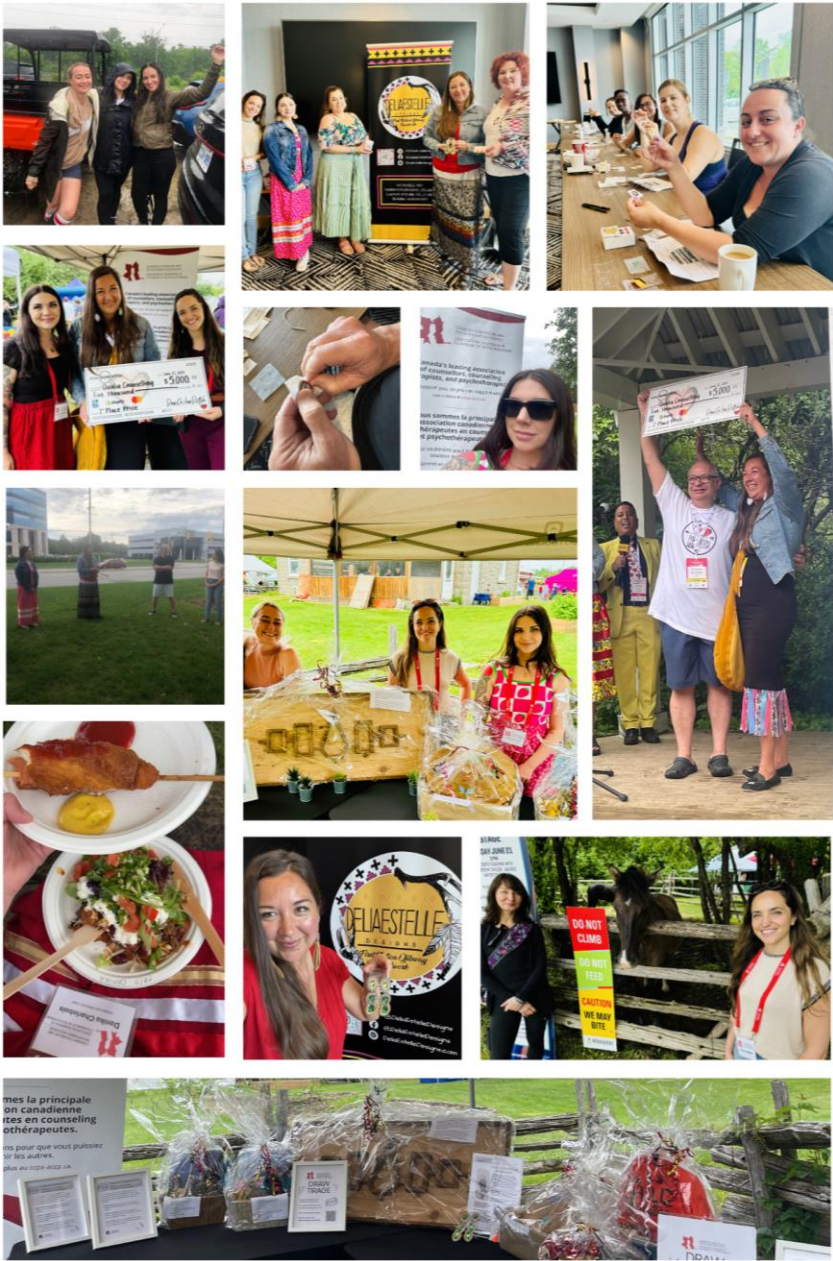


# CCPA National Indigenous History Month & National Indigenous Peoples Day Indigenous Initiatives Impact Report

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Finalized October 2024

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# 1. Executive Summary and Introduction

This June, the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) embraced National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day through a series of enriching and engaging initiatives. Our activities were aimed at raising awareness, educating our staff and the broader community, and celebrating the rich cultural diversity of Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Throughout the month, the CCPA organized a variety of events including three Indigenous Initiatives Webinars, a staff beading workshop, the launch of an Indigenous Learning Portal, and participation in the Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival at Mādahòkì Farm in Ottawa, Ontario. These events were not only designed to educate and engage but also to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of Indigenous cultures and issues among our staff and community.

