Interconnection to the Land – LAND Lesson Plan
 - Sacred Fire and the Night Sky – FIRE Lesson Plan
 - Water – WATER Lesson Plan
 - Wellness (Spiritual, Mental, Emotional, Physical, and Cultural) – LAND Lesson Plan

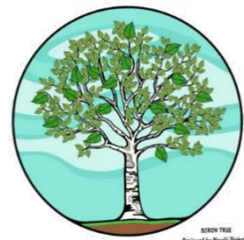
LESSON PLANS & INTERACTIVITIES – OVERVIEW

LAND – LACROSSE STICKS & TROPHIES – TREE INTERACTIVITY

Interactivity: Students interact with the digital “LAND” activity, which includes examples of statements that connect to reciprocity, gratitude, and Indigenous Peoples’ relationships with the land. A tree is used to show the connection between land, gratitude, and lacrosse sticks/trophies.

Lesson Plans:

- Activity #1: Gratitude terms in Indigenous languages.
- Activity #2: Medicines, indigenous plants, and sustenance for all land-dwelling life; berry/leaf colouring sheet templates; and collaborative word/art murals/infographic posters.
- Activity #3: Poetry – how the earth is like a mother.
- Activity #4: Share student work on social media.



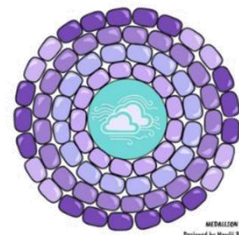
LAND LESSON PLANS
BEGINNER: GRADES K-3
www.indigenousheroes.ca

AIR – CIRCULAR MEDALS AND MEDALLIONS – MEDALLION INTERACTIVITY

Interactivity: Students interact with the digital “AIR” activity, which includes ways to say “hello” and various kinship terms in Indigenous languages. A circular, beaded medallion is used to illustrate the connection between air, circles, and medals.

Lesson Plans:

- Activity #1: Greetings in Indigenous languages.
- Activity #2: Kinship terms in Indigenous languages; rock templates.
- Activity #3: Treaties – research and symbolism charts.
- Activity #4: Share student work on social media.



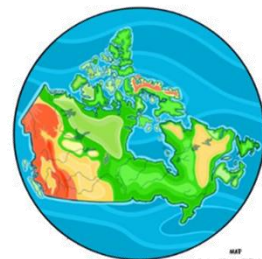
AIR LESSON PLANS
INTERMEDIATE: GRADES 4-8
www.indigenousheroes.ca

WATER – SPORTS JERSEYS – MAP INTERACTIVITY

Interactivity: Students interact with the digital “WATER” activity, which reveals original Indigenous place names and water bodies in Canada. A map and water droplets are used to show the connection between place names and water.

Lesson Plans:

- Activity #1: Ancestral territories and creation stories; infographics.
- Activity #2: Indigenous place names; collaborative poster or mural.
- Activity #3: Traditional and present-day clothing/regalia; invite a Knowledge Holder into the classroom or connect with a local museum to critique and learn about its representation of Indigenous Peoples.
- Activity #4: Share student work on social media.



WATER LESSON PLANS
ADVANCED: GRADES 9-12
www.indigenousheroes.ca

FIRE – EAGLE FEATHER & TORCHES – STARS INTERACTIVITY

Interactivity: Students interact with the digital “FIRE” activity to learn ways to say the word “love” and words of motivation in Indigenous languages that represent the Hall of Famers, along with some of the Hall of Famers’ Indigenous names. A fire scene and starry night sky are used to show how light from fire, sun, and the night sky connect with Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

Lesson Plans:

- Activity #1: Terms for love in Indigenous languages; breathing exercise; sacred fire; colouring templates.
- Activity #2: Naming ceremonies; identity; and Sport Heroes’ Indigenous names.
- Activity #3: Indigenous words of hope/motivation; uplifting posters/collages/videos to inspire one another and Indigenous youth.
- Activity #4: Share student work on social media.



