

# Shared Ground Bulletin

CAAL RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE  
COMITÉ DE RÉCONCILIATION CBPA



February 2026



Welcome to the February 2026 CAAL-CBPA Reconciliation Committee / Comité De Réconciliation news bulletin!

Happy love month! We hope everyone has the opportunity to spend time with those they love and cherish.

## Institution Updates

### Registration is open for the Memorial University Libraries Project Learn Book Club!

Memorial University Libraries is inviting the CAAL community to take part in its Project Learn Book Club – a shared reading experience centred on books written by Indigenous authors or in collaboration with Indigenous communities.

Project Learn aims to introduce members of the Memorial University community to Indigenous history, culture, and traditions in unique and thought-provoking ways. Project Learn collaborates with members of the Indigenous communities of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada to explore the ways in which we can decolonize how we learn through methods such as art, literature, and storytelling.

Together, the Project Learn Book Club reads books written by Indigenous authors or in collaboration with Indigenous communities. The books correspond with designated themes for that month that reflect locally and nationally recognized dates relating to Indigenous peoples, events, and initiatives. The goal of the Book Club is to elevate Indigenous voices and perspectives and change the way we approach learning about Indigenous people and history. At the end of each reading period, we gather to discuss what we learned, pose questions about what we may not understand, and position the book within the broader topic of Indigenous knowledge and experience.

For February-April, we are reading *Scratching River* by Michelle Porter and *Theory of Water: Nishnaabe Maps to the Times Ahead* by Leanne Betasamosake Simpson!

The Project Learn Book Club Gathering will take place on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm (NST). We will be joined by Dr. Michelle Porter, Métis author, storyteller, educator, and Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at Memorial University.

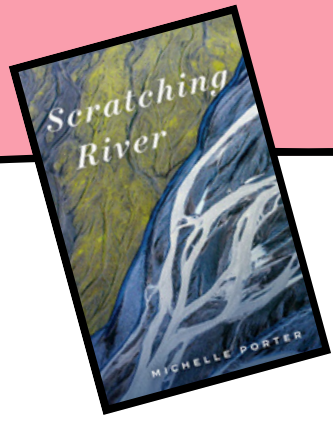
To register: <https://mun.libcal.com/event/4001582>



### UPEI launches new Major in Indigenous Studies!

This new Major in Indigenous Studies reflects our ongoing commitment to Indigenous knowledge, education, research, and community engagement. We look forward to sharing more about the program and the opportunities it will create for our students and community.

Learn more: <https://www.upei.ca/events/2026/03/ikeras-ba-program-event>



## Words Held

**We are reading *Scratching River* by Michelle Porter!**

In 'Scratching River', Red River Métis poet, journalist, and editor Michelle Porter, weaves multiple stories and voices across time to explore the strengths and challenges of the ways in which Métis have created, and continue to create, home through a storied and mobile social geography that is always on the move. The book foregrounds the story of a search for a home for Michelle Porter's older brother, who holds dual diagnoses of schizophrenia and autism, and the abuse he endured at the rural Alberta group home that was supposed to care for him. Interspersed throughout are news clippings about the investigation into "The Ranch," the home in question. Métis history is woven between the contemporary stories of the author, her brother, and her mother. As the pieces come together, the book uses the river as a metaphor to suggest that rather than a weakness, the ability to move and move again and to move on has enabled survival, healing, and ongoing reconciliation.

## Voices Heard

**We are listening to Acadia University's Indigenous Knowledge & Research: Indigenous Research Spotlight Podcast Series!**

The Indigenous Research Spotlight podcast series explores a breadth of topics surrounding Indigenous research with esteemed scholars from across Turtle Island. Education, knowledge protection, ethics, story-telling, methodologies and more are touched upon across the 5 episodes, each focused on the invaluable work and perspectives of Indigenous academic leaders.

[Listen here](#)

## Support Shared

### **Statement of Solidarity supporting the autonomy of the people of Greenland**

We write as the CAAL-CBPA Reconciliation Committee to express our solidarity with the Inuit of Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland), and to affirm our support for Inuit self-determination, sovereignty, and self-government as a nation.

We recognize the issues facing Greenland Inuit are part of a broader global context shaped by colonialism, extractive interest, and external decision-making imposed on Indigenous lands, including the traditional homelands of the Mi'kmaq, Beothuk, Innu, Inuit, Wəlastəkwiyyik, and Peskotomuhkati Peoples of which our institutions are located.

We extend our respect to the Inuit of Kalaallit Nunaat and to Indigenous peoples everywhere who continue to assert their rights, protect their lands, and carry their knowledge for future generations.

## 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)

**CAAL**  
**CBPA**

**Council of Atlantic  
Academic Libraries**

**Conseil des bibliothèques  
postsecondaires de l'Atlantique**