

Buffalo Treaty Tracks

Along the Path to Cooperation,
Renewal and Restoration



THE BUFFALO: A TREATY OF COOPERATION, RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

The Buffalo, linnii, Tatanga, Tatanka, Paskwâwimostos, Xaniti, Qwisp, Kamquâuku† ʔiyamu, Iyanee', heneeceeno', ésevone, Mushkode Bizhikim, Q'weyqway, Hiiʒeinoon, boyzhan, ʔíitaanóónʔi, and Bison all invite you to walk on this path with them.

How to Use This Offering

In this offering you will find a series of 'Buffalo Track' activity cards. You can explore the activities from right where you are. Use them in a classroom with your lesson plans, take them on a walk, or pull one out with a quick cup of tea - anywhere, anytime.

Think of the activity cards as tracks that cross your learning path. Just like finding tracks along a path, you are welcome to:

- follow as many (or as few) as you wish and in any order that makes sense to you.
- pick them up at any time and spend as much (or as little) time as you need.
- re-visit them time and time again. (Following a well-worn path is never quite the same experience twice. Each time the experience is a little bit different because it is a different time in space - you, and all relations along that path carry new understandings of the world.)

Buffalo Treaty Tracks

An offering along the learning path towards honoring, recognizing and revitalizing a relationship with the Buffalo through renewal, restoration and cooperation. These tracks are a tool to encourage people how to think about Buffalo, not what to think about Buffalo.

Audience

Any human, of any age or Nation, looking to nurture their relationship with the Buffalo and expand their understanding of the spirit and intent of the Buffalo Treaty.

Purpose

Learning is a lifelong process of gathering and sharing knowledge. This offering is intended to honour the knowledge you carry, spark curiosity, hold space for exploration and encourage reflection as you walk along your learning path.

Goal

To expand Buffalo consciousness in community.
To explore what Buffalo consciousness means to you.

Buffalo Treaty

Want to know more about being in treaty with the Buffalo or share a resource? Visit www.buffalotreaty.com



Photo Credit: Johane Janelle

To follow the Buffalo Treaty Track activities anywhere, at any time, we suggest that you print these cards. (Sometimes you just can't take the computer with you!)

- Print double-sided
- Cut and/or staple together

Buffalo Treaty Curriculum Created
by Katira Crow Shoe and Christine
Gates-Leach



Take a moment and pause...

Look around and connect with the landscape around you.

Curiosity...

Find a plant nearby. What do you notice? Engage with the plant community - What do your senses tell you about this plant?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about this plant? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- How long has this plant lived on this land? Has it lived here as long as the Buffalo?
- What other names is this plant known by? Why was the plant given these names?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What makes this plant an important part of our ecosystem?
 - What uses does this plant have? What gifts might this plant share with us and other relations?
 - What gifts could you share with this plant?



Take a moment and pause...

Have you ever been out walking on the land and come home with hitching-hiking seeds stuck to your shoelaces? Imagine a Buffalo with seeds in their fur.

Curiosity...

What story do you think those seeds and that buffalo would tell?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about how different plants spread their seeds? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Which plants in your area have seeds that travel like hitchhikers? Who helps them spread their seeds?
- What other ways do plants in your area spread seeds?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How are the Buffalo and the plant with hitchhiking seeds cooperating to renew ecological balance?
 - What actions can you do to support native plant species in your area?
 - What can communities do to support native plant species in your area?



Take a moment and pause...

Think about a time you made (or wanted to make) a cozy 'nest' to curl up in? What did/would you use to build your cozy spot?

Curiosity...

Where do you think birds find the materials to build their nests? What gifts might the Buffalo share to help with nest building?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the different ways birds build their nests? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What birds share the land with you?
- What materials does the land provide for nest building?
- How are gifts from one animal shared with another animal to encourage survival?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What sky, land or water beings might have a direct or indirect relationship with the Buffalo?
 - How do these relationships help renew and restore ecological balance?



Take a moment and pause...

Visit a nearby grassland area, or Imagine you are looking out over Grasslands National Park, located on the traditional territory of several tribes.