FIRE LESSON PLANS
BEGINNER: GRADES K-3
www.indigenousheroes.ca

Indigenous Education Frameworks

INDIGENOUS SPORT HEROES EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

TRC [CALL TO ACTION #62](#) & ALBERTA EDUCATION – TEACHING QUALITY STANDARD – [See Section 5: Applying Foundational Knowledge about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples](#)

CALL TO ACTION #62: We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in consultation and collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal peoples, and educators, to:

- i. Make age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada a mandatory education requirement for Kindergarten to Grade Twelve students.
- ii. Provide the necessary funding to post-secondary institutions to educate teachers on how to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms.
- iii. Provide the necessary funding to Aboriginal schools to utilize Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods in classrooms.
- iv. Establish senior-level positions in government at the assistant deputy minister level or higher dedicated to Aboriginal content in education.

ALBERTA EDUCATION – TEACHING QUALITY STANDARD: A teacher develops and applies foundational knowledge about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit for the benefit of all students. Achievement of this competency is demonstrated by indicators such as: (a) understanding the historical, social, economic, and political implications of: treaties and agreements with First Nations; legislation and agreements negotiated with Métis; and residential schools and their legacy; (b) supporting student achievement by engaging in collaborative, whole school approaches to capacity building in First Nations, Métis, and Inuit education; (c) using the programs of study to provide opportunities for all students to develop a knowledge and understanding of, and respect for, the histories, cultures, languages, contributions, perspectives, experiences and contemporary contexts of First Nations, Métis and Inuit; and (d) supporting the learning experiences of all students by using resources that accurately reflect and demonstrate the strength and diversity of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit.

Entry points to Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Being & Doing in the “It’s Our Time Toolkit” developed by the Assembly of First Nations. – See [Plain Talk 9: First Nations Holistic Lifelong Learning Model, section 9.4. Ways of Knowing.](#)

Indigenous ways of knowing and seeing the world are inclusive of spirit, ancestral memory, respect, interconnectedness, storytelling, feelings, experiences, and guidance. It reminds us that we do not need to know or understand everything and that it is perfectly acceptable and appropriate to be aware of things that we cannot explain. The eight different intelligences can also be termed different **Ways of Knowing**. The Ways of Knowing have a strong resonance with First Nations cultural traditions as well as with contemporary occupations and activities.

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| • Knowing the Body | • Knowing Music | • Knowing the Self |
| • Knowing Images | • Knowing Nature | • Knowing Words |
| • Knowing Logic | • Knowing People | |

Learning Outcomes & Alignments

NEW ALBERTA CURRICULUM – K-6 – ORGANIZING IDEAS, KEY IDEAS, & ALIGNMENTS

Click [HERE](#) for Connections to the Existing / Grades 7-12 Alberta Curriculum

SOCIAL STUDIES – HISTORY, CIVICS, AND GEOGRAPHY

Social Studies Alignments: New LearnAlberta (K-6)		
Organizing Idea	Themes/Key Ideas	Program Alignments
History: Understanding the history of our province, nation, and world and developing cultural literacy allow us to appreciate the varied richness of our shared human inheritance of original writings, artifacts, stories, beliefs, ideas, and great cultural and artistic achievements from different times and places. Lessons of the past and knowledge of diverse experiences help us overcome ignorance and prejudice and recognize our common humanity and dignity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional migration patterns and stories Fur trade European contact Western expansion Residential Schools Assimilation Treaties Reserves Indian Act Indigenous ways of life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Lesson Plan — Traditional Migration Patterns and Origin Stories (Turtle Island) Water Lesson Plan — Trade Routes Fire Lesson Plan — Eurocentrism and Western Expansion Land, Air, Water, and Fire Lesson Plans — Residential Schools and Assimilation Air Lesson Plan — Treaties Water and Land Lesson Plan — Reserves Land, Air, and Water Lesson Plans — Indian Act Air Lesson Plan — Indigenous Ways of Life
Civics: Canada's constitutional monarchy, democracy, rule of law, and citizenship are understood through knowledge of the origins and development of various contrasting political traditions and ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separation of powers: power of appointment; declaration of war; making treaties; and voting rights (voting rights didn't apply equally to women, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples, or People of Colour) Reciprocity Potlach Talking Circles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Lesson Plan — Reserves and the Indian Act Land Lesson Plan — Reserves Air and Water Lesson Plans — Treaties Land and Air Lesson Plan — Reciprocity Fire Lesson Plan — Potlach Land, Air, Water, and Fire Lesson Plans — Sharing Circles

