

The Artist

Rebecca Brittain

Rebecca Brittain is a Dakota Sioux/Plains Cree woman from the Dakota Whitecap First Nation.

She attended the Indian Teacher Education Program at the University of Saskatchewan from 2017–2020. Thus far, she has obtained three years of education and is currently taking time off to mother her three children. She recently found a new interest in digital design. Rebecca accepts any opportunity to be creative, especially with her children. Rebecca’s passion for creativity extends to her children, and she seizes every opportunity to explore art with them. Her ultimate aspiration is to inspire and influence not only her own children but also her future students, passing on the teachings she has gained through her own journey in art and design.

The Artist's Statement — Economic Reconciliation

Rebecca Brittain

The outline of the tipi symbolizes community connectedness and a place of warmth, security, wellness, and sacred tradition and value. Inside the tipi, two individual vines intertwine: one representing corporate Canada and the government, and the other representing Indigenous peoples. The intertwining vines embody reconciliation between these two groups through acceptance, balance, understanding, and engagement. Both vines show a similar level of support, highlighting that Indigenous peoples are equally capable, powerful, knowledgeable, and hard-working as mainstream society. Together, through reconciliation, we can contribute greatly to the Canadian economy through our history, land, and resources. That's why I chose to have the intertwined vines holding up the Earth (economy). The "Turtle Island" landmass on the Earth acknowledges the land of Indigenous peoples, affirming our equal right to be involved in shaping the economy. With a call to action, we can make it happen and increase opportunities for ourselves in the process.

The image represents the vision of economic reconciliation, with the value of this vision held within the tipi. Through the intertwined vines and acknowledgment of Turtle Island, the image conveys the message that Indigenous peoples have an equal right to shape the Canadian economy. By taking action, we can make this vision a reality and increase opportunities for ourselves.