Curiosity...

Use all your senses - What do you notice about the health of this grassland?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about grass species and soil health? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What other relations or beings call this place home? What do you notice about the diversity of life?
- Why do you think native grass species are important for a healthy grassland ecosystem?
- Compare the diversity of a grassland where Buffalo grazes with a grassland where there are no longer any Buffalo. How are they similar? Different?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What is the Buffalo's relationship with the land? How do the Buffalo help renew and restore the ecosystem?



"The Buffalo provided everything in regards to life. Provide[d] our spirituality, it's embedded in our belief system"
Tom Snow - Wesley First Nation

Take a moment and pause...

Play "I Spy Buffalo". How does the Buffalo show up in your rural or urban landscape? As you walk through the day, where do you see the Buffalo's image or hear their name in your surroundings?

Curiosity...

What do you notice about the different places you spied Buffalo?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the Buffalo's characteristics? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Were there any places you found a Buffalo that surprised you (ex. city landscapes)? Why was it surprising?
- What Buffalo characteristics are reflected in the places you found them in?
- What is the connection or relationship between the Buffalo and the places you found them in?
- If you've played this game before, what was similar or different from the last time you played?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How do these places help to renew and restore relations between human beings and the Buffalo?

Take a moment and pause...

Ask someone about their story of a Buffalo harvest or watch "Buffalo Harvest 2020"

Curiosity...

What part of this story resonates with you today?
What do you notice about this part of the story?



Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about different traditional stories and ceremonies of the Buffalo harvest? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What teachings did you take away from the story?
- What gifts does the Buffalo share through this harvest? Ex. food, songs, traditions, language, etc.
- In what ways is this harvest an honourable harvest?
- Have you or people in your community been part of a Buffalo harvest? What is similar or different between your/their experience and the story you heard today?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - In what ways are the human beings cooperating with the buffalo in this story? How does this help restore and renew balance?
 - In what ways does prayer/spirituality restore and renew the balance of values, respect, and sharing?



Article II: Culture

"The Buffalo song is a thank you song.
We sing it to let them know how
important they are to us"
Jonny Bearcub Stiffarm, Fort Peck
Assiniboine & Sioux Nation

Take a moment and pause...

Listen to a Buffalo song or story.

(If you need one, listen to the song in this video "Largest Herd of Buffalo Ever Released to the Fort Peck Reservation".)

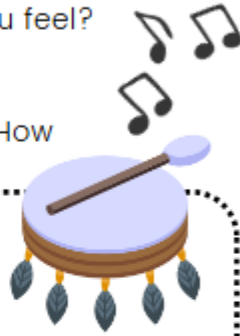


Curiosity...

What do you notice about how the song makes you feel?

Knowledge you carry...

What other Buffalo songs or stories do you know? How did you come to receive these songs or stories?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What might listening with your whole body look like? If you...
 - painted a picture of the song or story, what colours, lines, shapes and textures would you use?
 - danced to the song or story, what moves would you make?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - Who in your community or family might know other Buffalo songs and stories? What are the protocols or customs around sharing these songs and stories?
 - Do you think that by continuing Buffalo songs and stories the practice of renewal and restoration is happening?
 - How do you think songs and stories continue relationship with other beings?



Take a moment and pause...

What's a buffalo worth? As you walk through your day, look for ways the Buffalo helps provide for your community's well being.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about where or how people benefit from the Buffalo's gifts culturally, spiritually, or economically?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the different ways people used the Buffalo's gifts today or in the past? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Did anything you notice (or not notice) surprise you? Why was it surprising?
- If you've done this activity before, how was your experience similar or different from last time?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - In the spirit of reciprocity, how might people benefitting from the Buffalo today give back to the relationship?
 - How might giving back to the Buffalo help restore ecological balance?



Take a moment and pause...

Think about your 'economic' value system - How do you define 'wealth' beyond something having a monetary value?

Curiosity...