## Special Initiatives

- **Live Webinar Series:** During National Indigenous History Month, the CCPA hosted a series of live webinars led by Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Holders, and Leaders. These sessions covered topics from ancestral healing practices to decolonizing historical perspectives.
- **Indigenous Learning Portal:** The newly launched portal features webinars from respected Elders, Knowledge Holders, and Leaders, providing a valuable resource for ongoing education and engagement.
- **Beading Workshop:** Led by Stephanie Peltier-Leger, a First Nations artist from Wiikwemikoong unceded territory, the workshop introduced staff to the Indigenous art of beadwork and concepts such as cultural appreciation vs. cultural appropriation.
- **Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival:** Despite inclement weather, the festival was a highlight of our events. Our booth offered a draw for many amazing Indigenous-made items and provided a platform to meet attendees and share our different Indigenous initiatives, notably the NIHB campaign.
- **Social Media Engagement:** Throughout the month, our social media channels were active in promoting these events and sharing impactful messages, such as the feature on Two-Spirit youth, Gage Perley. Gage shared his experiences and what being Two-Spirit means to him, which not only educated our followers but also highlighted the personal and diverse aspects of Indigenous identities.
- **Gathering of the CCPA Indigenous Community:** On National Indigenous Peoples Day, key figures from the CCPA's Indigenous Initiatives team—Angela Grier, Indigenous Director; Anangkwe Charity Fleming, Indigenous Relations Lead; and Danika, Indigenous Advocacy Lead—traveled to Ottawa to gather and participate in the National Indigenous Peoples Day events, including the staff beading event and Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival. This meeting underscored the importance of community and gathering in Indigenous cultures, providing a vital opportunity for the team to strengthen ties, share knowledge, and reinforce their commitment to advancing the CCPA's advocacy and educational efforts.

## Goals and Objectives for the Events

The primary goals of the CCPA's events during this month were to:

- **Educate** both the internal CCPA community and the general public on the diverse cultures, histories, and current realities of Indigenous peoples through engaging educational formats and cultural experiences.
- **Engage** in meaningful dialogue and activities that enhance understanding and appreciation for Indigenous knowledge and cultural practices.
- **Celebrate** the rich cultures of Indigenous peoples through inclusive events that highlight their historical and ongoing contributions to society.
- **Advocate** for the recognition of Indigenous rights and wellness, reinforcing the CCPA's commitment to supporting mental health across all communities.

## Purpose of the Report

This report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the events and activities undertaken during National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day. It serves to document our efforts, evaluate our impact, and offer insights for future initiatives.

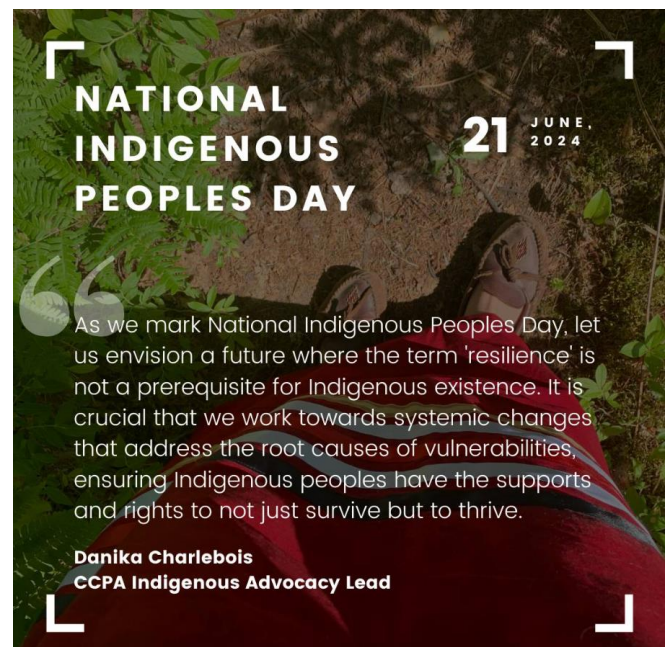
## 2. National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day Initiatives: Summary and Highlights

