

A Message from Pat Makokis

Thank you one and all for taking the time to watch our film. This film is truly a labour of love. When we dared to dream, it was always with the goal of building deeper relationships and understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples'. To those in the film, who gave so freely of themselves, thank you. To our collective Ancestors, thank you. You laid a path for us to re-connect and re-learn together about the treaties. And, as we learn together, let us move out of our head, to our heart. Our children, grand-children and those coming are counting on us.

All my relations!



Walk for Common Ground

May 31 to June 14, 2019

Between May 31 and June 14, 2019, 30 Indigenous, unionist and church friends will journey 340 kilometres from Edmonton (Treaty 6) to Calgary (Treaty 7) on the Walk for Common Ground.

Opportunities will be available to join for a day walk or evening session. Contact First Mennonite Church for more information.



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Treaty Talk - Sharing the River of Life



Come and join
First Mennonite Church for a
Screening of Treaty Talk!

Friday, April 12, 2019
7:00pm

Followed by a discussion with
Producer Pat Makokis and friends
from Saddle Lake.

The Screening

Treaty Talk - Sharing the River of Life is a 50-minute teaching tool to better understand our collective responsibility to treaty. The purpose of this video is to build understanding, allyship and bridges for better relationship and work together. This film, through the sharing of a traditional Cree understanding on natural law and treaty, will explore and model how indigenous nations and non-indigenous allies in Canada can come together to transform racism and discrimination at a local and systemic level and to build a future of mutual benefit.

Producer: Pat Makokis

Director: Brad Leitch

www.treatytalk.com

The Producer



Patricia Makokis, Ed.D. is from Saddle Lake Cree Nation. She is acclaimed as one of Canada's most outstanding Aboriginal leaders. She is an author, speaker and a pioneer for Aboriginal education, health and values. Patricia is the recipient of innumerable awards for her exceptional work in advancing opportunities for her people. She was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Metal Award and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of San Diego amongst others. Patricia has a Doctorate in Education (Ed.D.), with a major in leadership, from the University of San Diego.

First Mennonite Church Truth and Reconciliation Activities Group (TRAG)

TRAG was formed in September 2016, after the 2013 Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Hearings into Indian Residential Schools held in Edmonton, and in response to the Calls to Action. FMC wrote a Letter of Response to Carolyn Bennett (federal Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs) and National Chief Perry Bellegarde (Assembly of First Nations) on April 10, 2016. We affirmed that we are "Treaty People" and beneficiaries of Treaty 6; that our church building and members physically reside on Treaty lands; and that in south Edmonton, we are located within the boundaries of the former Papaschase Reserve (extinguished by the federal government in the late 1800's). FMC's Letter of Response also affirmed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, quoting our approval of Article 10, which speaks to the principle of "free, prior and informed consent" as related to removal of indigenous peoples from their communities.

TRAG's formation, goals and activities follow FMC's Letter of Response, continuing our work as "Treaty People" to heed truths and seek reconciliation.