



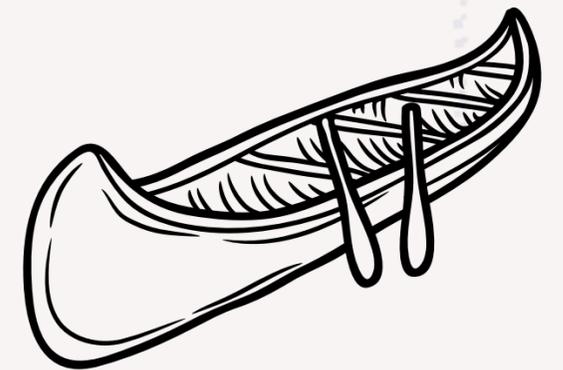
TERMINOLOGY GUIDELINES WITHIN INDIGENOUS CONTEXTS



In this document, we will use the following terms:

Kanata (Canada): is thought to come from the Iroquoian language group. In the Kanien'kéha language, kaná:ta means town or village. It could also derive from the Wendat word yändata', which also means village.

Kepek (Quebec): would have its origins in certain Algonquian languages. We say, for example, kapak in Atikamekw to say "get off" or "disembark" from a boat. One can therefore imagine that this is what the Aboriginals would have repeated to the first Europeans who approached the shore in their boats!





INDIGENOUS

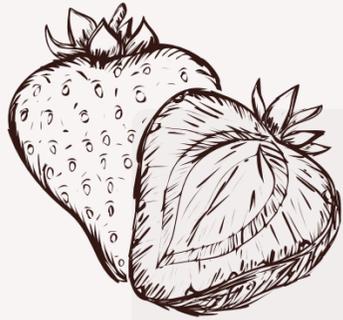
«It is estimated that there are more than 370 million Indigenous people spread across 70 countries worldwide. Practicing unique traditions, they retain social, cultural, economic and political characteristics that are distinct from those of the dominant societies in which they live. Spread across the world from the Arctic to the South Pacific, they are the descendants - according to a common definition - of those who inhabited a country or a geographical region at the time when people of different cultures or ethnic origins arrived. The new arrivals later became dominant through conquest, occupation, settlement or other means.

Among the Indigenous peoples are those of the Americas (for example, the Lakota in the USA, the Mayas in Guatemala or the Aymaras in Bolivia), the Inuit and Aleutians of the circumpolar region, the Saami of northern Europe, the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders of Australia and the Maori of New Zealand.» *

There are 3 Indigenous groups recognized in
Kanata:
First Nations, The Métis Nation and Inuit.

*UNITED NATIONS . (N.D.). WHO ARE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES? - UNITED NATIONS. RETRIEVED JUNE 9, 2022, FROM [HTTPS://WWW.UN.ORG/ESA/SOCDEV/UNPFII/DOCUMENTS/5SESSION_FACTSHEET1.PDF](https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/5session_factsheet1.pdf)





FIRST NATIONS

In Kanata, this is the legal term used to define Indigenous groups across the territory, with the exception of Métis and Inuit. When we mention First Nations, we refer to more than 50 different nations and around 630 communities located from the East Coast to the West Coast of Kanata.

Nations that are part of this group sometimes share similar cultures and languages, but they all have their own realities, histories, traditions, languages, lands and beliefs.



MÉTIS NATION

The Métis Nation is a group whose members are descendants of the Kanata First Nations and early European settlers, with their own history, language (Michif), culture and traditions. It is also the legal term used by Canada.

This term is sometimes confused with the adjective "Mixed", which means coming from two or more different ethnicities.



It should be noted that having multiple ancestors of different ethnicities or being descended from an Indigenous ancestor does not make a person a member of the Métis Nation.

MONKMAN, L. . (2018, DECEMBER 1). MAP SHOWING MÉTIS HOMELAND BOUNDARIES SPARKS ONLINE CONVERSATION. CBC NEWS
[HTTPS://WWW.CBC.CA/NEWS/INDIGENOUS/MAP-SHOWING-MÉTIS-HOMELAND-BOUNDARIES-SPARKS-ONLINE-CONVERSATION-1.4928401](https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/map-showing-métis-homeland-boundaries-sparks-online-conversation-1.4928401)

CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC. (2018, JUNE 20). MÉTIS. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ATLAS OF CANADA. RETRIEVED FROM
[HTTPS://INDIGENOUSPEOPLESATLASOFCANADA.CA/SECTION/METIS/](https://indigenouspeoplesatlasofcanada.ca/section/metis/)

INUIT

Inuit is the term used by Indigenous people from or living in certain circumpolar regions to define their people. Inuit are found, but not exclusively, in Russia, Siberia, Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland), Alaska, and Kanata. The territory of the Inuit north of Kanata is called Inuit Nunangat and extends from the northern Yukon to Nunatsiavut (northern Labrador).