Geography: Understanding the world we live in, and the relationship of people and places, is supported by knowing features of the natural and political world, such as oceans, mountain ranges, and boundaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displacement • Boundary changes • Traditional Indigenous lands • Maps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and Water Lesson Plans — Forced Relocation and Displacement • Water Lesson Plan — Map (Indigenous Place Names/Ancestral Territories/Treaty Borders)
--	--	---

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND WELLNESS

Physical Education and Wellness: New LearnAlberta (K-6)		
Organizing Idea	Themes/Key Ideas	Related Programming
Active Living: Developing physical literacy through movement and active living supports well-being across a lifespan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members (Spiritual Leaders, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers) support education around active living 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Lesson Plan — Community members support in education around active living
Movement Skill Development: Developing physical literacy through movement and active living supports well-being across a lifespan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous games help develop and enhance skill • Fair play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Games — Skill Development and Fair Play
Character Development: Exploration of life opportunities and virtues develops resilience and personal talents and promotes lifelong learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidence • Motivation/focus • Goal-achievement • Interconnectedness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Lesson Plan — Confidence, Motivation/Focus, and Goal-Achievement • Air Lesson Plan — Interconnectedness
Growth and Development: Decision-making that optimizes personal health and well-being is informed by understanding growth and development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-knowledge/Self-image • Responsibility • Stress reduction and mental health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air, Water, and Fire Lesson Plans — Self-knowledge/Self-Image • Air Lesson Plan — Responsibility • Fire Lesson Plan — Stress Reduction and Mental Health
Healthy Relationships: Personal well-being is supported through positive relationships built on communication, collaboration, empathy, and respect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respecting and helping others • Prosocial behaviour • Reflection • Practice • Ceremonies to restore balance/reconcile conflict • Role models 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Lesson Plan — Respect, Prosocial Behaviour, Practice, Ceremonies, Balance, and Kinship/Social Structures • Land, Air, and Fire Lesson Plans — Respect, Reflection, Practice, and Ceremonies • Water Lesson Plan — Ceremonies • Indigenous Sports Heroes Stories — Role Models

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English Language Arts and Literature Alignments: New LearnAlberta (K-6)		
Organizing Idea	Themes/Key Ideas	Related Programming
Oral Language: Listening and speaking form the foundation for literacy development and improve communication, collaboration, and respectful mutual understanding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support respectful relationships Preserve shared knowledge (i.e., sharing circles, turn-taking, consensus, and active listening) Trust and relationship-building Influence change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Lesson Plan — Indigenous Circle Pedagogy (Talking/Sharing Circles), and Learn how to say “thank you” in various Indigenous languages Water Lesson Plan — Historical facts within Oral Stories Air Lesson Plan — “Building positive relationships and promoting sportsmanship, even amongst rival teams can be uplifting rather than leaving individuals, teams, and fans feeling deflated and bitter.”
Text Forms and Structures: Identifying and applying text forms and structures improves understanding of content, literary style, and our rich language traditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poetic structures Digital texts, non-fiction Connection with self, others, and the world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Lesson Plan — Poetry Activity Indigenous Sports Heroes Stories — Digital and Non-Fiction Texts Water and Fire In-Class Activity
Comprehension: Text comprehension is supported by applying varied strategies and processes and by considering both particular contexts and universal themes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artefacts as texts (give insights into people, time, or place) Historical and social context influence understanding Perspectives evolve (learn more about self and the world) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air, Fire, Water, and Land Lesson Plans — Artefacts Indigenous Sports Heroes Stories — Historical/social context influences understanding, as a result, perspectives evolve
Writing: Ideas and information can be articulated accurately and imaginatively through the use of writing processes and an understanding of the author’s craft.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idea generation Consideration of purpose and form Expression Plan, draft, edit Creative thinking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air, Fire, and Water Lesson Plans Land Lesson Plan — Poetry Exercise, expression, plan, draft, edit, and creative thinking