### Social Media Campaign

Throughout National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day, CCPA's social media strategy highlighted various aspects of the celebrations, educated the public, and engaged community members. The campaign included targeted posts each designed to serve specific purposes and ensure broad outreach and participation.

### Specific Posts and Their Purposes

1. **Honouring National Indigenous History Month:** A dedicated post to mark the beginning of National Indigenous History Month, celebrating the rich history and contributions of Indigenous peoples.
2. **Live Webinar Information:** A post introducing the three live Indigenous Initiatives webinars organized for National Indigenous History Month.
3. **Celebrating Pride and Indigenous Two-Spirit Identities:** A special post for National Indigenous History Month coinciding with Pride Month, featuring a message from Indigenous Two-Spirit youth, Gage Perley.
4. **Event Invitation:** An invitation to join the various events planned for the month, designed to increase participation and awareness.
5. **National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration:** A post celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day, featuring messages from the Indigenous Initiatives team.
3. **Summary of the Month's Events:** A wrap-up post summarizing the events of the month, highlighting successes and key moments





# National Indigenous History Month 2024

CCPA Indigenous Initiatives Events  
Événements d'initiatives autochtones à l'ACCP

June 18



**Indigenous Learning Portal**  
We're launching our Indigenous Learning Portal to enhance awareness, understanding, and well-being of Indigenous peoples.

June 21-23



**Summer Solstice Festival**  
You're invited to join us at the Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival being held at Mādahōkī Farm in Ottawa, ON (4420 W Hunt Club Rd).

June 25



**Indigenous Initiatives Webinar**  
Join us from 12-1 p.m. ET for Decolonizing Our "Shared History": Remembering Our Place and Purpose.

VISIT OUR INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES PAGE AT: [WWW.CCPA-ACCP.CA](http://WWW.CCPA-ACCP.CA)

## SUMMER SOLSTICE INDIGENOUS FESTIVAL

Despite a rainy interruption, participating in the Summer Solstice Festival at Mādahōkī Farm with a community booth was the highlight of our celebrations. It featured 111 draw sign-ups, 38 new Indigenous Initiatives newsletter subscribers in support of our advocacy, and 8 winners of Indigenous-made gifts. Adding to the excitement, Charity, our Indigenous Relations Lead, triumphed in the Pow Wow Pitch by presenting a concept supporting her work as co-owner of Qualia Counselling, securing first place. This event was a wonderful opportunity for community engagement and celebration.



@ccpa.accp #NIHM2024



## NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

21 JUNE 2024

On this day we celebrate the resilience of our Indigenous peoples and their stories of ancestral knowledge, that is living and being strengthened through the generations.

**Anangwe, Charity Fleming**  
CCPA Indigenous Relations Lead

## CCPA STAFF BEADING WORKSHOP

For National Indigenous Peoples Day, CCPA staff participated in a beading workshop led by First Nations Artist Stephanie Peltier-Leger from Delia Estelle Designs. Our team learned to make beautiful beaded earrings and pins, embracing hands-on cultural learning together.



@ccpa.accp #NIHM2024



CANADIAN COUNSELLING AND  
PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE  
COUNSELING ET DE PSYCHOTHERAPIE

## National Indigenous History & Pride Month

## Gage Perley is a Wolastoquiyik and Mi'kmaq Two-Spirited Youth



### WHAT DOES BEING TWO-SPIRIT MEAN TO YOU?

"To Me, Being Two-Spirit means that I can tap into my masculine and feminine energies, I can create a harmonious balance between the two and express my personality while also honouring my cultural identity".



