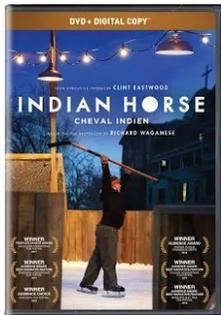


## Bee Nation DVD

Lana Šlezić's **Bee Nation** is a heart-warming and inspiring film about the First Nations youth and their families in Saskatchewan who compete at their first-ever provincial and national spelling bees. The Canadian documentary **Bee Nation** was selected as the opening night film at the 2017 Hot Docs Film Festival. The film has been screened across Canada and has developed collaborative partnerships including Indspire, an indigenous-led charity investing in education and fostering bright futures for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit youth.



## Indian Horse DVD

Follows the life of Canadian First Nations boy, Saul Indian Horse, as he survives residential school and life amongst the racism of the 1970s. A talented hockey player, Saul must find his own path as he battles stereotypes and alcoholism.



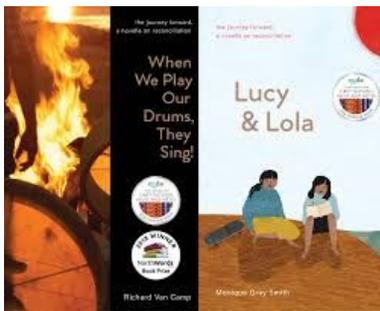
## The Necessities of Life (Ce Qu'il Faut Pour Vivre) DVD

In 1952, an Inuit hunter named Tivii with tuberculosis leaves his northern home and family to go recuperate at a sanatorium in Quebec City. Uprooted, far from his loved ones, unable to speak French and faced with a completely alien world, he becomes despondent. His nurse arranges to have a young orphan, Kaki, transferred to the institution. By sharing his culture with Kaki and opening it up to others, Tivii rediscovers his pride and energy.



## The Grizzlies DVD

Based on the true story of Russ Sheppard, a high school teacher who moved to the town of Kugluktuk, Nunavut in 1998 to teach at a local school. When Russ arrived, the town was plagued with one of the highest rates of alcohol abuse and suicide in North America while the school Russ taught at had rampant absenteeism and substance abuse issues among its student population. When faced with unfathomable social dysfunction, Russ started a lacrosse team, and changed the community's way of life forever.

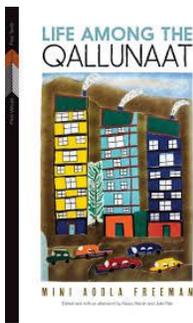


## When We Play Our Drums, They Sing!

The Journey Forward, A Novella On Reconciliation: When We Play Our Drums, They Sing! By Richard Van Camp

### **RISE Book Club suggestion - questions included for this book.**

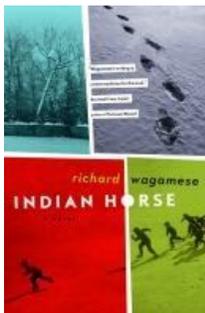
This is the story of 12 year old Dene Cho, who is angry that his people are losing their language, traditions, and ways of being. Elder Snowbird is there to answer some Dene Cho's questions, and to share their history including the impact Residential schools continue to have on their people. It is through this conversation with Snowbird that Dene Cho begins to find himself, and begins to realize that understanding the past can ultimately change the future.



## **Life Among the Qallunaat by Mini Aodla Freeman**

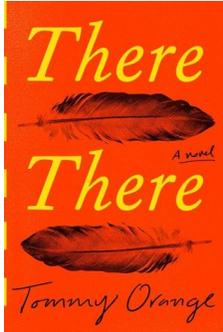
**RISE Book Club suggestion - questions included for this book.**

This is the story of Mini's experiences growing up in the Inuit communities of James Bay and her journey in the 1950's from her home to the strange land and stranger customs of the Qallunaat, those living south of the Arctic. Her extraordinary story, sometimes humorous and sometimes heartbreaking, illustrates an Inuit woman's movement between worlds and ways of understanding. It also provides a record of the changes that swept through Inuit communities in the 1940's and 1950's.



