



Red dress day



Le 5 mai marque la Journée nationale de sensibilisation aux femmes et aux filles autochtones disparues et assassinées (MMIWG) au Canada – également connue sous le nom de Journée de la robe rouge – et la Journée de sensibilisation aux personnes autochtones disparues ou assassinées aux États-Unis. La journée rend hommage et accroît la sensibilisation aux milliers de femmes, de filles et de personnes 2SLGBTQQA+ autochtones (bispirituelles, lesbiennes, gaies, bisexuelles, transgenres, queer, en questionnement, intersexuées et asexuelles plus) qui ont été victimes de niveaux disproportionnés de violence dans notre société.



THE FIRST INSTALLATION TOOK PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG IN 2011, WHICH CAUGHT THE PUBLIC'S ATTENTION, RESULTING IN A PERMANENT EXHIBITION AT THE CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE MOVEMENT DEMOCRATIZED IN PUBLIC PLACES SUCH AS UNIVERSITIES, ASSEMBLIES AND THE SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN.

THE RED DRESS BECAME A SYMBOL OF CURSE FOR MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS IN CANADA - THIS WAS DESCRIBED AS "A GENOCIDE" BY THE NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS (MMIWG). THE POLICE DID NOT PAY ATTENTION TO THE MURDERS AND DISAPPEARANCES OF THESE INDIGENOUS WOMEN, THEY DID NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CALLS THEY RECEIVED IN 2010, THE CREATOR JAIME BLACK LAUNCHED HER REDRESS PROJECT, AN ARTISTIC INSTALLATION THAT CONSISTS OF HANGING HUNDREDS OF EMPTY RED DRESSES REPRESENTING MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS IN CANADA. JAIME BLACK SAYS: "THROUGH THE REDRESS PROJECT, THE SPIRITS OF THE MISSING OR MURDERED WOMEN AND GIRLS STAND WITH US HERE TODAY, GIVING US COURAGE, STRENGTH AND CLARITY – LEADING US FORWARD ON THE PATH TO RECLAIM OUR SOVEREIGNTY AS INDIGENOUS WOMEN." THE FIRST INSTALLATION TOOK PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG IN 2011, WHICH CAUGHT THE PUBLIC'S ATTENTION, RESULTING IN A PERMANENT EXHIBITION AT THE CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE MOVEMENT DEMOCRATIZED IN PUBLIC PLACES SUCH AS UNIVERSITIES, ASSEMBLIES AND THE SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN.



JAIME BLACK IS OF ANISHINABE AND FINNISH DESCENT. THIS CANADIAN MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTIST-ACTIVIST IS INTERESTED IN THE REPRESENTATION AND IDENTITY OF FIRST NATIONS AND ABORIGINALS, AND IDENTIFIES AS MÉTIS. SHE IS BEST KNOWN FOR HER ART INSTALLATION "THE REDRESS PROJECT", WHICH SHE CREATED IN RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS OF MISSING AND MURDERED ABORIGINAL WOMEN IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES. ACCORDING TO A 2014 REPORT BY THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE, MORE THAN 1,000 ABORIGINAL WOMEN WERE MURDERED OVER A 30-YEAR PERIOD FROM 1980 TO 2012. HOWEVER, SOME INDIGENOUS RIGHTS GROUPS DISPUTE THESE REPORTS, CLAIMING THE NUMBER IS MUCH HIGHER THAN THE GOVERNMENT HAS ACKNOWLEDGED. BLACK'S CREATIVE PRACTICE FOCUSES ON INDIGENOUS FEMININITY AND THE EFFECTS OF COLONISATION ON THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF NORTH AMERICA. HER WORK HAS BEEN EXHIBITED IN NUMEROUS MUSEUMS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA AND HAS BEEN RECOGNISED BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH CREATED A PUBLIC HOLIDAY TO CELEBRATE HER WORK AS PART OF THE REDRESS PROJECT, CALLED 'RED DRESS DAY'.

HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Constitution of Canada recognizes three groups of Indigenous peoples: First Nations, Métis and Inuit. They are three distinct peoples with unique histories, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs. More than one million people in Canada identify themselves as an Indigenous person, according to the 2006 Census.

During the long colonial rivalry between France and Great-Britain, different First Nations groups were important allies to both European powers. The 1763 Royal Proclamation is the basis for the recognition of their Aboriginal rights to lands and resources.

However, throughout the following centuries, Indigenous people were denied rights and land by the Canadian government and society.

For over a century, Indigenous children were removed from their families and homes and taken to residential schools where they were educated under the authority of the Government of Canada.

On June 11, 2008, Prime Minister Stephen Harper offered an historic apology to former students and their families and sought forgiveness for the suffering and the long-lasting impact.

1763
The royal Proclamation

1876
Indian Act

1953
Inuit relocation

1982
Canadian Constitution

2008
Formal apology

2019
MMIWG National inquiry

A BRIEF HISTORY OF
INDIGENOUS RELATIONS IN CANADA

Grand angle

L'actualité en images



Cooper's Hill Cheese-Rolling -Everything for a cheese-



Every year a competition is organised in May : competitors race down Cooper Hill and descend 100m in order to catch a cheese in the race.

Participants run down the hill behind a cheese (the seven-pound Double Gloucester): the first person to cross the finish line wins the cheese. In theory, the winner is supposed to have caught the cheese. But this one is launched before the competitors and can reach speeds of 100 km/h. So, the rules of the game have been changed a little to allow you to win the famous cheese. It is difficult to obtain precise information about the origin of this event, but the tradition has existed for at least 200 years. The race could date from Roman times or could also be a pagan healing rite among other theories.

In 1972 a spectator was injured by the cheese, but this type of problem rarely happens. On the other hand, due to the poor state of the terrain, a significant number of participants are injured each year. With injuries ranging from sprained ankles to broken bones, a first aid service is provided by ambulances at the bottom of the hill.