Note that the term Inuit is used when referring to the people (larger group) or several people who are a part of this group. Inuit is a word in Inuktitut and is already in the plural form. It does not require the addition of an 'S'.



Inuk: 1 person
Inuuk: 2 people and more
Inuit: 3 people and more



NATION

a term that can refer to different social or geographical groups and its members, such as clans, families and communities, with a common culture, history, territory, language, living environment and traditions.



COMMUNITY

a geographic location where some First Nations and Métis people reside, also known as a "reserve". Indigenous people will often refer to their community, especially during presentations, for example: "I am Innu (identity) from the community of Natashquan".

For the Inuit, the term "village" is commonly used.





NON-INDIGENOUS

a general and appropriate term for individuals who are not Indigenous.

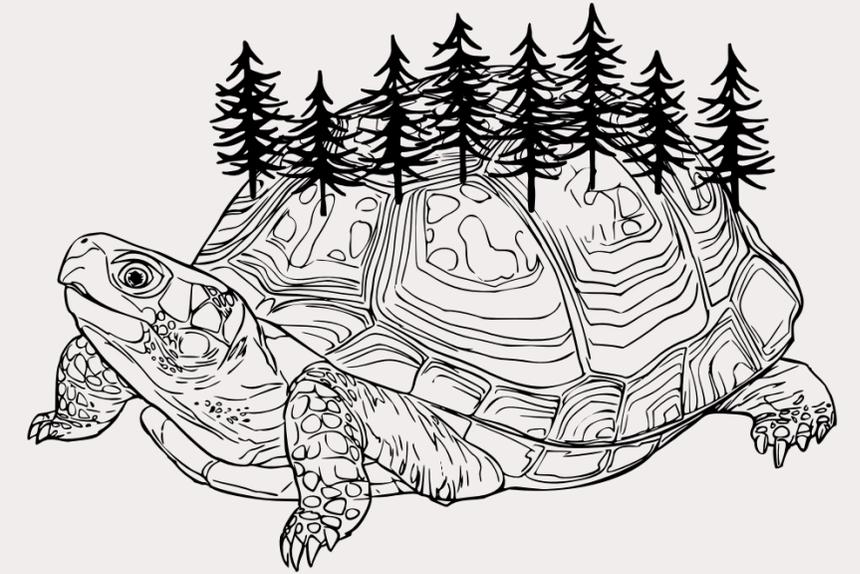


SETTLER

This name may be used to define people who occupy territory to which they are not indigenous, such as the settlers and their descendants on Turtle Island. In English Kanata, the term settlers is often heard.

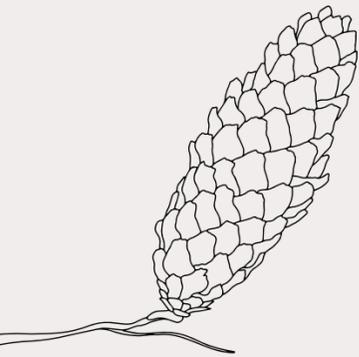
TURTLE ISLAND

a geographical place corresponding to North America used by several First Nations, representing the territory from México to Kanata. Similar names can be found in several legends, in which the territory where we live would be carried on the back of a turtle, the whole looking like an island in the middle of a large expanse of water. This great territory has different names, depending on the nation.



LAND/TERRITORY

a term often used in the Indigenous context when referring to a geographic area and everything in it, including waterways, flora and fauna. The land is the environment, the nature, the place where we live, where we travel to hunt, fish and eat, where we learn the language, but much more.



FIRST PEOPLES

a term that can also be used to refer to Indigenous people around the world.