What do you need to live a good life? What gifts do you receive that fulfill these needs? What do you notice about the 'goods' and 'services' you offer in reciprocity for the gifts you receive?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about other cultures and their value systems? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What do you think spiritual value of Buffalo looks like?
- What do you think cultural value of Buffalo looks like?
- How do you think the wholistic value of Buffalo impacts Indigenous peoples today? Do you think this impact has changed over time?
- Knowing what you know about the things you value, what does 'economics' mean to you?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - Do you think values are a form of 'wealth' for an individual? Community? Nation?



Article IV: Health

Take a moment and pause...

Think about how Buffalo can heal individuals holistically.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how Indigenous peoples connect with Buffalo and their environments?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about holistic health? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Who or what can be included in holistic health?
- What do you think collective holistic health is? How does this expand beyond the individual?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - In what ways can the Buffalo, land, animals, plants, family, community and culture restore the health of an individual? Restore the health of a collective?
 - In what ways can restored health encourage renewed relationships with oneself? With other individuals? With other beings in our environment?
 - How do the Buffalo directly and indirectly impact the health of the land, plants, animals, and Indigenous community and culture?



Article III: Economics

Take a moment and pause...

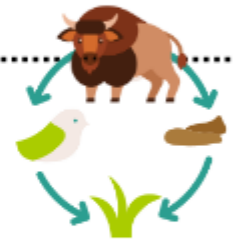
Look at the interactions between different living things around you. Have you ever wondered if other species have an economic value system?

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how different species help each other?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the direct and indirect reciprocal relationships between species? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What kinds of things do different species gift to other beings? What 'goods' and 'services' are shared in return?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How does the reciprocal gift-giving between species contribute to ecological balance?
 - What gifts do the Buffalo give to other species?
 - What gifts do you think the Buffalo values from other plant and animal species?
 - What gifts do you think the Buffalo values from humans?



Article IV: Health



CSKT
Kainai
Oglala
Wind River

If you haven't heard stories of anyone doing this in your community, check out these programs

Take a moment and pause...

Think about the different ways people around you help to take care of food sources and provide food for the community.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how the community works together and shows respect for food harvested?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about food security and food sovereignty? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What other kinds of native or foraged foods are available in your community?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What other ways do people in your community help make sure all community members have food to eat?
 - How might you help others in your community with food security?
 - How do you think community feasts help with renewal for elders, families, and the community?



Article IV: Health



Take a moment and pause...

Watch this video "Buffalo Harvest - Documenting the Process"

Curiosity...

What do you notice about the social and health benefits this harvest provides for the community? What gifts is the buffalo sharing?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the protocols around harvesting Buffalo or foraging for plant foods? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- In what ways does a harvest like this help the community?
- Who has access to these kinds of gifts from a Buffalo harvest in your community?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What protocols do people in your community follow to ensure gifts from a buffalo harvest are prepared and shared in a good way?
 - In what ways do these protocols encourage cooperation, restoration, and renewal?
 - How can Buffalo meat begin to be included in schools and community events?



Article IV: Health

Take a moment and pause...

Think about the last meal you ate.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about the different kinds of foods in your meal and how those foods were prepared?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the nourishment our brains and bodies need in order to be healthy? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Where does the food you eat come from? Who harvests it? What path does it take to get to you? Is there prayer or spirituality involved?
- Which foods make your body feel energized, strong and healthy? What is the nutritional value of those foods?
- What does having a well-balanced diet look like for you?
- How does the nutritional value of buffalo meat compare to other sources of protein?
- Who do you know that eats Buffalo? What are their favorite recipes?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What foods could you harvest for yourself or share with others?
 - How might growing and harvesting your own food contribute to ecological restoration and renewal?



Article IV: Health

Take a moment and pause...

Think about the last meal you shared with others.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how the different people came together to prepare and eat the meal?

Knowledge you carry...

What stories, traditions, or protocols do you have about the preparation or sharing of food? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Who comes together to prepare the food you eat? Is there prayer or spirituality involved?
- What are examples of emotions that food can give us? (For example, comfort or joy)
- How do you recognize the feelings you feel when you are eating food?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What emotions/feelings are felt when you are sharing a meal with a friend? A family member? Community?
 - In what ways can gathering together around food help build relationships?



