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Ancestral.science.podcast



Ancestral Science Podcast

The Ancestral Science Podcast explores scientific topics through conversations between Knowledge Keepers and Scientists, while *experiencing* the origins and depth of science on and with “the Land”. Join us as science COMES ALIVE when knowledges are shared alongside ancestor plants, rocks, animals, and rivers, creating connections between personal, Indigenous, and global science. The Ancestral Science podcast is a place for *everyone* to see themselves in science, to be inspired by the SCIENCE that is all around them and expand the definitions of both *ancestor* and *science*.

SEASON 2 : Episode 15 (audio/video) with **Cheyenne SEGO**

“Change Making, Anishnawbek Mathematics, & Sturgeon Legs”

We were grateful to speak with **CHEYENNE SEGO** from Sagamok Anishnawbek & Wiikememkoog Unceded Territory about the scientific significance of the teachings of gut feelings, Anishnawbek Mathematics, stories of the time when sturgeon had legs and beavers were giants, economic reconciliation, and the resurgence of Indigenous peoples, science, and the seven sacred teachings.

Remember, you can support the pod and rock some unique Indigenous Science merch at www.relationalsciencecircle.com/shop, all proceeds go towards Knowledge Keeper honoraria, following protocols, and keeping the pod going.

Please like, share, follow, and rate the pod, it goes a long way to share this knowledge.

Episode correction: Cheyenne commented on there being “more student-to-student abuse in residential schools” but meant to say “there was more student-to-student abuse in residential schools than the researchers were expecting.”

SHOWNOTES:

-What is science to you?

-relationship with how we survive on the land

-Beginnings of better understanding Indigenous Mathematics

-Anishnawbek Math Course with Bryan Bellefeuille

“[A lesson in Indigenous traditional math](#)” article by Kelly Anne Smith

-including algebra, data management, observation, patterns

-all these are about balance

-[Traditional Indigenous Mathematics](#) (video)- Bryan Bellefeuille (Anishnawbe of Nipissing First Nation)

-relating mathematics to the [Seven Grandfathers Teachings](#)

- returning to values
- instincts for how to survive
- [seven grandfather teachings](#) (from Nottawaseppi Huron, Band of Potawatomi)

-Listening to our Gut Feelings

- [2024 Turtle Island Indigenous Science Conference](#)
- “my gut feelings brought me to this conference,” and I ended up connecting with people who knew about what I am talking about (Indigenous mathematics/science)
- heard Kori’s [Tedx Talk](#) “Intuition, Belly Buttons, & Science”
- Went to the 2024 TIISC on a broke whim, and ended up receiving an unexpected sponsorship from [Issac Murdoch](#), eternally grateful,
- travelling the path with the least resistance

-Cheyenne’s relationship with math/science.

- I have always loved patterns and chemistry
- was always great at “math minute,” and applied math
- Tetris- as a framework of doing things/multi-tasking with the gift of ADHD
- Mel Robins- “[5 second Rule](#)” (video) recognizing that the feelings of anxiety are chemically the same as when the body is feeling excited

- Anishinabek Math

- Joe Pitawanakwat “The Plant Guy”
 - connecting stories from hundreds of thousands of years ago about sturgeon still having legs, and their connection to plants and helping with current sustainability measures.
 - “[Indigenous Knowledges sometimes pre-date current Human Speciation \(500,000 years\)](#)” (video) with Joe Pitawanakwat.
 - “[This plant medicine teacher is reclaiming Anishinaabe names for species, Why that could be good for the planet](#)” article by Duncan McCue
- Lenore Keeshig (Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation) video “[Indigenous Speakers Series](#)”, [article](#)
 - told about the giant beaver that helped create the great lakes
 - “[Saukiing Anishnaabekiing- Stories from the Land](#)” (video) Lenore Keeshig
- Horsetail, [the ancient plant](#).
- “[An Indigenous Research Methodology that Employs Anishinaabek Elders, Language Speakers, and Women’s Knowledge for Sustainable Water Governance](#)” article by Susan Chiblow

-Future of Indigenous Math/Science

- we need to invest in Indigenous research
- creating our own community knowledge banks, and having governance over our data; thus contributing towards Indigenous sovereignty, and saving the environment
- [Forward Summit](#)
- Economic Reconciliation
 - [exploring the rise of ‘economic reconciliation’ in Canada](#) (CBC article)

-[Economic Reconciliation requires First Nations to be Equal Partners, says AFN National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak](#) (Assembly of First Nations article)

-[economic reconciliation: Paving the way to concrete economic solutions](#) (Indigenous Education article).

-need a focus on gender equality, social justice

-walk the talk of the Seven Grandfather Teachings

-[Aboriginal Healing Foundation](#)

-we need more Indigenous Scientists!!

-need our own data governance

-*we can save the world by starting local!*

-“maybe I can’t save the world, but maybe I can save my world, my community.”

-create community within your research department

-need more resources

-knowledge “bank”

-Biggest Challenges within Indigenous Science

-lack of validation and resources

- need money and humans to support and lead

-there is a resurgence within Indigenous peoples

-everyone needs to listen!

-Hopes for the future

-“being a good Ancestor”

-we do this through the actions we do today

-Rosa Parks - how far it led for the Black community, by refusing to give up a seat

-what we do today matters.

-those actions we do today, how far will it get for the seven generations of tomorrow

Want more Indigenous Science Resources? Check out [Relational Science Circle](#).

Want to learn more about Indigenous Science, Indigenous Science/Mathematics Teacher PD sessions, or have an idea for a guest or topic for the Ancestral Science Podcast, email relational.science@gmail.com

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