

Working on Truth and Reconciliation in Canadian Summer Camps *Elective 2*

AUTHOR(S):	Daniel Abramson
SUMMARY:	Participants will contemplate their responsibilities as treaty partners with Indigenous communities in Canada <i>- Submitted by Daniel Abramson</i>
TOPIC(S):	Community building, social justice
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	Participants will learn about some similarities and differences between traditional Jewish and Indigenous views about Land, and will gain the tools needed to begin to formulate an approach to bringing camps into alignment with traditional treaty responsibilities.
AUDIENCE:	Older campers, staff, and camp leadership
TIMING:	90 Minutes
APPENDICES:	WhereAreYourStories_Resources.pdf
MATERIALS NEEDED:	Large roll mural paper with a basic regional map Image of the “Two Row Wampum”
SET-UP DETAILS:	Participants should sit in a circle Program can be modified to be done around a campfire without visuals

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

10 minutes - Welcome & Introduction:

Participants are invited to add a sticker to a large map showing Canadian Treaties in response to the question “Where are your stories from?”

Provocation:

Participants are asked to look at the following list of questions. Questions will be posted on papers around the room. Each question will be on a page laid out like a page of Gemara. Participants will be asked to choose a question of interest before they listen to the stories. They will write their names on the page. At the end of the stories, participants will be invited to write down some answers, comments and further questions.

- What are the most important actions that Jewish Summer camps communities can take to be good treaty people?
- What is our relationship to the rest of creation?
- What is stewardship?
- What treaties are in force at your camp?
- How are later settlers bound by treaty agreements?
- What about people who arrived here by force? (Treaty Map of Canada)
- What treaty responsibilities are the most relevant to Jewish summer camps? (Environmental, Social, Political)
- How important is it to keep promises?
- How do we mend things that are broken?
- How is the earth like a mother to humans?
- What does it mean for a Summer Camp to be a good treaty partner? (Wampum)
- What is a Jewish context for being a treaty partner?
- What does it mean to be a partner in creation (of the earth or of relationships)?

5 minutes: Gratitude (Words that come before all else)

Teach about the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address, and introduce the Land Acknowledgement as a way to show gratitude for being here today. (Similar to Hinei Ma Tov)

Story Circle - Telling Creation Stories

In Indigenous communities, stories are an important way of teaching and learning. We will tell three stories. In them, we may find some answers for some of the previous questions

- Circle 1: Bereshit 1 - Seven Days of Creation
- Circle 2: Bereshit 2 - Adam, Eve and the Garden
- Circle 3: Turtle Island -

What are Treaties?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7LY-fXzhZI>

What should we know about the Land:

<https://native-land.ca/territory-acknowledgement/>



CORNERSTONE 2020 RESOURCE

20 minutes: What are you inspired to do?

Writing some commitments onto a graphic organizer in the shape of a rainbow (a Jewish symbol of a brit)

ADDITIONAL NOTES FOR BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP:

N/A