



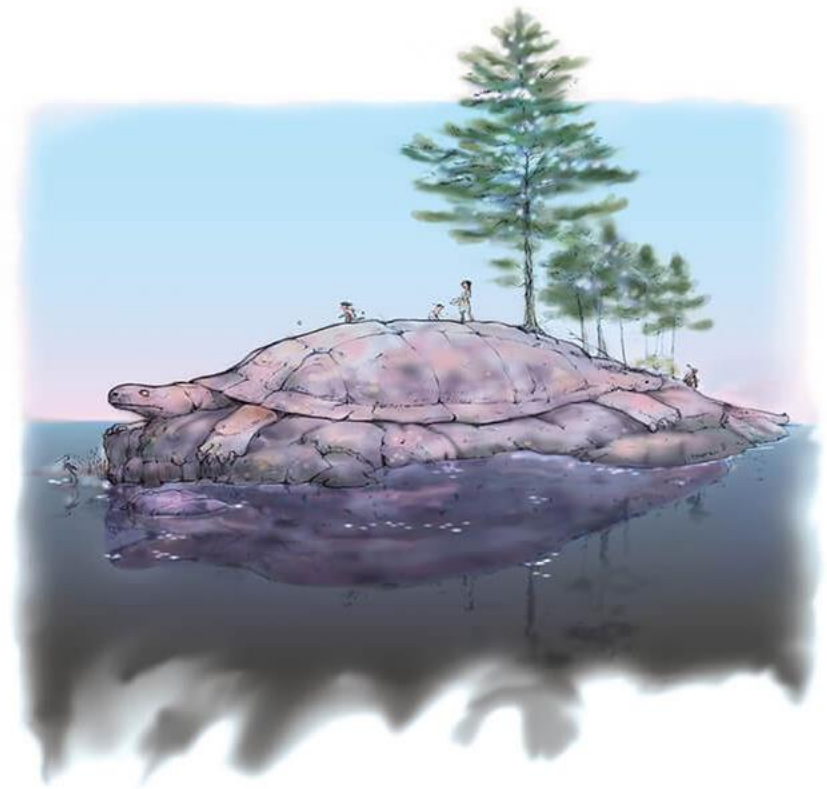
SIX CULTURAL GROUPS IN CANADA

THE NORTHEAST WOODLANDS

- Iroquois and Algonquin live along the St. Lawrence River and the Great lakes.
- Lived in longhouses.



- They believe that after a great flood, water covered the earth.
- Several water animals and birds tried to bring some mud to the surface of the water.
- Eventually, a muskrat succeeded.
- Sky woman then spread the mud on the back of a turtle and created North America, or Turtle Island.



THE NORTHWEST PACIFIC COAST

Familiar name: Haida

They believe that a raven coaxed the original people out of a clamshell onto the land.

Creators of the totem pole.



THE NORTHWEST PACIFIC COAST, CONT'D

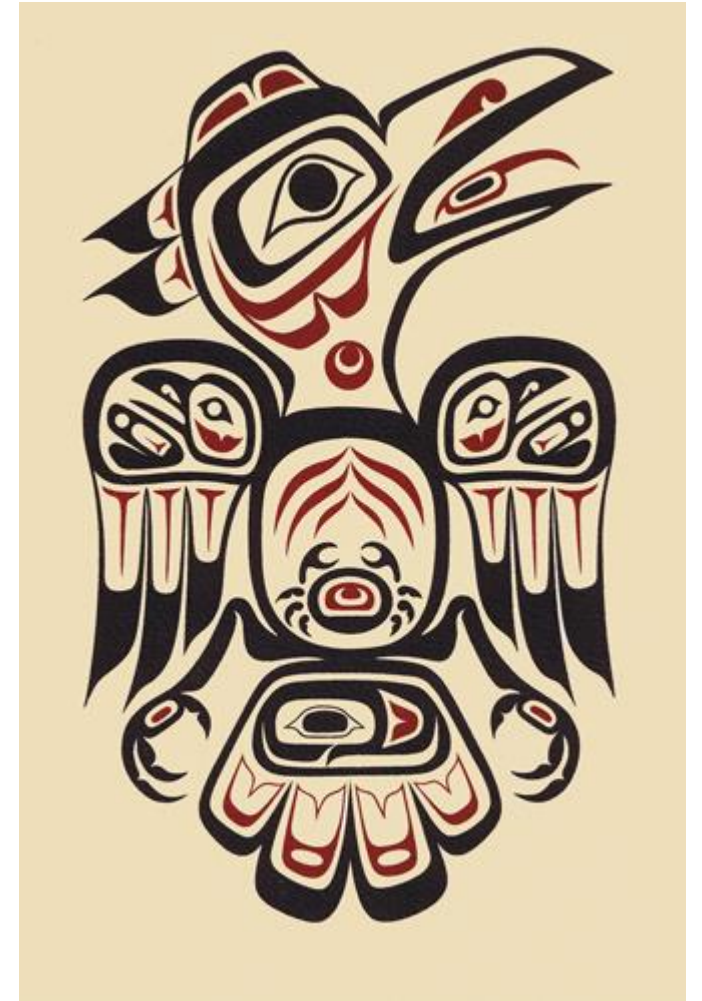
The most important social event was the potlach.

A potlach is a gathering/celebration where the host would show his wealth by giving lavish gifts to the visiting guests (this was also a means of redistributing the wealth) and there was much storytelling.



Raven symbolizes change and transformation

- The Raven came to a world covered in darkness
- felt bad for the people living in the dark and resolved to search for the light.
- flew across mountains, rivers, and valleys until finally, he saw light at the house of the Sky Chief, which was shining brilliantly in the horizon.
- snuck into the house of the Sky Chief by turning into a pine-needle and fell into the water of the Sky Chief's beautiful daughter
- The daughter drank the water and unknowingly swallowed the Raven.
- Time passed and she soon gave birth to a child that bore a striking resemblance to the Raven.
- The Raven used his child disguise to locate and secure the Sun, stealing it from the Sky Chief and returning to the land of darkness.
- The Raven threw the Sun into the sky, where it stayed filling the area a bright light.
- People feed the Raven today as a way to say thanks for bringing light to them.



THE ARCTIC

The Inuit people pay homage to the souls of killed animals by facing the animal in the direction from which it came so that its soul can return.

During their annual festival, the Inuit collect all seal bladders caught the previous year and throw them back into the sea, so that the seal can reproduce.

Seals are crucial to the Inuit economy.



THE SUBARCTIC

The Cree and Ojibwa inhabit the middle of Canada, which includes thick forests and mountains in the East, the Canadian Shield of rock and swamp, and the northern prairies.

They share similar beliefs to the Arctic group.

Dependent on: moose, caribou, hare, bear, elk, and fish.



THE GREAT PLAINS

There are over 30 nations of the great plains.

Familiar names are: Metis, Cree, Blackfoot.

Very dependent on the buffalo as they provided coverings for moccasin soles, shields and homes called tipis.

Their ribs became sled runners.

The skull of the buffalo was used for the Sun Dance, a ceremony that involves chants and purification.

At death, they believe that four souls depart from the body, one of which enters into a newborn and that soul lives on.



THE PLATEAU

- The Salish live in the foothills of the Rocky mountains.
- Hunters of elk, bear and caribou.
- Similar beliefs to the Great Plains.

