

Building Connections with the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada



Elder Priscilla Yellowhead Tobey, storyteller.

The Presbytery of Grey-Bruce-Maitland is fortunate to have Aboriginal families right in our backyard. Sadly, most of us do not know these neighbours.

Our presbytery began by looking on the Saugeen First Nations web-site for summer events that would be interesting and informative for our congregations.

In May 2007, the Presbytery Mission Committee reported the following events to Presbytery:

- the date and place of the Annual Pow Wow
- two storytelling events - on Thursdays and Fridays throughout the summer (with dinner included on Fridays). Priscilla Yellowhead Tobey (an Ojibway Elder) was the storyteller.

A bulletin insert with this information was sent to each congregation.

Those who attended the storytelling events reported that the dinner was exceptional! It included fresh Whitefish, lightly coated and cooked over an open fire, served with potatoes sauteed with wild leeks, corn on the cob, oven-baked Indian bread (bannock), a dessert made of in-season fruit, and a traditional cedar tea flavoured with a touch of wild ginger syrup.



Presbytery of Grey-Bruce-Maitland members enjoying a meal at the Saugeen First Nation.

How does one begin to connect with the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada?
It's not as difficult as you might think!

Written by Susan Samuel

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