

Shared Ground Bulletin

CAAL RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE
COMITÉ DE RÉCONCILIATION CBPA



January 2026



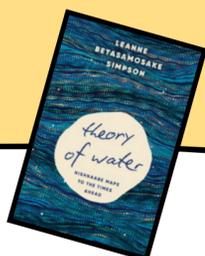
Welcome to the January 2026 CAAL Reconciliation Committee /
Comité de réconciliation CBPA news bulletin!

We hope everyone had a joyful and restful holiday season spent with
friends and family.

Institution Updates

Invitation: Memorial University Libraries Project Learn Book Club
More information to come!

Words Held



We are reading *Theory of Water: Nishnaabe Maps to the Times Ahead* by
Leanne Betasamosake Simpson!

Theory of Water weaves Nishnaabe stories, personal narrative, and political insight to explore Indigenous resistance, resurgence, and relational ways of living grounded in land and water. Betasamosake Simpson offers “maps” for the future that centre care, reciprocity, and Indigenous knowledge as essential responses to colonialism and ecological crisis.

Stories Seen

We are watching *North of North!*

Set in Canada’s remote Arctic, a young Inuk woman wants to build a new future for herself after a spontaneous and extremely public exit from her marriage. It won't be easy in a small Arctic town where everybody knows your business.

Fun fact: Two Inuit artists from Labrador had their jewelry featured on the show! [Learn more.](#)

Voices Heard

As political tension grows with the United States government looking at Greenland as a potential asset, we are listening to Inuit.

- Nunatsiq News: ‘Disrespectful and offensive’: Inuit, Canadian politicians react to U.S. Greenland threats ([Link](#))
- Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK): Canadian Inuit urge feds to fast-track Arctic development as U.S. mulls Greenland takeover ([Link](#))

Conversations Shared

Navigating Indigenous Identity

Our committee met shortly after author **Thomas King** announced that, despite believing so nearly all his life, he is not Indigenous. Being that King has historically been classified as an Indigenous Canadian author and his work celebrated as representational and authoritative as Indigenous authorship, the committee discussed the multifaceted impact the announcement has on libraries. A further thread in the conversation related to the similar revelations we have experienced professionally, and a call to develop a process to address King's change in identity as well as others that may come to light in the future. Our committee represents a wide range of specialists and will investigate and follow up on our findings and begin work on a operational-level response to assist us with King's case, and others in the future.

Guidance Gathered

The Decolonial Atlas

The Decolonial Atlas is "a growing collection of maps which, in some way, help us to challenge our relationships with the land, people, and state. It's based on the premise that cartography is not as objective as we're made to believe." [Learn more.](#)

Book Review: *Text, Lies and Cataloging: Ethical Treatment of Deceptive Works in the Library* by Jana Brubaker (2018)

"In *Text, Lies and Cataloging*, Jana Brubaker explores the various issues that catalog professionals face in providing bibliographic descriptions of deceptive library resources. As she explains in her preface, creating accurate and useful catalog records for library users can be particularly challenging for works that contain inaccurate facts, deceive the reader through questionable authorship, or blur the boundaries of genre." [Learn more.](#)

Who We Are

Sarah Papple (Memorial University) (co-chair)
Michaela Doucette (Memorial University) (co-chair)
Jennifer Richard (Acadia University) (Committee Board Liaison)
Leah Campbell (Nova Scotia Community College)
Agnieszka Hayes (Acadia University)
Courtney Matthews (University of Prince Edward Island)
Maggie Neilson (Acadia University)
Stacey Penny (Memorial University)

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