



# INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCES

## Indigenous Experiences – OFFSITE – Workshops & Animations

### Indigenous Experiences

INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCES (formerly Aboriginal Experiences Arts & Culture) has built a solid reputation for creating authentic experiences that showcase culture, history, food, music, art, fashion, dance and even entrepreneurship that is reflective and respectful of Canada's diverse Indigenous heritage.

For over 25 years, our roots-proud and roots-driven organization has been presenting Indigenous Peoples culture, history, food, and arts to mainstream audiences in the form of invited performers, as coordinators of numerous festivals, special events, national and international conferences, and as in-school presenters for elementary students.

In 2002, in partnership with the Odawa Friendship Centre, a cultural centre serving Indigenous communities in the capital region, we created a seasonal attraction in Ottawa-Gatineau that draws over 30,000 Canadian and International visitors each year and ranks as one of Canada's most established and successful Indigenous cultural tourism products. The Indigenous Experiences attraction has been recognized with four industry awards and is designated as a DESTINATION CANADA Signature Experience.

Our ongoing partnerships within the Canadian Indigenous community and our vast network of entertainment and cultural resources have contributed to our position as indigenous tourism experts.

Our event expertise ranges from booking entertainment to providing catering or a barbeque for 4,000 guests, to planning and managing all aspects of multi-day events for 10 to 50,000 people.

We regularly provide consulting services for the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada (ITAC) and various provincial tourism ministries.

Although there are other Indigenous event planners, we stand apart with the most extensive experience in sharing our culture with dignity and pride whether for the public at large, corporate audiences or our international clientele.

### **Our Entertainment at your Event**

Indigenous entertainment has wide appeal for both Canadian and international audiences, which can add a unique dimension to your next event. Indigenous Experiences brings together Indigenous talent from across Canada to perform for school, corporate, and public audiences of over 50,000 annually.

Please see below for a detailed list of available programming offered by Indigenous Experiences – At your location of choice!

**Corporate / Event Services:**

End to end festival and event management

Cultural program development

Culinary programs

Catering services

Entertainment programming

Artist/Talent booking,

Technical production & logistics

We plan and manage Indigenous programming for:

- major cultural and tourism events and festivals
- corporate conferences and events
- employee celebrations and retreats
- domestic and international tour companies (seniors, students, families, and professionals) seeking Indigenous programming in Ottawa-Gatineau or across Canada

Some of our events include:

- Canadian Tulip Festival
- Winterlude
- Canada Day on Parliament Hill
- Rendez Vous Canada - International Tour & Travel - Marketplace
- Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival & Competition Pow Wow
- Westboro Fuse Street Festival
- Aboriginal Pavilion at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games held in Vancouver (Exclusive Caterers)
- Indigenous Experiences -seasonal tourist attraction in Canada's Capital

**Why Choose IE to program your next event:**

- Authenticity: All our Indigenous cultural programming and artistic performances are developed and delivered by our talented community of Indigenous artists.
- Proven Success: We have a stellar track record in planning and implementing Indigenous cultural events within public venues, which are open and welcoming for the public, but respectful of Indigenous culture and protocol.
- Talented Team: Our Indigenous team of professional event planners is available to tackle all of the detailed logistical, artistic and administrative areas of the event.

- Ongoing Partnerships: We have access to many local and national level Indigenous artists, including a current database of over 350 Indigenous artists of all disciplines available for performances and events along with proven networks to discover and profile new talent.
- Established Administration and Support: Your project is supported by a comprehensive infrastructure including reception, phone/fax, book-keeping, computer reservation systems and more.

IE's innovative programming and entertainment services for major tourism and corporate events have helped to establish us as leaders in the industry.



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## **MAKE YOUR EVENT COMPLETE WITH INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCES:**

We want to ensure that your time with us is the best experience possible and exceeds all expectations. When booking with IE, please consider adding any of our customized programs and options to provide your guests with a more memorable Indigenous Experience.

Please note these options are offered a la carte so that you can build a program and experience, that supports your groups interests and time available.

### **Traditional Opening and Welcome**

Invite one of our Cultural Ambassadors (or a local elder) to welcome your group in a traditional manner with a personal introduction, Algonquin Land Acknowledgement, and welcome song. Approximately 10 minutes.

**Ambassador Welcome - \$ 400 + HST**

**Invited Elder Opening - \$ 600 + HST**

## **Interactive & Educational Workshops**

### **Introduction to Indigenous Culture**

This workshop will be led by our team of Indigenous cultural ambassadors- and they will introduce the participants to the rich diversity of our nations, the common beliefs and way of life among our community's and some of the most common questions they receive. This introductory hour will end with an opportunity for the guests to engage with our ambassadors and any questions they may have.

***Approx. 1.0 hours with introduction and questions***

**\$1,000 +HST**

**- Includes 2 ambassadors and table w/ artifacts**

### **Feel the Heartbeat Workshop**

Visitors and guests will explore our strong connection to Mother Earth through her "Heartbeat" while learning a new song and exploring musical connections through this interactive workshop. This music workshop is interactive where the audience participates with rattles and a stomp dance.

