



The Importance of Place

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About me...

Sah-Kay-Way-Muk-Wa

- Fishing Lake/Yellow Quill First Nation
- Wascabais

Roles that I've had that have shaped my perspective:

- ✓ NCSA
- ✓ Health Executive
- ✓ Political Actor
- ✓ Executive Trainer
- ✓ Helper
- ✓ Student



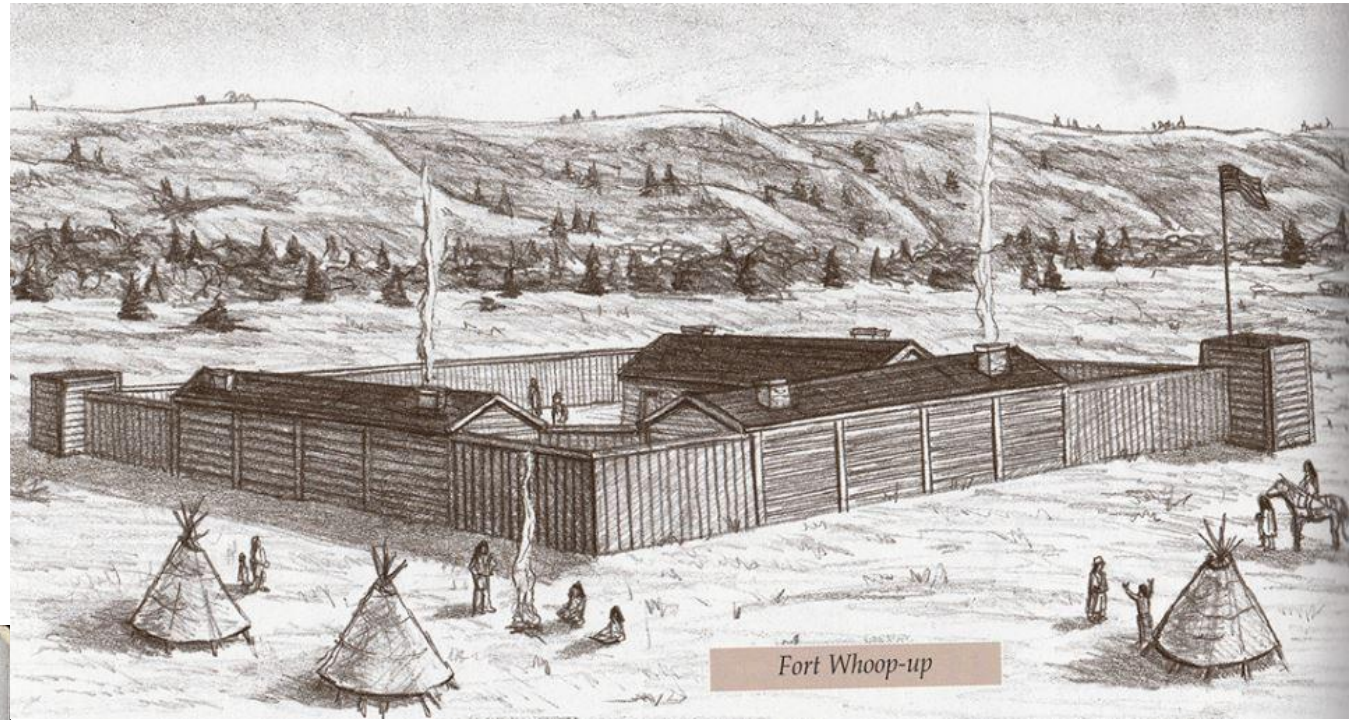
Evidence-Based

- Where you live impacts your health
- Built environment impacts health
- Trauma is attached to place
- Our history is important to us
- Places are important to us (Land use)