Gage Perley is a Wolastoquiyik and Mi'kmaq Two-Spirited youth who resides in the unceded traditional territory of the Wolastoquiyik People.

Gage uses he/him/they/them pronouns and has served on the board of directors for Wabanaki Two Spirit Alliance and Fierté Fredericton Pride respectively.



"It's important to acknowledge Two-Spirits during Pride and Indigenous History Month because it shows the resilience that Indigenous people have and honours the Two-Spirited people before us. They played significant roles in Indigenous communities and that knowledge and those teachings had been attempted to be erased time and time again, celebrating that proves the resilience and strength of Two-Spirit people".

## Engagement Overview

Post Description	Platform	Reach	Impressions	Likes and Reactions	Shares	Comments
<b>Honouring National Indigenous History Month</b>	LinkedIn	n/a	1109	19	1	3
	Facebook	264	295	2	0	0
	Instagram	228	272	13	2	0
<b>Live Webinar Information</b>	LinkedIn	n/a	1528	17	6	0
	Facebook	772	809	8	1	1
	Instagram	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Celebrating Pride and Indigenous Two-Spirit Identities</b>	LinkedIn	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Facebook	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Instagram	518	604	21	5	0
<b>Event Invitation</b>	LinkedIn	n/a	1010	22	1	1
	Facebook	239	261	0	0	0
	Instagram	261	296	8	1	0
<b>National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration</b>	LinkedIn	n/a	961	20	1	0
	Facebook	384	428	2	4	0
	Instagram	1122	1294	31	16	1
<b>Summary of the Month's Events</b>	LinkedIn	n/a	614	6	0	1
	Facebook	126	140	4	0	0
	Instagram	178	205	15	0	3

### Key Insights:

- **LinkedIn:** The most engagement was seen on the Live Webinar Information post, highlighting a strong interest in educational content among professionals.
- **Facebook:** Although generally lower in engagement, the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration post showed peak interest, particularly in shares.
- **Instagram:** Demonstrated the highest engagement, especially with the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration post, highlighting messages from the Indigenous Initiatives team.

## Indigenous Initiatives Live Webinars

As part of National Indigenous History Month, the CCPA hosted three insightful webinars aimed at sharing Indigenous knowledge and teachings. These webinars were designed to help practitioners better understand and support Indigenous clients, enhancing their competencies and cultural sensitivity.

### Webinar Details and Highlights:

#### Ancestral Knowledge and Healing Practices

**Facilitator:** Tecumseh, Dr. Ed Connors

**Content:** Dr. Connors shared his invaluable mental health knowledge and teachings, drawing from his extensive experience in Indigenous mental health care.

**Participants:** 28 attendees

**Funds Raised:** \$166.40



#### Connecting to Ancestral Knowledge by Reclaiming Your Personal Indigenous History

**Facilitator:** Clarence Cachagee

**Content:** Clarence Cachagee, a Cree knowledge keeper and leader, shared his inspiring journey to becoming a community leader, illustrated through his biography *North Wind Man*.

**Participants:** 27 attendees

**Funds Raised:** \$70.85



#### Decolonizing Our “Shared History”: Remembering Our Place and Purpose

**Facilitators:** Amanda and Elder Strength Dale of Six Nations of the Grand River

**Content:** This engaging workshop explored the impact of colonization and deepened understanding of Indigenous worldviews through storytelling, interactive conversations, and principles of being, aimed at reconnecting participants with their identities and ancestral knowledge.

**Participants:** 27 attendees

**Funds Raised:** \$473.65



## Total Impact and Fundraising

- **Total Number of Participants:** 82
- **Total Funds Raised:** \$710.90
- The funds raised during these webinars will be donated to an Indigenous non-profit organization, contributing to community-driven initiatives and supporting the continuation of cultural and educational programs.

