

Canadian Roots

exchanges unite us



NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter

2014

Our Mission & Vision

Canadian Roots Exchange (CRE) builds bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth in Canada by facilitating dialogue and strengthening relationships through leadership programs.

We believe in a Canada where youth stand in solidarity to promote respect, understanding and reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

This newsletter features highlights and successes from this summer's programs, as well as information on upcoming exchanges, youth-led initiatives and major fundraising events! We have reached more than 1,500 youth across the country throughout our five years as an organization, and strive to engage more through our programs!

Highlights From Our Exchanges

Six Nations of the Grand River Summer Exchange

With funding from the Laidlaw Foundation, CRE organized a young womens exchange to Six Nations for indigenous and newcomer youth ages 15-18 from June 27th to 30th. The group traveled from Toronto and met with community members to learn about Haudenosaunee culture, traditions, history and art. Together, the youth engaged in team-building activities, peer learning and dialogue on identity, culture, and breaking down stereotypes.

The group also visited the Munsee-Delaware Nation Pow Wow, where they learned about regalia and traditional dance – and participated in the inter-tribal social dances! We would like to thank the community members and youth we met at Six Nations, as well as Access Alliance for making this a memorable exchange.

Algonquin Park & Silver Lake Powwow Exchange

This exchange ran from August 18th - 25th. It was hosted by an Algonquin Elder, Nokomis Jane in Whitney, Ontario. This highly experiential program invited participants to connect with the land and water through activities such as: canoeing, hiking and camping. Participants also had the opportunity to learn the history of the birch bark canoe along with its significance to the Algonquin Nation, and the history of the Algonquin land claim.

In addition the group travelled to Silver Lake, Ontario where they were hosted by Uncle Larry and his family. The group also volunteered at the Silver Lake Pow Wow, one of the most celebrated social gatherings of the year!



Youth-led Projects & Workshops



Our Youth Teams

Vancouver, B.C.

Saskatoon, SK

Winnipeg, MN

Thunder Bay, ON

London, ON

Hamilton, ON

Six Nations, ON

Toronto, ON

Ottawa, ON

Montréal, QC

Halifax, NS

Youth Reconciliation Initiative 2014-2015

Leadership Training: August 25th - 29th, 2014

The Youth Reconciliation Initiative is a youth-led project that involves multiple teams comprised of Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders. Each team will facilitate workshops in their community about reconciliation, decolonization, and strengthening relationships between Canada's diverse peoples.

Over 30 youth leaders from 12 cities across Canada attended the leadership training retreat. During training, youth leaders were mentored by CRE staff and members of collaborative organizations. Our youth leaders also had the opportunity to strengthen their skills in teamwork, program planning, group facilitation, communication and public speaking.

Sisters of the Soil: Herstory Youth Project

Start Date: October 19, 2014 | End Date: December 18, 2014

Led by former Youth Reconciliation Leader Latisha Reddick, Sisters of the Soil is a project that brings together black and Indigenous young women in Toronto. Youth will meet every Thursday to engage in discussions and interactive activities that focus on understanding decolonization as it relates to black and Indigenous women, sharing experiences, and building active leadership in the community.

For more information on signing up, please email info@sistersofthesoil.com

We Need Your Support!

2014 Scotiabank Charity Challenge

Mark your calendars and help support our programs!

On **Sunday, October 19th, 2014**, Canadian Roots will be participating as one of the official registered charities for the Scotiabank Waterfront Marathon! The race includes Marathon, Half Marathon and 5k events!

Money raised in our Scotiabank Marathon fundraiser will go towards expanding access to our programs and funding youth-led projects around the country.

To sponsor our runners, please visit our **fundraising page** and click on the Donate Now button. If you would like to register with our team to run in the marathon, half marathon, or 5k events, please contact us and we will happily sign you up.

For more details about the Toronto Waterfront Marathon and the Canadian Roots team, visit the following link:

www.torontowaterfrontmarathon.com/en/charity/cre.htm

Donate to Canadian Roots Exchange

We are a registered charity (CRA number 832296602RR0001) and can issue a tax receipt for eligible donations. Donations can be made by credit card through our website, or by sending a cheque or money order to our office.

You can also donate **Aeroplan** miles to help cover travel costs for youth from more distant communities who may have barriers in participating.

Donate \$100 or more, or become a monthly donor and receive a fair trade, organic cotton Canadian Roots T-shirt made in Canada. Donations help support our work and provide more opportunities for youth.

Visit our website and Aeroplan donations page to learn more about how you can support Canadian Roots.

CRE Website: **www.canadianroots.ca/en/donate**

CRE's Aeroplan: **beyondmiles.aeroplan.com/eng/charity/412**



CRE Community

We are committed to working with other organizations to reach youth in communities across Canada. You can request a CRE team to facilitate a workshop at your school or elsewhere, and start an informed dialogue with members of your community.

To receive further updates about future events, exchanges and other programs, you can follow us on Twitter and like our Facebook page!

Thank you - Merci - Chi Miigwetch

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