***Lead By our ambassadors. Approx. 1 hour.***

**Full Day of Workshops (max. of 4 groups) - \$1,000 + HST**

**½ Day of Workshops (max. 2 groups) - \$ 750 + HST**

## Make and Take Creative Workshops

### Dreamcatcher /Medicine Wheel

Lead by one of our ambassadors, this workshop will have your guests making their own dreamcatcher and learning about the traditional origin story of dreamcatchers or the teachings of the medicine wheel with 4 sacred colours, directions, and medicines.

***Animated Workshop - By one of our ambassadors Approx. 1 to 1.5 hours.***

**Workshop Hosting Cost    \$ 500 + HST**

**Each kit is an additional \$ 10 per person + HST**

### Corn Husk Dolls

Lead by one of our ambassadors, this workshop uses the husks from corn to create a traditional no face doll. In Indigenous tradition – the dolls have no face, and you will learn the meaning behind that.

***Animated Workshop - By one of our ambassadors Approx. 45 minutes to 1 hour.***

**Workshop Hosting Cost    \$ 500 + HST**

**Each kit is an additional \$ 10 per person + HST**

### Rattle Workshop

Enjoy the traditional stories and historical knowledge as you are guided through the process of crafting a traditional rattle! Using traditional materials, you will weave deer skin around a birchwood frame with the leather lacing provided and add corn inside before tying off to dry overnight.

***Animated Workshop - By David Finkle. Approx. 1 hour***

**Workshop Hosting Cost    \$ 500 + HST**

**Each kit is an additional \$ 50 per person + HST**

### Hand Drum Workshop

Enjoy traditional stories and historical knowledge (and don't hesitate to ask questions) as you are guided through the process of crafting your own Traditional Hand Drum! Using traditional materials you will weave deer skin around an Ashwood frame with the leather lacing, before tying off to dry overnight.

***Animated Workshop - By David Finkle. Approx. 3 hours.***

**Workshop Hosting Cost    \$ 500 + HST**

**Each kit is an additional \$ 110 per person + HST**



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## Activated Spaces & Animations

### Rare Ojibway Spirit Horses

Witness the beauty and hear the stories of the Rare Ojibway Spirit Horses.

Indigenous Experiences are proud to welcome our new herd of the rare and endangered Ojibwe Spirit Horses to the Mādahòki farm. These horses really share their own story on the sacred connection to the Ontario lands where they roamed free for thousands of years. You will have a chance to see these special little horses and hear their stories through the work of Artist Rhonda Snow with a painted series of stories she collected from the Elders across Turtle Island on their memories of this once wild horse.

***Animated Booth Space - By our ambassadors includes stories and displays***

**Full Day - \$ 1,000 + HST**

***- Visit and Meet our Spirit Horses (+/- - 1 – 2 Spirit Horses & Pen)***

**Full Day - \$ 2,000 + HST**

### Maple Harvest Experience

Ideal for our spring and fall groups, this animation package includes an interactive fireside demonstration on the traditional methods of preparing maple syrup over the campfire. This animation is typically done outdoors in an area where we are allowed to make a fire. Ideal for camps, or events with outdoor programming.

***Animated Space - By our ambassadors includes stories and displays***

**Full Day - \$ 1,000 + HST**



# INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCES

## Team Building Activities & Workshops

To help create an event that meets your corporate objectives, we have listed some of the potential workshops and activities in a format where you can create your custom experience, by adding on any of our cultural programming listed below or independently.

### Elders Teachings & Talking Circle

Invite an elder to do a traditional First Nation land acknowledgment and opening prayer. Each opening ceremony varies – as each elder chooses to share their wisdom in their own way/words.

In addition to their participation, the elder could lead a talking circle to discuss an area of interest for your group or company. **(Must be mentioned at time of Booking as we will confirm the Elders comfort with the subject)**. This tradition includes an opportunity for each voice to be heard, recognized, and valued as part of the process, with the traditional passing of a sacred object. Alternatively, the elder could introduce the rich teachings of the medicine wheel in a cultural awareness workshop.

***Approx. 1.5 hours with opening and talking circle***

**\$ 750 + HST**

### Dream Catcher/Medicine Wheel Workshop

Groups create their own dream catcher or medicine wheel but as part of a team! This activity does not just introduce our guests to the teachings and story behind each craft, it's a lesson in team leadership and communication. Once broken down into smaller groups, team members will take a turn retrieving directions on the next part of the process in creating their own dreamcatcher (or medicine wheel).

They will return to the table and relate the instructions to their team; teaching each of them how to complete it before the next member returns to the instructor for the next step. You can be sure that each team will create unique and memorable dream catchers, no two will be alike! (Includes all equipment and supplies in kit cost)

***Approx. length is 1 to 1.5 hours***

**Workshop Host Cost \$ 500 + HST**

**+ \$ 10 per Craft Kit + HST**

## Interactive Artist Stations -

Having interactive artist stations, where artisans are working on their craft or art has proven to be a very popular way to “bring the culture to life.” The cost per artist may vary (from \$550 + HST to \$900 + HST) and we have some of the following local talents:

- Storytellers
- Birch Bark Canoe Building
- Snowshoe Building
- Traditional Games Demonstrations – Inuit and Metis voyageur (interactive)
- Visual Artists (painting)
- Soap Stone Carving
- Traditional Medicine Teachings
- Beading Styles and Process
- Traditions of Making Maple Syrup
- Teaching Circles on various topics including the medicine wheel, medicines, health, culture, environment, or other topics of interest from an Indigenous perspective
- Traditional smoking and cooking demonstrations