## Engagement and Feedback

The live webinars were highly praised for providing attendees with a profound and meaningful learning experience. These sessions not only shared valuable insights but also sparked further interest in Indigenous knowledge and the importance of culturally informed practices in counselling and psychotherapy.

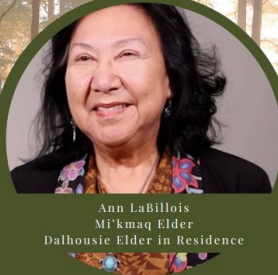
These webinars are a cornerstone of CCPA's initiative to incorporate Indigenous perspectives into professional practice, reflecting a commitment to cultural sensitivity and ongoing education. The successful engagement and positive feedback underscore the value of these events and the importance of continuing such educational efforts in the future.

## Indigenous Learning Portal Launch

During National Indigenous History Month, the CCPA launched the Indigenous Learning Portal, a significant resource aimed at enhancing the understanding and appreciation of Indigenous knowledge among CCPA members. This portal exemplifies CCPA's commitment to integrating Indigenous perspectives into counselling and psychotherapy. Featuring diverse educational content from respected Indigenous voices, the portal supports the advancement of cultural competence and sensitivity, contributing to the professional development of its members. Through this initiative, the CCPA demonstrates its dedication to accessible education and the promotion of cultural insights into mental health practices.

## Content Offerings

The portal initially features seven webinars, each led by distinguished Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Holders, and Leaders, encompassing a wide range of topics relevant to both personal growth and professional development in understanding Indigenous perspectives. In addition to the recordings of the live webinars mentioned above, the following webinars are included:



Ann LaBillois  
Mi'kmaq Elder  
Dalhousie Elder in Residence  
1 CEC

**HER-STORY OF RECLAIMING HERITAGE, IDENTITY AND HEALING – AND GUIDED MINDFULNESS PRACTICE**

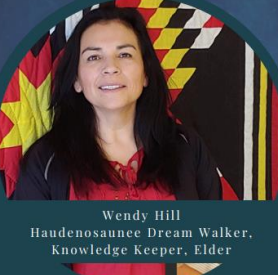
Elder Ann LaBillois courageously tells her story of being taken during the 60s scoop to a sanatorium for tuberculosis. Stripped of her family, heritage and culture, Elder Ann tells of her journey and search for identity, reconnection and reclamation. Elder Ann also shares of the grounding techniques, connection to culture and personal practice that has helped her and now others heal from trauma. Join with us to hear her-story of intergenerational hope and healing, and mindfulness meditation practice.



Mary Anne Caibaiosai  
Anishinaabe Knowledge Holder  
1 CEC

**HEALING FROM THE LAND:  
MEDICINE WHEEL TEACHINGS**

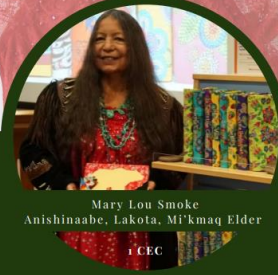
In this hour-long workshop led by Anishinaabe Knowledge Holder Mary Anne Caibaiosai, shares Medicine Wheel teachings, with a focus on healing through connection with Mother Earth. Discover how the Medicine Wheel serves as a framework for personal growth and well-being while honoring the sacred relationship between people and the land. This session offers a unique opportunity to learn from Mary Anne's ancestral knowledge and gain insights into the profound connection between nature and healing.



Wendy Hill  
Haudenosaunee Dream Walker,  
Knowledge Keeper, Elder

**HER-STORY OF DREAMS AND PEACEBUILDING**

Join with us and esteemed Haudenosaunee Elder Wendy Hill, prolifically known for her-story of connection to ancestral knowledge through the dream world. Recruited as a healer, spiritual guide and dream walker and interpreter, Elder Wendy shares her knowledge and wisdom to support traditional healing of peoples, communities and nations. Hear her-story and be inspired.



