



Red Road New Year Message

Greetings everyone who turns to this page! Happy light returning inside and outside ourselves...longer days...new hope...new beginnings...less COVID19 !!!

One certainly does not realize how much they interact with people until they can't....and not just can't for a day or so...moving towards a year now! Over the holidays, I looked at different media presentations...one presentation that really leapt out at me, was the number of people killed in WW II; and subsequently the number who perished in the black plague, Spanish flu...wowzer...

I encourage people to read BOOK OF THE HOPI, a very dry anthropological study by Frank Waters in the seventies. Dry though it is; contrarily, it is overflowing with palpable accurate information, applicable then; and still, applicable today; especially during these pandemic times. The Hopi's are an amazing group of North American Indigenous people; still practicing their yearly ceremonial cycle that ALL EARTH PEOPLES benefit from. They are the kachina, pueblo peoples; the Anasazi to some; with oral history of previous worlds and universes. Maintaining a good relationship to ourselves, Creator, and our relatives; is all important to the Hopi; and simultaneously, to our Plains Indigenous people through the Ghost Dance prophecy.

This is our current status. Difficult at times to ground ourselves within the chaos of the pandemic; on the other hand, it has provided us with an opportunity 'to put our house in order' sort of speak...or our tipi...or our cabin...in other words, ground ourselves within the above and below, the four directions...the ball. Depending on what's gone on in our lives; this can be difficult. What is REALLY important? What can we do 'with less of'? What do we need 'more of'? When the pandemic stops; then what?

We usually do vision boards at the beginning of a New Year; however, our new year can be anytime...as time is a man-made concept. Anyhow, without drifting off philosophically too much...I believe we will do vision boards socially distanced and on You Tube with our counselors and Elders...so it will be an exercise and a sharing circle. Therefore, don't throw out your inspiring 2019 calendars; and possibly some favorite magazines; as you may find these pictures useful (along with other items you may come across) to reflect your vision, dreams and aspirations; onto your vision board. For those who can pick up supplies from us, do so. If you are at a distance (like out of town), and cannot come in, you will have to pick up your own supplies...and of course; those few attending will have access to supplies. You will need Bristol Board(s), scissors, items to put on your board; plus possibly felties, tape, ribbon, glue, Velcro,

photos...and whatever else that has meaning for you; and is attachable to your board creation. We will showcase some previous vision boards...to give you some ideas. AND for some in the city (who cannot get to the agency), we can probably drop off supplies. It can be a way to collect family events, diffuse the pandemic stress, celebrate life. So until we get together, you may want to consider a theme(s) for your vision board.

On another note, Red Road has expanded their website and is building more of a virtual platform. Please check out Indigenized Early Childhood Education...may need to go through top tabs, to find Education. Other topics will be uploaded as we go along this year. AND if there are topics you want to learn more about, let us know. The Cree and Stoney classes are to be streamed this year.

For those who have access to You Tube, you may also want to check out London's 2021 New Year celebration.

Our calendar is posted-get involved where you can-Cree and Stoney classes will begin around the end of January; (or when the second wave restriction lifts). Facebook, email or text us...YES we are having all kinds of tech issues...our phones should be resolved by the middle of January 2021; our website is an ongoing re-construct...it is getting easier to navigate...please be patient with us!!!

AND we are getting our new logo on shirts and jackets....look for those in spring!!!

Meanwhile stay safe, be kind, look after one another!

Mitakuye Oyasin...sent to my iphone Christmas Morning from my niece in South Dakota! Lets be involved in the Indigenous youth horseback ride this summer, for the healing of those traumatic sites of our Indigenous peoples; and the revitalization and celebration of our Indigenous youth!



AND lest I (and others) forget our brave Scottish relatives...

And here's a hand my trusty frien;

And gie's a hand o'thine;

We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet,

For Auld Lang Syne.