



MOOSE HIDE
CAMPAIGN
CAMPAGNE
MOOSE HIDE

Honouring our Women

Disclaimer: This workshop includes real life stories of residential school survivors and speaks to some of what they have endured. Speaking about the violence that Indigenous people have experienced, and continue to experience, can be traumatic and triggering for some. These stories are incredibly important in the discussion to end violence against Indigenous women and children, but if you or your class are not comfortable with the topic, or do not have adequate support available if someone becomes triggered, then please check out one of our other Moose Hide Campaign workshops.

Introduction

Brandon Petahtegoose offers this workshop from northern Ontario. He is an incredible story-teller who shares some of his stories that relate to intergenerational trauma, violence against Indigenous people, and the sacredness of women and Mother Earth. Brandon speaks to some deeply personal and tragic events in his family's lives and the harsh realities of colonization, the residential school system, and violence against Indigenous women and children. Brandon also shares with us stories of fasting and ceremony and the resiliency he sees in his people and in himself every day. He encourages everyone to spread love in their lives and to honour the women around them as often as they can.

Key Take-Aways

- 1 Learn more about the sacredness of women and Indigenous traditions surrounding women.
- 2 Better understand how harm against the environment has deeper effects on Indigenous women and how Indigenous teachings and worldviews hold women in high regard as life givers.
- 3 Learn more about the atrocities Indigenous people have faced and to see that Indigenous people have been resilient.
- 4 Indigenous women are strong and carry the resiliency of their ancestors.
- 5 Better understand how colonization has caused intergenerational trauma to Indigenous people and how that has played a part in the violence against Indigenous women and children.

Discussion Questions

Before Viewing

Begin by defining these key terms:

- 1 Intergenerational Trauma (Watch this quick two and a half minute video explaining Intergenerational Trauma)
- 2 Residential school system (watch this three and a half minute interview with residential school survivor Louise Longclaws and how it impacted her family)

Discussion questions during the video (will be displayed on screen at the appropriate time)

Theme – Intergenerational trauma

- 1 How do you think the residential school system and intergenerational trauma might be related to the high rates of violence against Indigenous women and children?
- 2 What can be done to try to help heal intergenerational trauma?

During Viewing



Middle Years

- 1 Take the Moose Hide Campaign pledge to stand up against violence towards Indigenous women and children. To see more information on how to take the pledge visit this link [Pledge to support the Campaign \(moosehidecampaign.ca\)](https://moosehidecampaign.ca).

The pledge holds people accountable for their actions and allows people to express their want for change. You can do this by creating a short video or taking a photo while holding a pledge sign. You can be creative in your pledge as long as it relates to standing up against violence and/or living non violently.

- 2 Create a 'Women are Sacred' poster. This could include researching an Indigenous woman in your community or across the globe that people might look up to. It could be an art project to show women's sacredness in a totally creative way. You could also create a collage from magazine cut-outs.

- 3 Write a tribute letter to a sacred woman in your life telling them how much they mean to you.

Include your favourite memories with them, your favourite things about them and why they are so special to you.

- 4 Watch this 4 minute video [Why Native Women Should Be Leading the Climate Crisis Fight | Opinions | NowThis](#) and have a discussion on how the environment and women are connected and why women are at the forefront of environmental protection.

Create a poster about protecting Mother Earth that is centered around the strong women who are fighting climate change globally. (Autumn Pelletier is a great example!)



Senior Years

- 5 Take a look at this article as a class: [MMIWG's findings on 'man camps' are a good place for government to get started - Macleans.ca](#). Many studies have shown that places where ongoing construction takes place (such as building highways, pipelines, etc.) often employ a much larger percentage of men. Often these sites are near small remote First Nations if not directly on Indigenous lands. These sites are often nicknamed 'man camps' and have been known to be hot spots for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.
 - a. Have your students create a brochure that defines 'man camps' and explains the issue as well as provides 1-2 possible solutions or strategies to help these sites become safer places.

- 6 Watch this Ted Talk: [Stop the cycle of Intergenerational Trauma. You Matter | Jabrea Ali | TEDxYouth@Jacksonville](#).
 - a. Find or create a quote that you think would speak to a youth who has intergenerational trauma. Place the quote in the middle of a page and create a collage or artwork to reflect what you think the quote means. Try to create something that would inspire and speak to young people.
 - b. Write down 3 things that you can do to help protect your mental health and wellbeing. We all go through times of stress and sadness. Take a look at your current coping mechanisms – what do you do when you are feeling down? Are they healthy? Write 3 healthy things you can do to help in these times.