TERMS TO BE AWARE OF OR AVOID

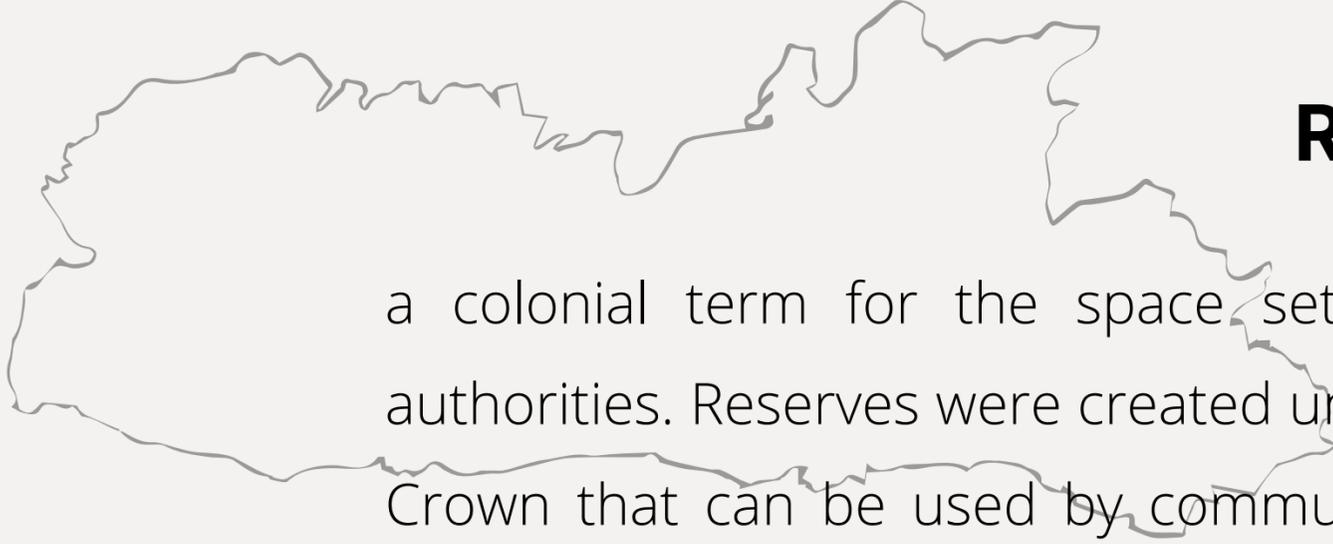


INDIAN

an outdated term that is often perceived as pejorative. Some First Nations or Métis members still use it, sometimes as a way to reclaim pejorative names that were imposed on them. On the other hand, "status Indian", "non-status Indian" and "Indian status" are legal terms that are still used in government documents such as in the *Indian Act*.

NATIVE

an outdated and questioned term in Kepek, which can easily be replaced by Native American. "Native American" is another term given by non-Native people to refer to all Indigenous groups of so-called America.



RESERVE

a colonial term for the space set aside for First Nations communities by colonial authorities. Reserves were created under the Indian Act. They are lands held by the British Crown that can be used by community members and are sometimes regulated under different treaties or agreements. There are actually 3,100 reserves in Kanata. Although still used in the administrative world, it is more appropriate to replace this term with "community" in our conversations.

Note that the Inuit & Métis are not recognized by the Indian Act, so we don't really use this term when talking about these groups.

Keep learning!

For further learning on terminology:

How to talk about Indigenous people

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEzjA5RoLv0&ab_channel=CBCNews

Lexicon of Terminology: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/MMIWG_Lexicon_FINAL_ENFR.pdf

Map of the 11 Nations in Kepek

https://amnistie.ca/sites/default/files/2021-09/Carte_FR_24x36_2021_PRINT.pdf

Inuit and Indigenous terms on Katilvik glossary

<https://katilvik.com/glossary/>

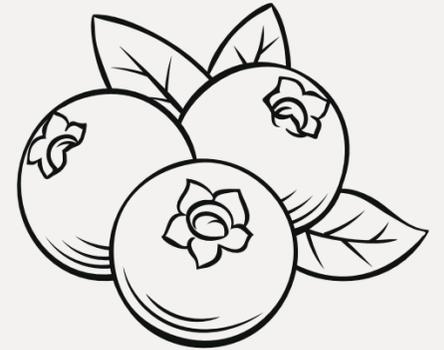
CRÉDIT

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Suivez-nous!

