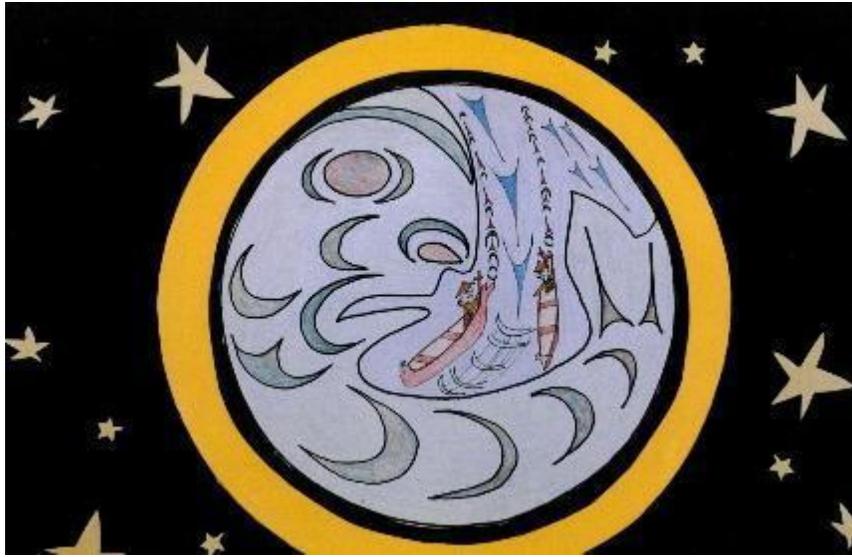


INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

We are in **ĆENƷEƷI** the SOCKEYE MOON of the **ƱSÁNEĆ** peoples.
This moon marks a return to abundance and richness. Now marks a time to begin our celebrations and visiting with relatives further away.



From First Voices [Saanich Moons](#) TƷE SĆELÁNEN EƷI ƱSÁNEĆ
(please explore link for more rich layered sharing that the below quote)

“Our history tells us that we were once very poor, but the Salmon People took pity on us and gave themselves to save us.

At the beginning of the **ĆENƷEƷI** moon and with a special ceremony, reef net anchors were dropped and our ancestors fished hereditary family locations throughout the four salmon months.

The medicine man (**ŚNÁEM**) would paddle to the furthest point east and called on our ancient relative (the salmon) to come and feed the **ƱSÁNEĆ** people.

He prayed, sang, and mentioned all the family reef net locations (**SWÁLET**) that the salmon would pass. ”

HÍSWƷE/Hyjka

- For being here today and lending your eyes and hearts to this work. June 21st is National Indigenous People's Day. Together, we invite you to engage with the good works here and begin to practice putting on a new pair of glasses. The invitation for this day is to engage guided by openness with the many gifts offered here and then engage in good deep questioning. We invite you to learn how to follow protocol, shift your lens, and think about what it means to be an ally.
- Today is just a beginning. We invite you to continue this learning after sunset today. We think of our relative, the sockeye, who should be returning home now. Sadly, our relative's homes, the streams, rivers, and creeks, are in danger. Clear cut logging practices and extraction-based thinking does not make room for safe homes for sockeye. Today, we invite the longer view of prosperity for both human and non-human beings. Today, we invite the lens of the mother tree-- that all living beings are an interconnected community.

....may the waves that lap onto the beach you sit be ever gentle....