Mary Lou Smoke  
Anishinaabe, Lakota, Mi'kmaq Elder  
1 CEC

**A PERSONAL STORY OF LOSS AND LEARNING  
2024 RED DRESS DAY WEBINAR**

This webinar was presented on May 1st in observance of Red Dress Day, a national day of awareness for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2S+ individuals. We are honoured to host Elder Mary Lou Smoke, who will share the story of her sister, Debbie Ann Sloss-Clarke, murdered over two decades ago. Through Elder Smoke's personal reflection, we gain insight into the deep impact of the MMIWG2S+ crisis on Indigenous communities.

This webinar provides a unique chance to learn from a firsthand account, deepening our understanding of the aspects of this ongoing crisis. Your listening helps honour the memory of the victims and support the healing of Indigenous communities. Join us in this crucial conversation to foster awareness and change.

## Future Prospects

The CCPA plans to continuously update the portal with additional webinars and resources, ensuring it remains a relevant and enriching educational tool. This will include not only more webinars but also potentially interactive sessions and forums for discussion to foster a more engaged learning environment. The above inaugural webinars will remain accessible on the portal for any CCPA member wanting to enhance their cultural competency and for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit members' to continue to celebrate and honour their culture and knowledge.

# National Indigenous Peoples Day CCPA Staff Beading Workshop

To celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day and Indigenous History Month, the CCPA organized a beading workshop for its Ottawa-based staff. The workshop was led by Stephanie Peltier, a talented First Nation Ojibway beading artist originally from Wiikwemikoong unceded territory on Manitoulin Island. Stephanie shared her skills in modernized beadwork, allowing participants to complete a beginner beading piece.

More importantly, the session was an educational opportunity where staff learned about Ojibway culture and explored themes of cultural appreciation versus cultural appropriation.

Additionally, a portion of her workshop earnings supports the Wikwemikong Nursing Home and the Assembly of 7 Generations, underscoring her commitment to giving back to the community!

## CCPA STAFF BEADING WORKSHOP

For National Indigenous Peoples Day, CCPA staff participated in a beading workshop led by First Nations Artist Stephanie Peltier-Leger from Delia Estelle Designs. Our team learned to make beautiful beaded earrings and pins, embracing hands-on cultural learning together.



## Event Dynamics and Additional Highlights

The event was well-attended, with over 15 CCPA staff members participating. It began with an opening smudge and song led by Charity and one lucky staff member won a gift basket filled with Indigenous-made items. Following the workshop, the team enjoyed a communal lunch, which fostered further bonding and engagement among colleagues. Most participants then continued the day's celebrations by attending the Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival.

It was a meaningful way to engage CCPA staff in the broader observances of National Indigenous Peoples Day, highlighting the importance of cultural learning and appreciation within our professional community. This event exemplifies CCPA's commitment to fostering an inclusive and culturally aware workplace.

## Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival at Mādahòkì Farm

The Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival, held from June 21st to 23rd at HYPERLINK "<https://madahoki.ca/>" Mādahòkì Farm in Ottawa, is a vibrant celebration of Indigenous cultures. The festival coincides with National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day, offering a platform for Indigenous artists, performers, and educators to share knowledge and celebrate the diverse cultures of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.



Mādahòkì Farm, meaning “to share land” in Anishinaabe, is not only a hub for agritourism and cultural experiences but also features an Indigenous Marketplace and a herd of endangered Ojibwe Spirit Horses.

### CCPA’s Participation at the Festival

The CCPA actively engaged in the festival by setting up a booth within the Community Booth section, located in the Storytelling area of the farm. This vibrant space featured Ojibwe Spirit Horses, Indigenous storytelling and hosted the Pow Wow Pitch event, a competition that showcased Indigenous entrepreneurs.