Take a moment and pause...

Watch "The Path Back".



Curiosity...

What part of this story connects with you today? What do you notice about this part of the story and how it makes you feel?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the buffalo's path over the past 150 years? How did you come to understand what you know?

Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Why do you think you connected with this part of the story today? What lesson does this part of the story share?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How might you help return the Buffalo ways to the daily lives of people in your community?
 - What is one small thing you can do to help renew or deepen your relationship with the the buffalo today?
 - What teachings can we learn from the Buffalo's resilience?
 - How can you spread Buffalo Consciousness?
 - How can you share what you know about the Buffalo Treaty with others?



Take a moment and pause...

Say your full name out loud.

Curiosity...

How does saying and hearing your name make you feel?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about your name and where it comes from? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What responsibility does your name carry?
- Have you ever had the honour of giving a name to another being? Why did you choose that name?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What other names is the Buffalo known by? Do you know any Indigenous names given to the Buffalo? What about the Buffalo's name in non-Indigenous languages?
 - How are the names similar? How are they different?
 - Why do you think Buffalo was given these names?



Article V: Education

Buffalo is the future of education

Take a moment and pause...

Allow yourself to sit quietly and observe buffalo in their environment. Safety first! If you don't have a safe place to be with buffalo near your community, check out this live webcam from Grasslands National Park, located on the traditional territory of several tribes.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how the buffalo interact with each other and their environment?



Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about how the buffalo live in their environment? What do you know about how the buffalo treat each other? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What do the buffalo need to ensure intergenerational knowledge is carried forward?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What teachings might we learn from how the Buffalo share their ways of living with their young?
 - How might you share the Buffalo Consciousness you have with others? Will this be done through, songs, stories, art, or dance? Are there other ways knowledge can be shared with others?



Article V: Education

"Never forget where you come from, who your people are, and always look forward to where you are taking your people."
Alvin Manychief

Take a moment and pause...

Think about this quote and watch "The Buffalo Harvest: The Elders"

Curiosity...

What do you notice about the way the Elders introduce themselves and share their knowledge with us?



Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about where you come from and who your people are? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Who are the people in your life that help guide you on a path forward?
- How might you share the teachings you've received with others? What protocols or responsibilities do you have to ensure you are sharing that knowledge in a good way?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How might you share the Buffalo's teachings with others?



Article VI: Research

Take a moment and pause...

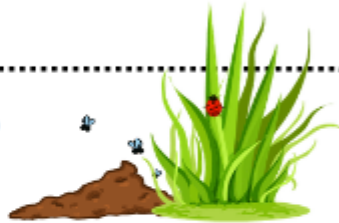
Step outside and look at the landscape around you.

Curiosity...

What evidence of other sky, land and water beings do you notice?
What evidence of their existence do you see, smell, hear, or feel?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the different land, sky, and water beings who share this space with you? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Is there a particular being that you're curious to know more about? Who are the people around you that know more about their stories?
- Have the beings around you been here as long as the Buffalo? Do they exist in other places?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How do these beings interact with one another? What makes them an important part of the ecosystem?
 - How do these beings incorporate energy, spirit, and relationship?
 - How do you think the Buffalo and Indigenous peoples have maintained physical, emotional, spiritual, mental connection with these beings?
 - How have the different land, sky, and water beings cooperated with each other since time immemorial?



Article VI: Research

Take a moment and pause...

As you walk through your day, look and listen for different place names.

Curiosity...

Think about one of the place names that stuck out to you today. What do you notice about that place and its name?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about how this place got its name?
How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What language does the name come from? Where is that language spoken?
- What other names is this place known by? Why was this place given those names?
- Think about this place through the eyes of another being... What name do you think they would give this place? Why?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What do you know about the different people who have lived in this place over time?
 - What languages do they (or did they) speak?
 - What name did they give this place?



Article VI: Research

Take a moment and pause...

Step outside and think about the land around you.

Curiosity...

