

FUTURES

+

RESPONSIBILITY

*Restoration as* \_\_\_\_\_  
**World-Building**

\_\_\_\_\_ *An Intergenerational,  
Land-Based Framework  
for Reckoning & Futures*

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LAND + POLICY + EMBODIMENT + INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP



UNITED INDIANS  
OF ALL TRIBES FOUNDATION



THEY SHARE A COMMON ROOT.

*We are living inside a polycrisis*

# WHY THIS WORK & WHY NOW?

- Climate destabilization
- Ecological fragmentation
- Institutional burnout
- Loss of public trust
- Widespread climate anxiety & numbness



THESE ARE NOT SEPARATE PROBLEMS

WORLD-BUILDING HAPPENS EVERY DAY. THE QUESTION IS: WHAT KIND OF WORLD?

# A FRAMING SHIFT



THIS WORKSHOP IS NOT ABOUT SOLUTIONS

- IT IS ABOUT ORIENTATION
- IT IS ABOUT HOW WE ARE TRAINED TO SEE
- IT IS ABOUT WHAT OUR WORK IS QUIETLY BUILDING

# PLACE & TIME

Land is not neutral



## EVERY PLACE HOLDS OVERLAPPING TIMELINES:

- Geological time
- Indigenous stewardship (time immemorial)
- Colonial interruption
- Continuance & Land Back
- Future generations

ANCHOR EXAMPLE: DAYBREAK STAR INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER

RESTORATION AS

# WORLD-BUILDING

*Restoration is not just ecological repair*

SHIFT IN FRAMING:

- FROM MANAGEMENT → RELATIONSHIP
- FROM OUTCOMES → RESPONSIBILITY
- FROM COMPLETION → CONTINUANCE

Short-term fixes often create long-term harm.

# INTERGENERATIONAL LENS

## *Seeing through 'long time'*

An Intergenerational Lens Asks:

- Who came before this work?
- Who is affected now but not in the room?
- Who will live with the consequences later?