### Activities and Engagement at the CCPA Booth

- **Draw and Newsletter Sign-Up:** The CCPA booth featured eight gift baskets with items made by Indigenous artisans, curated by Charity. Visitors entered the draw by scanning a barcode, and were also encouraged to sign up for the CCPA Indigenous Initiatives newsletter. This engagement was part of an effort to keep attendees informed about CCPA's ongoing advocacy, particularly the NIHB campaign.
- **Networking and Advocacy:** Throughout the festival, team members Karina, Charity, Danika, and Jess manned the booth, with Charity taking a proactive role in networking across the event space to boost sign-ups for the draw and newsletter.
- **Unexpected Participation:** A highlight was Charity’s impromptu participation in the Pow Wow Pitch, where she shared plans to enhance resources available to Indigenous youth through Qualia Counselling, along with strengthening their social media presence and developing an app for their services.

### Community and Member Interaction

The presence of CCPA was well-received, with several CCPA members at the festival expressing gratitude for the association’s representation. Many who aren’t current members but are therapists expressed interest in the advocacy work of CCPA, and in obtaining membership.

A representative from The National Arts Center’s Indigenous Theatre approached the booth to obtain information on how to offer culturally competent mental health care for visitors attending Indigenous events and programming throughout the year. We were able to exchange information and refer them to our CCC directory and the CRPO’s website to find qualified therapists who can offer their services.

The booth served as an effective outreach tool, introducing many attendees to the NIHB campaign and encouraging them to stay informed through the newsletter.

## Weather Challenges

The festival's final day saw unexpected rain, leading to an early wrap-up as items at the booth got wet and the grounds became muddy, leading to less active participation in the day's activities. Despite these challenges, the team appreciated the rain, viewing it as a gift from the creator, especially valued during the hot summer.

## Festival Impact and Statistics

- **Draw Sign-Ups:** 111
- **Newsletter Sign-Ups:** 38
- **Gift Winners:** 8

## October 2024 Update

As of October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Indigenous Initiatives newsletter that was setup to help gather support for CCPA's Indigenous Initiatives at this event now has 117 subscribers. This is an indicator of the growing interest in CCPA's Indigenous Initiatives, and of the power of connecting with community on the ground. It also underlines the importance of ongoing efforts in the area of Indigenous advocacy and of continuous relationship-building.

# Other Notable Initiatives

## Press Release for National Indigenous Peoples Day

A press release was developed to coincide with National Indigenous Peoples Day, focusing on the theme of moving beyond resilience to foster real systemic change. It featured insights from the Indigenous Initiatives Team, Indigenous Director, and the CCPA President. Below are a few powerful quotes found in the release.

CCPA Indigenous Director, Angela Grier (Piikani/Blackfoot) shares that “Indigenous resiliency can be somewhat understood as Darwin’s survival of the fittest. Against all odds, First Nation people have survived and evolved over millenniums due to highly internalized ethics and spiritual practices tied directly to our territories. Through learning about our land-based cultures can help establish genuine relationships rooted in decolonization and allyship. The First Peoples are the moral compasses and stewards of our territories, and our relationship and sacred laws derived of this relationship, maintains our existence and wellbeing, therefore the environmental relationships are primary in the healing of Indigenous people.”

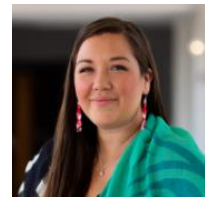


Angela Grier



Danika Charlebois

Danika Charlebois, Indigenous Advocacy Lead for the CCPA, emphasizes: "As we mark National Indigenous Peoples Day, let us envision a future where the term 'resilience' is not a prerequisite for Indigenous existence. It is crucial that we work towards systemic changes that address the root causes of vulnerabilities, ensuring Indigenous peoples have the supports and rights to not just survive but to thrive." Anangkwe, Charity Fleming, CCPA’s Indigenous Relations Lead, Indigenous Relations Lead for the CCPA, adds: “On this day we celebrate the resilience of our Indigenous peoples and their stories, of ancestral knowledge that is living and being strengthened through the generations.”