Vocabulary: Communication and comprehension are improved by understanding word meanings and structures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definitions, study the origin and meaning of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit words in local environments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land, Air, Water, and Fire Lesson Plans & Interactivities — practice saying Indigenous words that represent the Hall of Famers
---	--	--

SCIENCE

Science: New LearnAlberta (K-6)		
Organizing Idea	Themes/Key Ideas	Related Programming
Earth Systems: Understandings of the living world, Earth, and space are deepened by investigating natural systems and their interactions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional ways of living off the land (i.e., hunting and gathering) Interconnectedness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Lesson Plan — Hunting Air Lesson Plan — Concept of Interconnection and the Core Elements of Being Well
Living Systems: Understandings of the living world, Earth, and space are deepened by investigating natural systems and their interactions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred Plants (i.e., sage, sweetgrass, cedar, and tobacco) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Lesson Plan — Sacred Plants
Matter: Understandings of the physical world are deepened by investigating matter and energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples respectfully interact with natural materials (i.e., trees, rocks, ice, shells, and animals) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Lesson Plan — Indigenous trees, plants and foods, and the Concept of Reciprocity Air Lesson Plan — Concept of Interconnection
Scientific Methods: Investigation of the physical world is enhanced through the use of scientific methods that attempt to remove human biases and increase objectivity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explanations of natural phenomena through traditional knowledge and stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Lesson Plan — Night Sky
Space: Understandings of the living world, Earth, and space are deepened by investigating natural systems and their interactions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant events connected to astronomical phenomena (i.e., calendars and cycles) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Lesson Plan — Night Sky and Stars

MATH

Math: New LearnAlberta (K-6)		
Organizing Idea	Themes/Key Ideas	Related Programming
Patterns: Awareness of patterns supports problem-solving in various situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycles found in nature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Lesson Plan — Significance of a Circle and Symbolism of Medallions
Geometry: Shapes are defined and related by geometric attributes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tessellations (tiling of a plane with symmetrical shapes) are evident in First Nations and Métis star blanket Symmetry found in Indigenous Peoples design and architecture (i.e., basket weaving, quilts, beadwork, tipis, and longhouses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Lesson Plan — Medallions, objects, and embellishments on art, clothing, and jewelry
Time: Duration is described and quantified by time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycles of seasons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Lesson Plan — Significance of a Circle (sun rises in the east to circle across the sky)

www.beyondthewin.ca

RESOURCE #2: [TAKING THE HIGHER GROUND](#) – ARTEFACT TALKS

Available in real-time via Zoom or as a curated, pre-recorded program, the Taking the Higher Ground program uses guided questioning to help students learn about the racial barriers Order of Sport Recipients and Hall of Famers Tom Longboat and Gaylord Powless overcame both in their life and sporting careers. Students will explore and reflect on how each Hall of Famer relied on role models and used elements of traditional Indigenous teachings to not only persevere but also show integrity and sportsmanship in the face of adversity.

- Educational Elements: Lesson Plans, Curriculum, Artefacts (available [HERE](#))

RESOURCE #3: [CONVERSATION STARTERS](#)

Tackling a variety of societal issues, these videos act as entry points to discuss racism awareness, Indigenous Ways of Knowing & Being, nationalism and Canadian identity, sense of belonging, newcomer experiences, and many other ties to provincial curricula!

RESOURCE #4: [ARTEFACT CATALOGUE](#)

Students are provided with the opportunity to explore 360° views of Hall of Famers' memorabilia, simulating a hands-on, interactive learning experience.

- Educational Element: [Artefact Exploration Lesson plan](#)

Visit our Indigenous Education webpage [HERE](#)
for more programs and resources!