Uri omahksiki'somm (Old Moon) Save the Date: **I'TAAMIMAANSSTCY!** January 4th: National Ribbon Skirt Day January 9th: First Day Back to School

January 14th: Métis Holiday Party @ Westminster Hall January 16th: Announcements begin again



Scan the QR code or login here to /rli.connectedcommunity.org/home

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The Kibbon Skirt

'Ribbon skirts are a long, handmade skirt that are shaped similarly to the tipi".

"Traditionally they would have been made from hide and decorated with hand collected natural materials".

Women from various Indigenous communities wear **Ribbon Skirts. Men** wear Ribbon Shirts.

At one time,

Indigenous people

were told they

weren't allowed to

wear their traditional

clothing.

The Ribbon Skirt represents many things. It "represents strength, womnanhood, and identity". The long skirt connects you to the

Traditionally the ribbon skirt was worn in Ceremonies. Today it is worn at all kinds of celebrations and getherings.

land.

and activity.

Rupertsland Institute

Keep your eyes and ears open for our upcoming January/February project:

Kitsikakamimm

to access the **Ribbon Skirt** resource.

December Highlights...







Wolf Willow Seeds with Probe Grade. 2's



Totem Poles with Park Meadows Grade. 5's



Indigenous family Bingo nights







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Rupertsland Centre for Teaching & Learning is a Métis led organization whose goal is to help teachers and learners engage in learning about Métis culture. The Rupertsland Centre for Teaching & Learning website is a wonderful resource. You do not have to be a member of the Métis community to access these resources. They are for everyone.

This initiative invites Métis students to sign up for a free account to use Exam Bank Alberta. Exam Bank Alberta is a platform where students k-12 can practice their skills and knowledge of school content online through practice exams.

Winter Renew

The winter solstice time is no longer celebrated as it once was, with the ' ' understanding that this is a period of descent and rest, of going within our homes, within ourselves and taking in all that we have been through, all

- that has passed in this full year which is coming to a close... like nature and the animal kingdom around us, this time of hibernation is so necessary for our tired limbs, our burdened minds.
- Our modern culture teaches avoidance at a max at this time; lights, shopping, overworking, over spending, comfort food and consumerism. And yet the natural tug to go inwards as nearly all creatures are doing is strong and the weather so bitter that people are left feeling that winter is hard, because for those of us without burning fires and big festive families, it can be lonely and isolating. Whereas in actual fact winter is kind, she points us in her quiet soft way towards our inner self, towards this annual time of peace and reflection, embracing the darkness and forgiving, accepting and loving embracing goodbye the past year. "Winter takes away the distractions, the buzz, and presents us with the perfect time to rest and withdraw into a womb like love, bringing fire & light to our hearth".
- .. and then, just around the corner the new year will begin again, and like a seed planted deep in the earth, we will all rise with renewed energy once again to dance in the sunlight Written by Bridget Anna McNeil