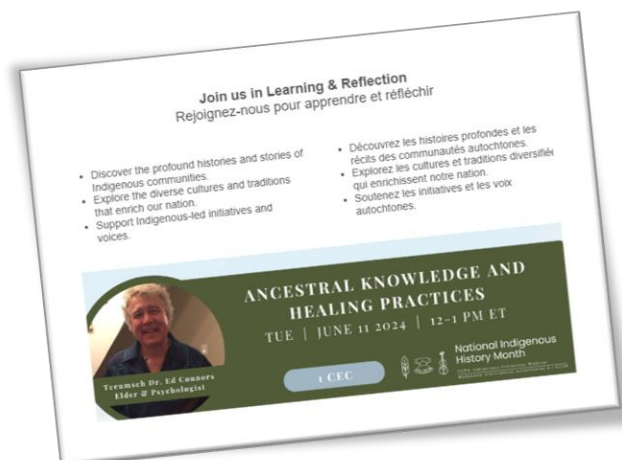


Anangkwe Charity Fleming

Read the full release [here](#).

## Indigenous Initiatives in the CCPA Monthly Newsletter

Additionally, the CCPA's monthly newsletter, the Listserv, prominently featured our month's Indigenous Initiatives in its June edition. This ensured that CCPA members were well-informed about the planned activities, fostering increased participation and support for these important initiatives.



### 3. Recommendations for Future Initiatives

As we reflect on the successes and learnings from this year's National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day events, several strategies for improvement and suggestions for future engagements have been identified. These are aimed at enhancing our outreach, impact, and efficiency in future initiatives:

- **Start Planning Earlier:** Ensure that planning starts well in advance to facilitate thorough preparation and coordination, helping to secure preferred venues, speakers, and resources.
- **Unified Draw & Raffle Sign-Up:** Streamline the process for entering draws and raffles to improve participant experience and increase engagement.
- **Invest in Central Locations & Branding:** Allocate a larger portion of the budget to secure more centrally located spaces for events, which can boost attendance. Enhance visibility through better logo branding at events.
- **Clearer CCPA Branding:** Improve the visibility of CCPA branding across all event materials and communications to strengthen brand recognition and message consistency.
- **Develop Advocacy Materials:** Create and distribute clear, well-defined advocacy asks at events, supported by informative handouts that detail CCPA's goals and how attendees can get involved.
- **Collaborate with Indigenous-Led Firms:** Partner with Indigenous-led public affairs firms to improve media outreach and coverage, ensuring our key messages reach a broader audience.
- **Extended Advertising for Webinars:** Allocate more time to promote webinars to increase participation rates, providing potential attendees ample notice and information.
- **Identify and Promote Non-Profit Partnerships Early:** Clearly identify and communicate the Indigenous non-profit organizations that will benefit from event-related donations well ahead of the event to enhance transparency and encourage more donations.
- **Enhanced Organizational Efforts:** Strive for better overall organization to ensure smooth execution and maximize the impact of each event.
- **Cohesive Social Media Strategy:** Implement a unified social media strategy to ensure consistent messaging and regular postings across all platforms. Utilize a content calendar to streamline scheduling and maximize engagement.
- **Budget Optimization:** Amount spent on outdoor booth accessories will be less as these were purchased for the first time. Consider less raffle items in favor of one big prize to center advocacy efforts and increase communication related to those while decluttering booth area.

## 4. Conclusion

As we conclude this Impact Report on the CCPA's initiatives during National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day, it is evident that our efforts have significantly contributed to raising awareness, promoting education, and celebrating the diverse cultures of Indigenous peoples in Canada. The activities, ranging from educational webinars and the launch of the Indigenous Learning Portal to community engagements like the beading workshop and participation in the Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival, have not only highlighted the rich cultural heritage of Indigenous communities but have also fostered a deeper understanding and appreciation within our organization and the broader community.