

Happy Winter Solstice

What is Winter Solstice?

December 21 will be the “shortest” day of the year with the sun rising late, and setting early. This is known as “Winter Solstice”.

Watch this [video](#) to learn more about it

Watch this [video](#) to learn more about it



What does it mean for Indigenous people?

While all Indigenous cultures vary, Winter Solstice is typically a time of celebration, storytelling and ceremony.

Read this [article](#) to learn about Winter Solstice

Watch this [video](#) to learn about Cree traditions

The winter solstice begins a season of storytelling and ceremony

December 19th, 2017, 9:27PM / BY Dennis Zotigh



Read about how [Indigenous star teachings](#) connect to Solstice

Listen to this [podcast](#) exploring the relationship between Solstice and Christmas

A Brief Look at Indigenous Star Names

December 17, 2019

As the clock runs out on the United Nations International Year of **Indigenous Languages** we wanted to take a look at the language around the stars and constellations. Stars and constellations identified in the early days of astronomy were typically given Greek and Roman names. In general, those are the names that come to mind because they are the names taught in schools.

But, Indigenous Peoples around the world have studied the skies since time immemorial and developed astronomical knowledge systems which were woven into their specific spiritual, cultural and social lives. Indigenous Peoples have always observed the skies as they have always observed all aspects of weather, seasonal cycles, and bird and animal migration and breeding patterns. All these observations have been woven into the **Indigenous knowledge** of a particular



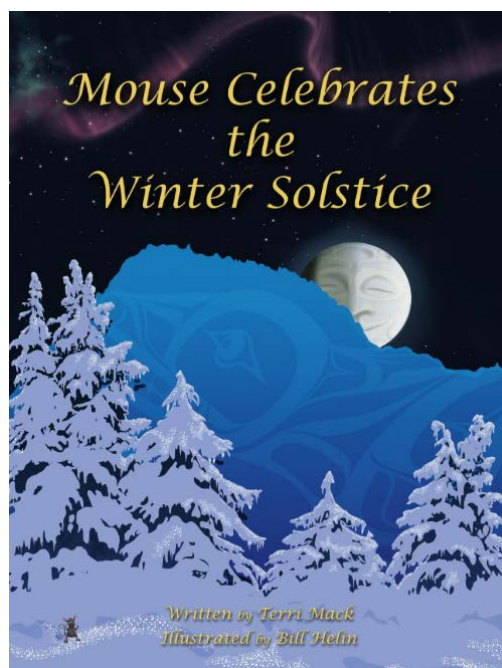
DECOLONIZING THE HOLIDAYS AND HONORING WINTER SOLSTICE TEACHINGS

Many Indigenous people are actively working toward reconnecting to their original teachings while also decolonizing colonial practices that have conditioned our lives. On this episode, we talk decolonizing the holidays and reconnecting to more meaningful Indigenous winter solstice teachings.

How do I celebrate Winter Solstice?

Teach about it using this [book](#) and [lesson plan](#)

Attend this [community event](#) on December 21



Created by Brigitte Benning, Indigenous Education Coordinator, brigittebenning@pwpsd.ca, (780) – 831 – 3092

& Merry Christmas!

Check out these Christmas songs by Indigenous artists!

Christmas [album](#) by Inuit sister duo PIQSIQ

Christmas [album](#) by Inuk artist Susan Aglukark

Throat-singing sisters meld Inuit tradition with classic Christmas tunes



The throat singing duo Piqsiq are releasing a new Christmas album this month. (Dave Brosna)

Nunavut's Susan Aglukark keeps dreaming of home

Arviat-raised singer releases second English-Inuktitut Christmas album



Huron Carol [cover](#) by First Nations artist Crystal Shawanda

Video [sing along](#) to Jingle Bells in Woodland Cree



Jesous Athathonhia (Huron Carol) - Sultans of String feat. Crystal Shawanda

siwihothākanak, siwihothākanak

siwipathiwak
tāpwī nimithwithihtin
i-makosikisikāk

siwihothākanak, siwihothākanak
siwipathiwak
tāpwī nimithwithihtin
i-makosikisikāk

kōnihk i-pimipāhtāt, mistatim otāpānāsk
wāhtaw i-iskopāhtāt
i-pāhpīwinānihkīt
i-siwipicikāt, nimithwithihtin tāpwī
i-nikamonānihkīt

no'p' kōt'isikāk



Jingle Bells in Woodland Cree by Laura Burnouf

Check out these gift ideas!

Visit local Dene artist Hazel Talley-Robinson at the [Grande Prairie Farmer's Market](#)

Want to ensure you're buying authentic Indigenous art? Check out this [article](#) with tips!

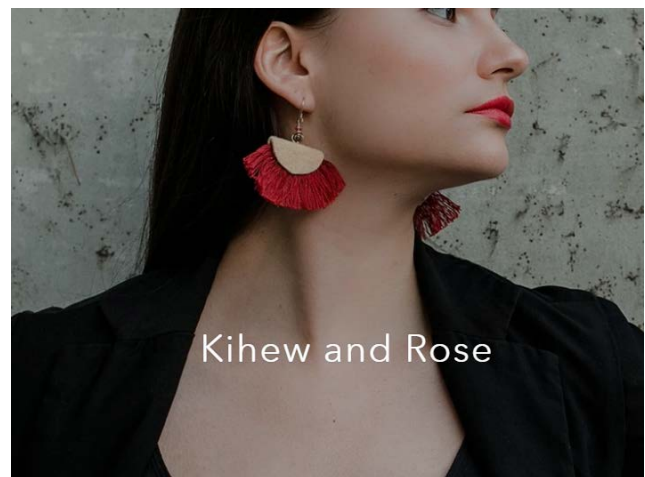
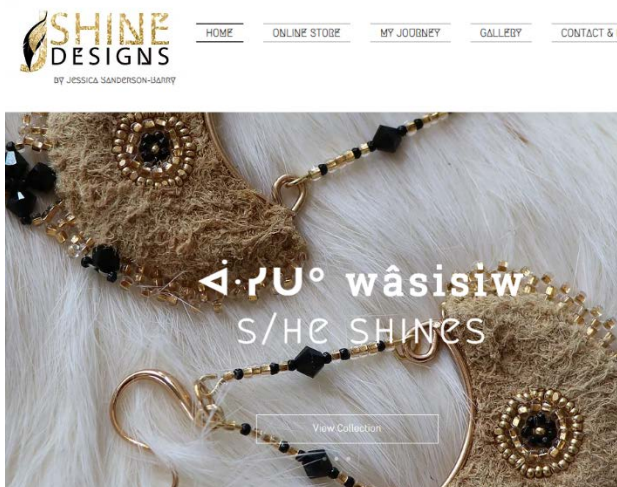


THEDISCOURSE.CA
Here's how we investigated Vancouver's Indigenous-souvenir industry

Order beautiful jewelry online through some of my favourite Indigenous artists!

[JShine Design](#)

[Kihew and Rose](#)



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