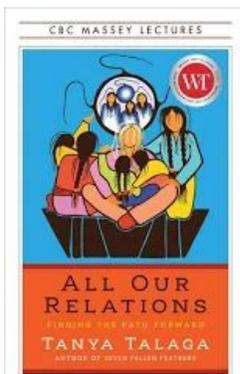
## **Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese**

Saul Indian Horse is dying. Tucked away in a hospice high above the clash and clang of a big city, he embarks on a journey of imagination back through the life he led as a northern Ojibway, with all its sorrows and joys. With compassion and insight, author Richard Wagamese traces through his fictional characters the decline of a culture and a cultural way. For Saul, taken forcibly when he is sent to residential school, salvation comes for a while through his incredible gifts as a hockey player. But in the harsh realities of 1960's Canada, he battles racism and the spirit-destroying effects of cultural alienation and displacement.



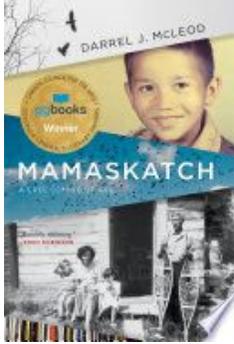
## **There There by Tommy Orange**

The book opens with an essay by Orange as a prologue, and then proceeds to follow a large cast of Native Americans living in the area of Oakland, California, as they struggle with a wide array of challenges ranging from depression and alcoholism, to unemployment, fetal alcohol syndrome, and the challenges of living with an ethnic identity of being "ambiguously nonwhite." All coalesce at a community **pow wow** and its attempted robbery. The book explores the themes of Indigenous people living in urban spaces and struggles with identity and authenticity.



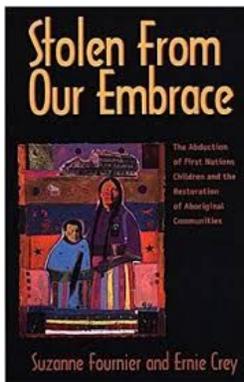
## **All Our Relations - Finding the Path Forward by Tanya Talaga**

In this vital and incisive work, author Tanya Talaga explores the alarming rise of youth suicide in Indigenous communities in Canada and beyond. The Indigenous experience in colonized nations is marked by the violent separation of Peoples from the land, the separation of families, and the separation of individuals from traditional ways of life — all of which has culminated in a spiritual separation that has had an enduring impact on generations of Indigenous children. As a result of this colonial legacy, too many communities today lack access to the basic determinants of health, leading to a mental health and youth suicide crisis on a global scale. But, First Peoples also share a history of resistance, resilience, and civil rights activism. Based on her Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy series, *All Our Relations* is a powerful call for action, justice, and a better, more equitable world for all Indigenous Peoples.



## **Mamaskatch - A Cree Coming of Age by Darryl J. McLeod**

As a small boy in remote Alberta, Darrel J. McLeod is immersed in his Cree family's history, passed down in the stories of his mother, Bertha. He is surrounded by her tales of joy and horror and of the cruelty she and her sisters endured in residential school and the smells of moose stew and wild peppermint tea. Young Darrel learns to be fiercely proud of his heritage and to listen to the birds that will guide him throughout his life. But after a series of tragic losses, Bertha turns wild and unstable, and their home life becomes chaotic. Sweet and eager to please, Darrel struggles to maintain his grades and pursue interests in music and science while changing homes, witnessing domestic violence, caring for his younger siblings, and suffering abuse at the hands of his brother-in-law. Thrillingly written in a series of fractured vignettes, and unflinchingly honest, *Mamaskatch*—"It's a wonder!" in Cree—is an account of how traumas are passed down from one generation to the next, and an uplifting story of one individual who overcame enormous obstacles in pursuit of a fulfilling and adventurous life.