What evidence do you notice that helps tell the story of those who shared this land long before you?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about those who were here before you? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Is there a particular part of this place's history that you are curious about? For example, maybe you'd like to learn more about how this place has transformed geologically (land formations), ecologically (flora and fauna), or culturally over time and space.
- Who are the people in your area that could help you learn more about the stories of this place? (For example, local Elders, Knowledge Keepers, storytellers, historians, scientists, librarians.)
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How might you share what you learn with others in a good way that builds understanding and honours the protocols of those who have shared their knowledge with you?



Article VII: Adhesion

Take a moment and pause...

Think about the nine Articles of the Buffalo Treaty.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how the Articles are interconnected?
What patterns do you see?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the Treaty? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Which of the nine Articles do you feel most connected to? Why?
- Which of the Articles do you feel less connected to? Why?
- Which of the Articles would you like to better understand?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How do the Buffalo Treaty articles create cooperation, restoration, and renewal amongst each other?



Article VII: Adhesion

Creator gave us many gifts and teachings to survive this world. One of those teachings is everything is interrelated.

In the Indian practice, the interrelated world is realized through Treaty-making with all my relations.

Take a moment and pause...

Think about this quote from the Buffalo Treaty website

Curiosity...

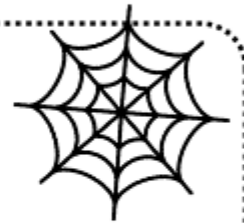
What does being 'in treaty' with others mean to you?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the web of treaties between humans, plants and animals? How did you come to understand what you know?

Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?



Here are some ideas:

- What evidence of treaties do you see between the animals, plants and humans around you?
- How do those being cooperate with each other in their ecosystems. For example, buffalo patties, bugs and birds.
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - Are there examples you can find where the Buffalo have made treaty with others? Was this learned from a song, story, a language, or piece of art?
 - How do you think the Buffalo practice cooperation, restoration, and renewal?
 - How might you and the Buffalo work together?



Article VII: Adhesion

Take a moment and pause...

Think about when you first learned about the Buffalo Treaty.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how the Buffalo Treaty signatories are working together in the spirit and intent of the Buffalo?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the different cultures of the Treaty signatories? How did you come to understand what you know?

Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?



Here are some ideas:

- Are there people in your community who are signatories?
- Is your nation a signatory? Are there organizations or individuals in your community who have signed the Treaty as partners and supporters?
- If you've already made a Treaty with the Buffalo, what differences do you see between your knowledge before and after entering the Treaty?
- If you aren't a Treaty signatory, what can you do to support, or, how might you make the Buffalo ways part of your life?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - How does the Buffalo Treaty encourage collective action versus individual action?



Article VIII: Partnerships & Supporters

Take a moment and pause...

Using all of your senses, take a look around you.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how you feel in this space?

Knowledge you carry...

What are the basic needs for living a good life? How did you come to understand what you know?

**good
life**

Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What do you think living a good life looks, sounds and feels like? Where do you see, feel and hear these things in your surroundings?
- Is there anything stopping you from living a good life? What can you do to move past these barriers?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What is one small thing you can do to help make sure your surroundings provide you with the basic needs for living a good life?
 - Are there little ways that you can show kindness and cooperate with your relations (the stars, humans, other land beings, sky beings and water beings)?
 - Do you think giving thanks to all that is in your surroundings is part of cooperation, restoration, and renewal?



Article VIII: Partnerships & Supporters

Take a moment and pause...

Imagine you are surrounded by a buffalo herd, looking out across your homeland.

Curiosity...

What do you notice as you look out across the land?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about the basic needs of the Buffalo, and how the land provides these things? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What are the Buffalo's basic needs for living a good life?
- How are the Buffalo's needs and your needs the same? How are they different?
- Are there Buffalo homelands near your community? What do you know about Buffalo near your community?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - Where in North America are Buffalo able to live and freely follow the Buffalo ways?
 - What can we learn from herds who follow the Buffalo ways?
 - What is the governing system of the Buffalo and how does this create support in the Buffalo herd?



