



# Taste and See That the Lord is Good



**W**hen Adrian Jacobs, the CRC's senior leader for Indigenous justice and reconciliation, leads a workshop, he will often take a group of people outdoors. Being outside in creation can sometimes mean seeing his people's land environmentally degraded by mining, but it can also mean feasting with people and celebrating creation's bounty as relationships are renewed.



**Senior Leader Adrian Jacobs leads an on-the-land workshop with church members.**

Thanks to your support, Indigenous Ministry is helping churches and individuals move toward respectful relationships with creation and with Indigenous people in their local context. Many Hearts Exchanged alumni have been moved to action after learning what colonization for Indigenous people has involved. Hearts Exchanged is a learning and action journey designed to equip Reformed Christians to go beyond the headlines into deep work that wrestles with how our churches can become places of belonging and reconciliation with Indigenous neighbours.

A Strawberry Thanksgiving and Communion event was one example of feasting as 160 people gathered at Six Nations Polytechnic to experience community and discuss land justice. Of the original Haldimand Tract of nearly one million acres that was set aside for Six Nations in 1784, only 5 percent remains today. The rest was stolen, and the Six Nations trust funds were pilfered.

A Spiritual Covenant with churches was proposed by a traditional knowledge keeper in response to this injustice. Churches that are located within this tract of land could acknowledge Six Nations jurisdiction by paying token lease payments, they could also pledge to return the land back to Six Nations if they ever have to close. One church has already come forward with an annual token payment of \$4,000. During the Strawberry Thanksgiving and Communion event, this commitment was celebrated over bannock and strawberry juice. Representatives from several other churches were present and are considering making similar pledges.

We invite you to experience a taste of reconciliation by participating in any of our learning activities. Your support means that the table keeps including more people—thank you!



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