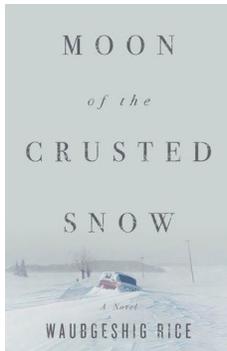
## **Stolen from Our Embrace by**

**The Abduction of First Nations Children and the Restoration of Aboriginal Communities**

By: Ernie Crey, Suzanne Fournier

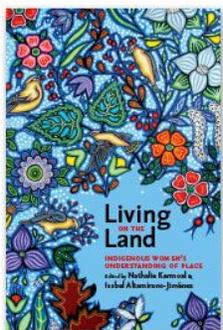
This important and timely book is a balance of the most gruesome elements of assimilation: church-run schools, the child welfare system, survivors of sexual abuse, and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome counter-balanced against heroic stories of children who survived, fought back, and found their way home. Harrowing stories are presented wherever possible in the first person, by Fournier, a journalist, and Crey, a B.C native spokesperson and activist, and a stolen child

himself. The final message is optimistic, suggesting that redress and reconciliation could enrich the entire country by creating healthy aboriginal communities.



### **Moon of the Crusted Snow** by Waubgeshig Rice

With winter looming, a small northern Anishinaabe community goes dark. Cut off, people become passive and confused. Panic builds as the food supply dwindles. While the band council and a pocket of community members struggle to maintain order, an unexpected visitor arrives, escaping the crumbling society to the south. Soon after, others follow. The community leadership loses its grip on power as the visitors manipulate the tired and hungry to take control of the reserve. Tensions rise and, as the months pass, so does the death toll due to sickness and despair. Frustrated by the building chaos, a group of young friends and their families turn to the land and Anishinaabe tradition in hopes of helping their community thrive again. Guided through the chaos by an unlikely leader named Evan Whitesky, they endeavor to restore order while grappling with a grave decision. Blending action and allegory, *Moon of the Crusted Snow* upends our expectations. Out of catastrophe comes resilience. And as one society collapses, another is reborn.

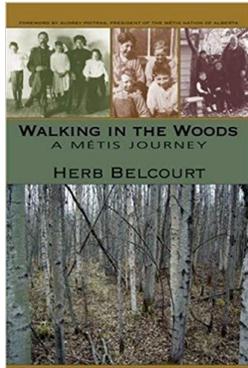


### **Living on the Land: Indigenous Women's Understanding of**

**Place** Edited by Nathalie Kermoal and Isabel Altamirano-Jimenez

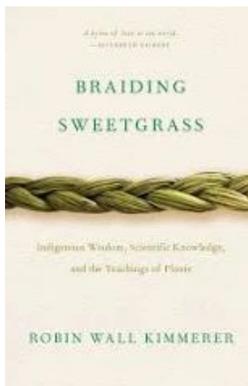
*Living on the Land* examines how patriarchy, gender, and colonialism have shaped the experiences of Indigenous women as both knowers and producers of knowledge. From a variety of methodological perspectives, contributors to the volume explore the nature and scope of Indigenous women's knowledge, its rootedness in relationships both human and spiritual, and its inseparability from land and landscape. From the reconstruction of cultural and ecological heritage by Naskapi women in Québec to the medical expertise of Métis women in western

Canada to the mapping and securing of land rights in Nicaragua, *Living on the Land* focuses on the integral role of women as stewards of the land and governors of the community. Together, these contributions point to a distinctive set of challenges and possibilities for Indigenous women and their communities.



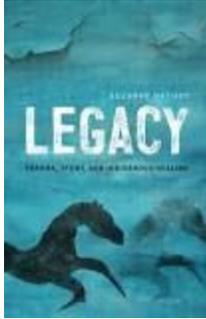
### **Walking in the Woods: A Metis Journey by Herb Belcourt**

Reflecting on his evolving identity as "a human being, a Canadian and a Métis westerner," Herb Belcourt tells the remarkable story of one family's enduring connection to the dramatic history of western Canada. Belcourt traces his ancestry directly to an early French-Canadian voyageur and his Cree-Métis wife who lived in Rupert's Land after 1800.



