

## Canadian Forest Service, Government of Canada

**Location:** Edmonton region, Alberta

**Project:** “Sacred Connection to Mother Earth” Video

**Industries:** Film Production, Curriculum Education, Environmental & Natural Sciences

**Release Date:** 2023

### PROJECT SUMMARY

In early 2022, Fuse Consulting Ltd. was contracted by the Canadian Forest Service’s Northern Forestry Centre’s Land Reclamation & Ecosystem Restoration Lab to assist them in engaging community outreach about land reclamation. Working with Elder-In-Residence Heather Poitras and Kôhkom Kathy Hamelin, The short film was created exploring different ways people connect with the land through discussions with 3 groups of local Alberta women: Elders, scientists, and farmers. The goal of the video is to showcase different perspectives and support students in their own journeys towards building authentic, positive relationships with the land and their community.

Everyone involved in leading the project - the filmmaker, the producer and the people appearing on the video - were women or identify as two-spirited. There was also a commitment to hire as many Indigenous contractors as possible, including those working in pre- and post-production. The intention behind this project was to go beyond the standard truth and reconciliation protocol, and to build trust and authentic relationships.



connecting **knowledge to practice**



## PROJECT ELEMENTS

As part of the video production process, we created:

- A **short film** (17 minutes in length) geared towards students in Grade 4-9.
- A series of **worksheets and custom illustrations** for use by Alberta teachers to assist in showcasing the SCTME video in their classrooms.

## PROJECT PARTNERS



**The Consulate**  
*Motion graphic creation*  
Based in Edmonton, AB



**Nagamo Publishing**  
*Music publishing*  
Based in Toronto, ON



**Nagamo Publishing**  
*Video editing services*  
Based in Edmonton, AB

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In gratitude, we acknowledge this video was created with the teachings of Elder Heather Poitras and Kôhkom Kathy Hamelin. We are grateful for their generosity in sharing their wisdom, experiences and stories with students across the province. We are grateful for the opportunity to create this video filmed on Treaty 6 territory, which is the traditional meeting ground and home of many Indigenous people, including the Cree, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, Métis, and Nakota Sioux.

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