



## INDIGO CELEBRATES INDIGENOUS BOOK CLUB MONTH THIS JUNE WITH #INDIGENOUSREADS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

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*Dive into the diverse world of Indigenous literature this June at Indigo and [indigo.ca](http://indigo.ca)*

Toronto, ON (June 7, 2016) – Indigo (TSX: IDG) invites Canadians of all ages to celebrate National Aboriginal History Month this June by reading books written by Indigenous authors or on the subject of Indigenous affairs. Find a selection of inspiring Indigenous literature at all Indigo, Chapters, Coles and Indigospirit locations across Canada, and online at [indigo.ca](http://indigo.ca) in the [Indigenous Book Club Month](#) shop.

For the month of June, Indigo in tandem with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada encourages Canadians to share their Indigenous Book Club picks on social media using the hashtag [#IndigenousReads](#). Gather with likeminded booklovers to discuss the following inspired and informative Indigenous titles this month:

### **[The Inconvenient Indian](#) by Thomas King**

The Inconvenient Indian distills the insights gleaned from Thomas King's critical and personal meditation on what it means to be "Indian" in North America, weaving the curiously circular tale of the relationship between non-Natives and Natives in the centuries since the two first encountered each other. In the process, King refashions old stories about historical events and figures, takes a sideways look at film and pop culture, relates his own complex experiences with activism, and articulates a deep and revolutionary understanding of the cumulative effects of ever-shifting laws and treaties on Native peoples and lands.

### **[The Orenda](#) by Joseph Boyden**

A visceral portrait of life at a crossroads, *The Orenda* opens with a brutal massacre and the kidnapping of the young Iroquois Snow Falls, a spirited girl with a special gift. Her captor, Bird, is an elder and one of the Huron Nation's great warriors and statesmen. It has been years since the murder of his family and yet they are never far from his mind. In Snow Falls, Bird recognizes the ghost of his lost daughter and sees the girl possesses powerful magic that will be useful to him on the troubled road ahead. Bird's people have battled the Iroquois for as long as he can remember, but both tribes now face a new, more dangerous threat from afar.

### **[The Reason You Walk](#) by Wab Kinew**

When his father was given a diagnosis of terminal cancer, Winnipeg broadcaster and musician Wab Kinew decided to spend a year reconnecting with the accomplished but distant aboriginal man who'd raised him. Invoking hope, healing and forgiveness, *The Reason You Walk* is a poignant story of a towering but damaged father and his son as they embark on a journey to repair their family bond. By turns lighthearted and solemn, Kinew gives us an inspiring vision for family and cross-cultural reconciliation, and a wider conversation about the future of aboriginal peoples.



**[Birdie](#) by Tracey Lindberg**

Bernice Meetoos will not be broken. A big, beautiful Cree woman with a dark secret in her past, Bernice ("Birdie") has left her home in northern Alberta to travel to Gibsons, B.C. She is on something of a vision quest, looking for family, for home, for understanding. Informed by the lore and knowledge of Cree traditions, *Birdie* is a darkly comic and moving first novel about the universal experience of recovering from tragedy. At heart, it is the story of an extraordinary woman who travels to the deepest part of herself to find the strength to face the past and to build a new life.

**[The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian](#) by Sherman Alexie**

Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, Alexie's work chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.

**[Sweetest Kulu](#) by Celina Kalluk**

This beautiful bedtime poem, written by acclaimed Inuit throat singer Celina Kalluk, describes the gifts given to a newborn baby by all the animals of the Arctic. Lyrically and tenderly told by a mother speaking to her own little "Kulu," an Inuktitut term of endearment often bestowed upon babies and young children, this visually stunning book is infused with the traditional Inuit values of love and respect for the land and its animal inhabitants.

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For media queries, please contact:

Sarah Feldman  
Indigo  
Specialist, Public Relations  
[Sfeldman@indigo.ca](mailto:Sfeldman@indigo.ca)