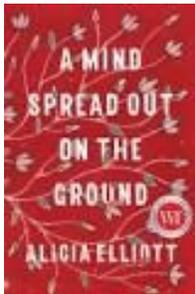
### **Braiding Sweetgrass - Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teaching of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer**

As a botanist, Robin Wall Kimmerer has been trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. In *Braiding Sweetgrass*, Kimmerer brings these lenses of knowledge together to show that the awakening of a wider ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. For only when we can hear the languages of other beings are we capable of understanding the generosity of the earth, and learning to give our own gifts in return.



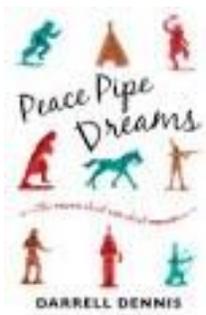
**Legacy - Trauma, Story and Indigenous Healing** by Suzanne Methot.

Five hundred years of colonization have taken an incalculable toll on the Indigenous peoples: substance use disorders and shockingly high rates of depression, diabetes, and other chronic health conditions brought on by genocide and colonial controls. The author uses history, human development and story to trace the roots of Indigenous cultural dislocation and community breakdown and ways to come back from this with Indigenous ways of knowing.



***A Mind Spread Out on the Ground*** by Alicia Elliott.

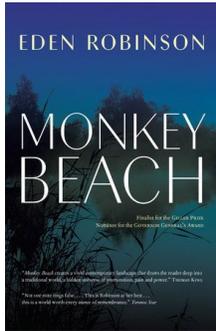
In an urgent work that asks essential questions about the treatment of First Nations people, the author offers insight into the ongoing legacy of colonialism. Topics such as race, parenthood, love, mental illness, and poverty makes connections between the past and present and offers a tool for a better future.



**Peace Pipe Dreams** by Darrell Dennis

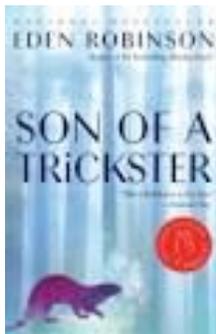
With a large dose of humour and irreverence, Darrell Dennis untangles some of the truths and myths about First Nations. He looks at European-Native interactions in North America from the moment of first contact, discussing the fur trade, treaty-signing and the implementation of residential schools. Addressing misconceptions still widely believed today and employing pop culture examples, personal anecdote and a cutting wit, Darrell Dennis deftly weaves history with

current events to entertain, inform and provide a convincing, readable overview of First Nations issues and why they matter today.



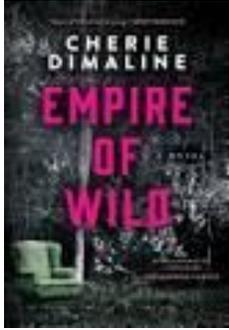
## **Monkey Beach by Eden Robinson**

Tragedy strikes a Native community when the Hill family's handsome seventeen-year-old son, Jimmy, mysteriously vanishes at sea. Left behind to cope during the search-and-rescue effort is his sister, Lisamarie, a wayward teenager with a dark secret. She sets off alone in search of Jimmy through the Douglas Channel and heads for Monkey Beach—a shore famed for its sasquatch sightings. Infused by turns with darkness and humour, *Monkey Beach* is a spellbinding voyage into the long, cool shadows of B.C.'s Coast Mountains, blending teen culture, Haisla lore, nature spirits and human tenderness into a multi-layered story of loss and redemption.



