## Land Acknowledgement January 2025



Greetings! Hello! Aanii!
Tansi! Aanii is a very
common Anishinaabemdaa
word for "hello". Tansi is the
Cree word for "hello". Aanii
and Tansi are the greeting
words used by Indigenous
peoples in the territory of our
meeting place.

We acknowledge our presence within this land that is the ancestral home of

the Wendat, Anishinaabeg Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and which is still the home for many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island.

In 2020, Isabella Kulak, a young Indigenous girl, wore a ribbon skirt to a "formal dress day" at her Saskatchewan elementary school but was shamed by a staff member who said it did not meet the standard of "formal dress". When Isabella returned to school after the holidays on Jan. 4, 2021, a crowd of women wearing ribbon skirts led her to class, along with chiefs from the surrounding First Nations, as a show of support.

Following this Senator Mary Jane McCallum put forward Bill S-219, an Act respecting a National Ribbon Skirt Day, in honour of Isabella. It was passed into law in December 2022.

Do you have friends or acquaintances who wear a ribbon skirt?

Looking for More Information? Check out some or all of the following.

- **1.** Hello in the Indigenous languages of our territorial region https://anishinaabemdaa.com/everyday-terms/greetings-and-farewells
- **2.** Lightning Ribbon Blog Ribbon Skirt: Indigenous Culture's Significance and Meaning https://lightningribbon.com/f/ribbon-skirt-indigenous-cultures-significance-and-

- meaning#:~:text=The%20ribbon%20skirt%20holds%20a%20significant%20meaning%20in%20Indigenous%20culture,during%20powwows%20and%20other%20ceremonies
- National Ribbon Skirt Day Legislation Bill S-219 (Royal Assent) December 15, 2022 - <a href="https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/bill/S-219/royal-assent">https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/bill/S-219/royal-assent</a>
- **4.** Canadian Federal Government News release for Bill S-129 (Royal Assent) <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2022/12/bill-s-219-an-act-respecting-a-national-ribbon-skirt-day-receives-royal-assent.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2022/12/bill-s-219-an-act-respecting-a-national-ribbon-skirt-day-receives-royal-assent.html</a>
- **5.** 2024 Governor General Literary Awards Indigenous Winners and Those Shortlisted
- Fiction Winner <u>Empty Spaces</u> Jordan Abel (Edmonton, Alberta),
   McClelland & Stewart (Penguin Random House Canada)
- Fiction shortlisted Kent Monkman and Gisele Gordon, The Memoirs of Miss Chief Eagle Testickle Vol. 1: A True and Exact Accounting of the History of Turtle Island
- Drama Winner There Is Violence and There Is Righteous Violence and There Is Death, or the Born-Again Crow - Caleigh Crow (Calgary, Alberta), Playwrights Canada Press
- Non-Fiction Winner <u>Wînipêk: Visions of Canada from an Indigenous</u> <u>Centre</u> - Niigaan Sinclair (Winnipeg, Manitoba), McClelland & Stewart (Penguin Random House Canada)
- Non-fiction Shortlisted Helen Knott Becoming a Matriarch
- Poetry Shortlisted Brandi Bird The All + Flesh

Children's Literature Shortlisted - Cherie Dimaline - <u>Into the Bright Open: A</u> Secret Garden Remix