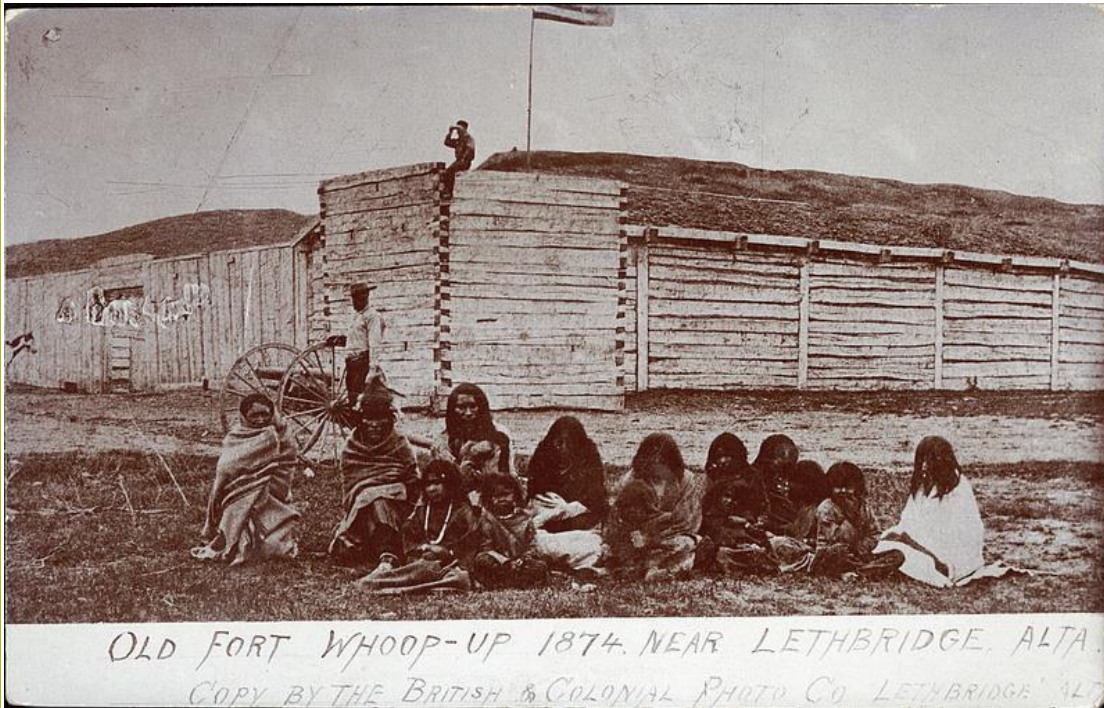
Family outing at Fort Edmonton



We Distort History



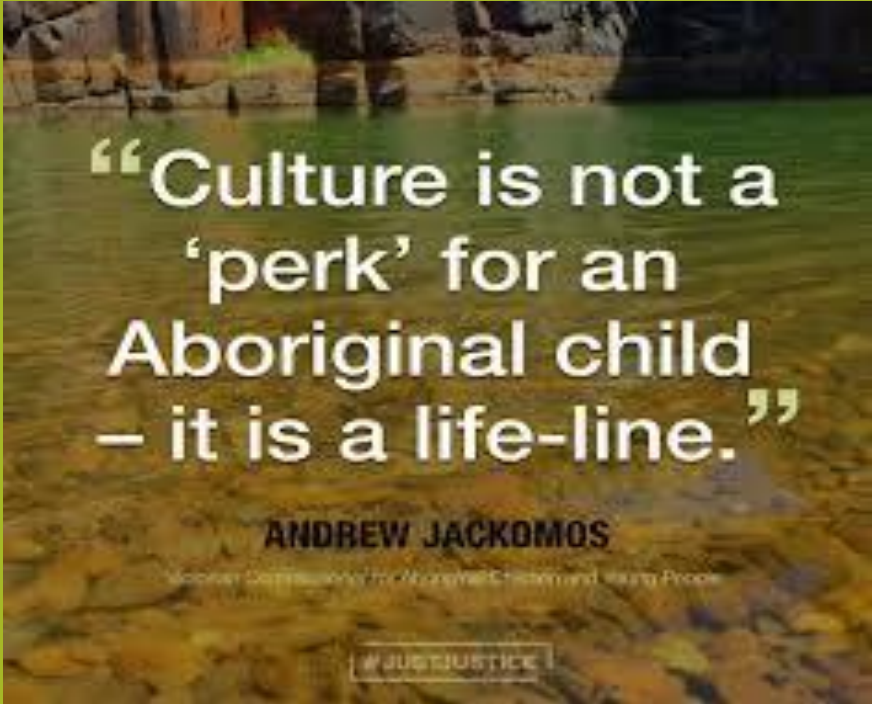
Fort Whoop-up



OLD FORT WHOOP-UP 1874. NEAR LETHBRIDGE, ALTA.
COPY BY THE BRITISH & COLONIAL PHOTO CO. LETHBRIDGE, ALTA.

When I started to learn the story of this place

- “Grandmother, I overcame what they did to us. We are not the savages they said we are. I am keeping the family. I have made you proud- Gilbert Kewistep
- Residential schools and their connection to me
- Impressions of Indigenous people



“Culture is not a
‘perk’ for an
Aboriginal child
– it is a life-line.”

ANDREW JACKOMOS

Member of the Advisory Committee on Aboriginal Children and Young People

#JUSTJUSTICE

What happens when we do not see ourselves reflected in the spaces we live work and play in?

- Enfranchisement-Give up who you are just to celebrate your achievement
- Only one side of the story gets told
- You become ashamed of who you are
- You become who you think you are supposed to be



What happens when you see yourself reflected in the spaces we live work and play in?

What are the lessons learned

- ALL of our history matters and it's important to us



Where do we go from here?

- Living in Heritage conference
- WDM Strategic Direction
- Reconciliation activities
- Learn our history
- Use the lessons we learned



Impact of Place on Family





Migwec!

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