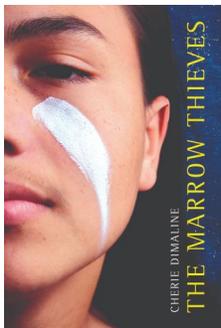
## **Son of A Trickster by Eden Robinson**

Eden Robinson's striking and precise coming-of-age novel, in which everyday teen existence meets Indigenous beliefs, crazy family dynamics and cannibalistic river otters. Meet Jared Martin: sixteen-year-old pot cookie dealer, smoker, drinker and son with the scariest mom ever. But Jared's the pot dealer with a heart of gold--really. Compassionate, caring, and nurturing by nature, Jared's determined to help hold his family together--whether that means supporting his dad's new family with the proceeds from his baking or caring for his elderly neighbours. But when it comes to being cared and loved, Jared knows he can't rely on his family. His only source of love and support was his flatulent pit bull Baby, but she's dead. And then there's the talking ravens and the black outs and his grandmother's perpetual suspicion that he is not human, but the son of a trickster.



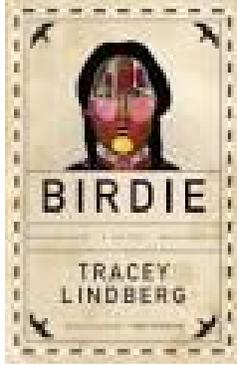
### **Empire of Wild by Cherie Dimaline**

Broken-hearted Joan has been searching for her husband, Victor, for almost a year. One morning she is drawn to a revival tent where the local Métis have been flocking to hear a charismatic preacher. There is Victor. Only he insists he is not Victor, but the Reverend Eugene Wolff, on a mission to bring his people to Jesus. And he doesn't seem to be faking: there isn't even a flicker of recognition in his eyes. With only two allies Joan sets out to remind the Reverend Wolff of who he really is. Inspired by the traditional Métis story of the Rogarou--a werewolf-like creature that haunts the roads and woods of Métis communities--Cherie Dimaline has created a stunning novel.



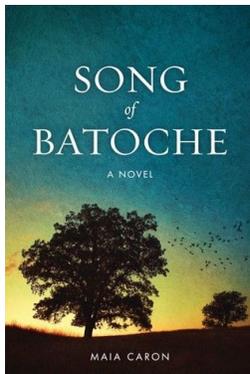
### **The Marrow Thieves by Cherie Dimaline**

In a futuristic world ravaged by global warming, people have lost the ability to dream, and the dreamlessness has led to widespread madness. The only people still able to dream are North America's Indigenous people, and it is their marrow that holds the cure for the rest of the world. But getting the marrow, and dreams, means death for the unwilling donors. Driven to flight, a fifteen-year-old and his companions struggle for survival, attempt to reunite with loved ones and take refuge from the "recruiters" who seek them out to bring them to the marrow-stealing "factories."



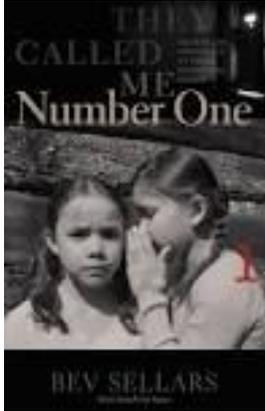
### **Birdie** by Tracey Lindberg

Birdie is a darkly comic and moving novel about the universal experience of recovering from wounds of the past, informed by the lore and knowledge of Cree traditions. Bernice Meetoos, a Cree woman, leaves her home in Northern Alberta following tragedy and travels to Gibsons, BC. She is on something of a vision quest, seeking to understand the messages from *The Frugal Gourmet* (one of the only television shows available on CBC North) that come to her in her dreams. Bernice heads for Molly's Reach to find answers but they are not the ones she expected.



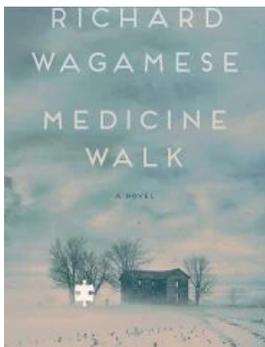
### **Song of Batoche** by Maia Caron (3 copies available)

The year is 1884. Batoche, North-West Territories is plagued by drought and political unrest. When Louis Riel arrives, he discovers that the rebellious outsider Josette Lavoie is a granddaughter of the famous chief Big Bear, whom he needs as an ally. But Josette resists becoming his disciple when she learns that Riel is locked in a blood feud with J.A. Macdonald, the corrupt Dominion leader, who wants the Métis lands for European settlers. In this raw wilderness on the brink of change, the lives of seven unforgettable characters intersect, each one with secrets. Song of Batoche is a timeless story that explores the mysteries of faith and reason, obsession and madness, betrayal and love.