Article VIII: Partnerships & Supporters

Take a moment and pause...

Look around and consider your relationships beyond the Buffalo.

Curiosity...

Think about the different relationships you have in your life. What do you notice?

Knowledge you carry...

What does being in a relationship mean to you? How did you come to this understanding?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What relationships are important to you in everyday life? (For example, relationships with yourself, the stars, humans, other land beings, sky beings, or water beings.)
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What small everyday things do you do to renew relationships? (For example: acts of kindness, practices, traditions, etc.)
 - In what little or big ways do others renew their relationship with you?
 - Is there a relationship that you would like to strengthen? Why? How can you strengthen this relationship?



Article VIII: Partnerships & Supporters

Take a moment and pause...

Think about being in relation with the Buffalo.

Curiosity...

What does "being in relation" mean to you?

Knowledge you carry...

How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- What do you know about the Buffalo people, community, herds and families that are living closest to you?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - What have the Buffalo taught you?
 - What gifts have the Buffalo shared with you?
 - What little everyday things do you do to honour, recognize or revitalize your relationship with Buffalo?
 - How can you give thanks to these multiple relationships?
 - What do you know about the energy of relationships?
 - Are these relationships in constant flux (movement)?



Article IX: Amendments

Take a moment and pause...

Think about this quote through the perspective of the land.

Flux. In the Indian mind world, the essence of being and existence is energy and motion, which is the "spirit".

The Spirit is forever undergoing processes of transformation, reformation, and restoration.

Curiosity...

What patterns of transformation, reformation, and restoration do you notice around you? What evidence of change can you find?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about how the land and space around you has changed over time? How did you come to understand what you know?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- How have you adapted to the motion and energy shifts in the world around you? (Especially when those times make you feel awkward or out of place?)
- What other beings are living examples that can teach us about the importance of embracing the process of transformation and change?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - In what ways is the Buffalo a living example of a being that brings transformation, restoration and harmony?
 - Article 9 of the Buffalo Treaty states that amendments may be made from time to time by simple majority of signatories. Why do you think this Article is an important part of the treaty? What would happen if this Article wasn't a part of the Treaty?



Article IX: Amendments

Take a moment and pause...

Think about this quote from your perspective.

Flux. In the Indian mind world, the essence of being and existence is energy and motion, which is the "spirit".

The Spirit is forever undergoing processes of transformation, reformation, and restoration.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about who you are at this moment in space and time and the path you've taken to get here?

Knowledge you carry...

How did you come to understand what you know? Who has helped guide and teach you along the way?



Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?

Here are some ideas:

- Where in your life do you notice patterns of transformation, reformation and restoration?
- What does the process of transformation, reformation, and restoration look, sound and feel like for you?
- Some transformations are comfortable, and others are not. Often times of transformation can be unsettling. What helps you get through the discomfort?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - Do you think there's renewal and restoration after the process of transformation and reformation?



Article IX: Amendments



If you'd like to see some places where the Buffalo are coming home, check out these videos, Boy-zshan Bi-den, Sacred Science, and The Buffalo Return.

Take a moment and pause...

As you look across the landscape, think about the repatriation of Buffalo to their homelands.

Curiosity...

What do you notice about how the return of the Buffalo to their homelands is re-righting relationships between the land and all those who call it home?

Knowledge you carry...

What do you know about Buffalo repatriation initiatives in your area? How did you come to understand what you know?

Call to action...

What do you wonder? Who might be able to help you explore and find out more?



Here are some ideas:

- Find out more about the meaning of 'repatriation' and 'repatiation'. How are they similar? Different?
- Find out where the closest Buffalo repatriation initiative is to your community and learn about their homecoming story.
- What amendments and partnerships did the community make to create space for the Buffalo's return?
- Think about the three core values of the Buffalo Treaty - cooperation, restoration and renewal
 - In what ways is the return of the Buffalo helping to restore and renew relationships between the land and all those who call it home?

Buffalo Treaty Tracks

Along the Path to Cooperation, Renewal and Restoration



The Buffalo Treaty of cooperation, renewal and restoration