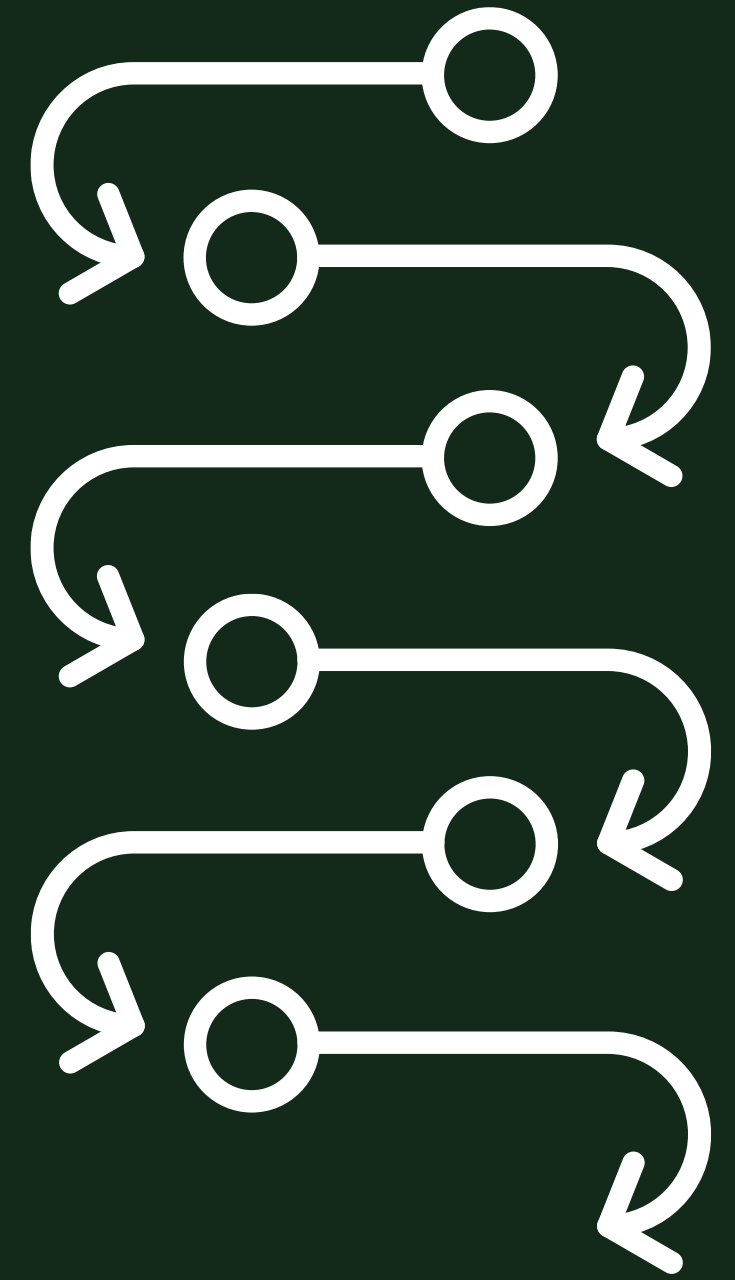
THESE STEPS ARE STRUCTURAL TO COLONIALITY & SUPREMACY

# THE 5 INTERLOCKING STEPS OF COLONIZATION

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*(GARY PETERSON, SKOKOMISH — NOW AN ANCESTOR)*

- TAKE THE LAND
- TAKE THE RESOURCES
- TAKE THE LANGUAGE
- TAKE THE CHILDREN
- TAKE THE LEGITIMACY OF  
THOUGHT





WHERE HAS THIS TAKEN ROOT IN US ALL?

Colonization requires more than force

# WHY THESE STEPS MATTER

Each step:

- Disrupted relationship
- Consolidated power
- Interrupted continuity

*Understanding these steps helps us see what must be repaired — not just resisted.*

# THE RIVER OF CULTURE

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# Sacred → Scared → Scarred

*(Gary Peterson, Skokomish)*

- Sacred — pre-contact, relational continuity
- Scared — land theft, displacement, survival mode
- Scarred — policy, boarding schools, language loss

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CULTURE WAS NOT ERASED — IT WAS INTERRUPTED.