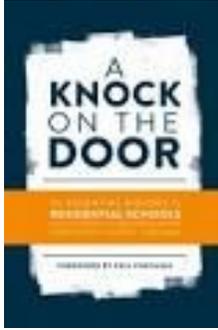
### **They Called Me Number One by Bev Sellars**

Xat'sull Chief Bev Sellars spent her childhood in a church-run residential school whose aim it was to "civilize" Native children through Christian teachings, forced separation from family and culture, and discipline. The trauma of these experiences has reverberated throughout her life. Sellars tells of three generations of women who attended the school, interweaving the personal histories of her grandmother and her mother with her own. In this frank and poignant memoir, Sellars breaks her silence about the institution's lasting effects, and eloquently articulates her own path to healing.



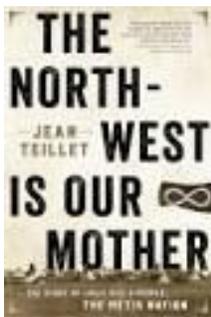
### **Medicine Walk by Richard Wagamese**

Franklin Starlight is called to visit his father, Eldon. He's sixteen years old and has had the most fleeting of relationships with the man. He finds Eldon decimated after years of drinking, dying of liver failure in a small town flophouse. Eldon asks his son to take him into the mountains, so he may be buried in the traditional Ojibway manner. What ensues is a journey through the rugged and beautiful backcountry, and a journey into the past, as the two men push forward to Eldon's end.



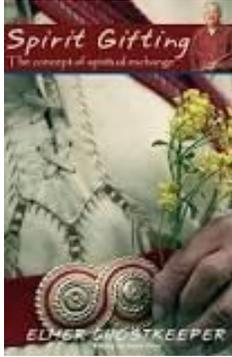
## **A Knock on the Door - The Essential History of Residential School from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada**

“It can start with a knock on the door one morning. It is the local Indian agent, or the parish priest, or, perhaps, a Mounted Police officer... The officials have arrived and the children must go.” So began the school experience of many Indigenous children in Canada for more than a hundred years, and so begins the history of residential schools prepared by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC).



## **The North-west is Our Mother: The Story of Louis Riel's People, The Metis Nation by Jean Teillet (2 copies available)**

Their story begins in the last decade of the eighteenth century in the Canadian North-West. Within twenty years the Métis proclaimed themselves a nation and won their first battle. Within forty years they were famous throughout North America for their military skills, their nomadic life and their buffalo hunts. In 1870 and 1885, led by the iconic Louis Riel, they fought back when Canada took their lands. These acts of resistance became defining moments in Canadian history, with implications that reverberate to this day: Western alienation, Indigenous rights and the French/English divide. The Métis people are now recognized in Canada as a distinct Indigenous nation. Written by the great-grandniece of Louis Riel, this popular and engaging history of “forgotten people” tells the story up to the present era of national reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.



## **Spirit Gifting: The Concept of Spiritual Exchange** by Elmer Ghostkeeper

Elmer Ghostkeeper has created a powerful piece of writing in *Spirit Gifting*. It is a reflection of a life lived by nature's calendar; a refreshing change from the ninety mile an hour treadmill most of us find ourselves on. This first person narrative is teeming with life; from his description of birch tree sapping to berry picking time. His description of a time when humans worked with the land, with life, makes it clear, that in our rush to support progress with machines and ever more power, we have lost our respect for life. *Spirit Gifting* suggests we look at what we've lost, honour life and nature and all the gifts they provide, and quietly bring that respect back into our lives. Join Elmer Ghostkeeper, as he explores his early years of living with the land rather than off the land.