

FREE OFFER OF THE COMPELLING BOOK: **TOWARDS BRAIDING**

This is a must read for Organizations and Individuals who are looking to explore ‘different ways of knowing and being’ in order to deepen their understanding of DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION (DEI) from an Indigenous, lived experience perspective.

It is encouraging to see that many organizations have a sincere wish to increase their understanding of **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)**. And, it is increasingly common to find DEI statements issued by organizations, be it a business, church, club, charity, political party, educational institution, public service, or other. There is also a growing interest from individuals who simply want to learn more about DEI - to become better allies, to increase their understanding and to change their way of “knowing and being”. This process needs to be constant, requires honest reflection and reassessment, especially when things seem to fall apart.

The Rotary Club of Guelph’s Indigenous Awareness Committee wondered how the club could specifically improve its own DEI with Indigenous people and came across a remarkably insightful book called **Towards Braiding** by Elwood Jimmy and Vanessa Andreotti with Sharon Stein.

With the book’s research and writing sponsored by the Musagetes Foundation, **Towards Braiding** does not provide a direct “how to” for achieving Indigenous DEI (nor do the authors necessarily subscribe to the frame of DEI) but rather identifies common pitfalls to avoid, and the principles required that move towards having more sustainable and generative relationships with Indigenous people. In 100 pages, it provides valuable considerations from an Indigenous point of view but which are also helpful in many other categories of DEI work. It provides a process for understanding how diverse communities can “**move together towards improved relationships and yet-unimaginable wiser futures.**” (Pg. 10)

As the authors of **Towards Braiding** say, “**The path itself, not the destination, is what will change us.**” (Pg. 94)



GET A FREE COPY OF THE BOOK “TOWARDS BRAIDING”

As a community service, the Rotary Club of Guelph’s Indigenous Awareness Committee (with financial support from the City of Guelph) has printed 500 copies of this book for organizations and individuals wanting to learn more and help with DEI initiatives, especially with the Indigenous community.

Contact B. Holmes, rcog.iacomm@gmail.com to request a free copy, while quantities last.