**Time**  
**Immemorial**  
**SACRED**

**GARY PETTERSONSKOK**  
(OMISH-TWANA)

**1828**  
**Then -**  
**Scared**

**1872**  
**Grandmother Born**

**1881**  
**Indian Act**

**1891**  
**Indian Wars End**

**1934**  
**Indian Relocation Act**

**1953**  
**Termination**  
**Act**

**1964**  
**War on Poverty**

**1978**  
**IRFA & ICWA**

**1878**  
**Boarding Schools**

**1914**  
**WWI**

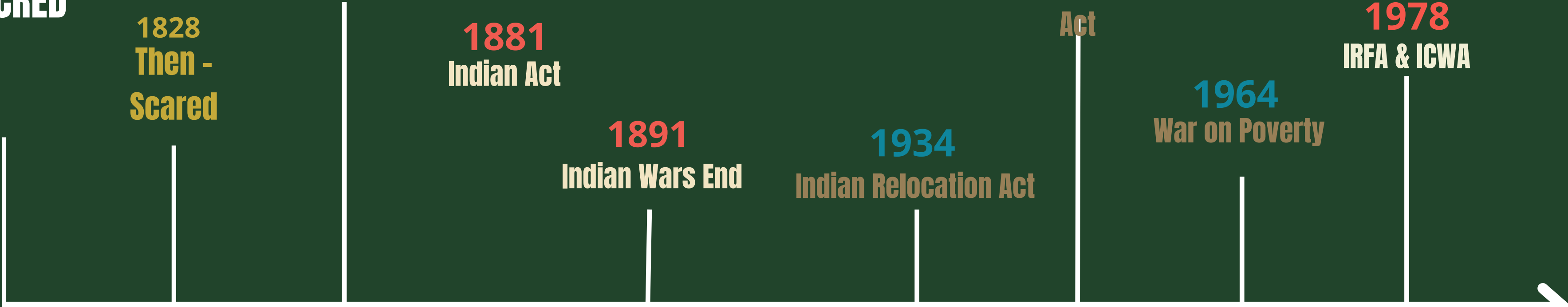
**1924**  
**Indian Citizenship**

**1887**  
**Dawes Act**

**1963**  
**Population Down**

**Now -**  
**Scarred**

**Sovereignty**  
**Government to**  
**Government**  
**Human Beings**



# POLICY AS A MECHANISM

*Colonization shapes laws & policies*

## EXAMPLES:

- Treaty era & land seizure (1850s)
- Homestead Act
- Boarding school policies
- Allotment & termination
- Relocation & management frameworks

**Policy doesn't just  
regulate land — it  
shapes relationships.**





HOW HAS MY FIELD — OR MY FAMILY — BEEN SHAPED OR BENEFITED BY THESE SYSTEMS?

This is not about blame

*It is about:*

- SEEING OURSELVES IN THE SYSTEM
- INHERITANCE
- BENEFIT
- RESPONSIBILITY

These threads move through institutions — & through us.

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## ***THREADS THAT RUN THROUGH THE SYSTEM***

Common patterns across ecology, governance, health care, carceral systems, & education:

- Control over relationship
- Speed over care
- Abstraction over embodiment
- Ownership over accountability
- Erasure of time

THESE STEPS ARE STRUCTURAL TO COLONIALITY & SUPREMACY

# EMBODIMENT MATTERS

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We cannot think our way out of a crisis that lives in the body.

## Colonial Systems Trained:

- Disconnection
- Numbness
- Over-functioning

## This Work Invites:

- Sensation
- Feeling as data
- Staying present without collapse

REORIENTATION, NOT OVERHAUL

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**The invitation is small — & real**

**Not:**

- **More tasks**
- **Perfect answers**
- **Individual heroics**

**But:**

- **Shifts in language**
- **Shifts in time horizons**
- **Shifts in who is centered**
- **Shifts in what remains unfinished**

CULTURE WAS NOT ERASED — IT WAS INTERRUPTED.

The work is not to fix the world — but to stay in relationship long enough build something different.

# IN CLOSING

We don't leave with solutions...

We leave with:

- Clearer sight
- Greater capacity
- Shared responsibility
- Tools for continued reckoning



# List of Resources & Gratitude:

## INDIGENOUS WISDOM KEEPERS & LINEAGE

*Indigenous Leadership & Knowledge Systems*

*Gary Peterson (Skokomish), now an ancestor*

- The Five Interlocking Steps of Colonization
- The River of Culture: Sacred → Scared → Scarred

*Indigenous nations and communities whose stewardship, governance, and relational knowledge systems have existed since time immemorial*

*Land Back movements and Indigenous-led continuance efforts across Turtle Island*

## PLACE-BASED GROUNDING

*This work is grounded in place*

- Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center

*A site of Indigenous resistance, reclamation, and living leadership*

*Shaped by geological time, pre-contact stewardship, colonial interruption, and continuance*

## LAND, ECOLOGY & STEWARDSHIP LINEAGE

*Land-Based Knowledge & Ecological Relationship*

- Braiding Sweetgrass — reciprocity, Indigenous science, land as teacher
- Tending the Wild — Indigenous land stewardship practices
- Feral Atlas — infrastructure, disturbance, and ecology

## IMBODIMENT, GRIEF & SOMATIC KNOWING

*Bodies as Sites of Knowledge*

- The Wild Edge of Sorrow — grief as communal and ecological
- **My Grandmother's Hands** — trauma carried in bodies and systems
- Somatic learning traditions that recognize sensation, emotion, and pause as information

## SYSTEMS & WORLD-BUILDING THINKERS

*Systems, Complexity & Deconstructing Modernity*

- Hospicing Modernity — learning to sit with collapse without rushing solutions
- Sand Talk — Indigenous systems thinking and pattern literacy
- Staying with the Trouble — response-ability in times of complexity
- Emergent Strategy — relational change and adaptive practice





