

# 2025 SEPTEMBER INTERFAITH INSIDER

## Honoring Indigenous Spiritualities : A Journey Towards Reconciliation

### September 30th: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



National Centre for  
Truth and Reconciliation  
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

As we approach September 30th, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Interfaith Department at SAIT invites you to reflect on the rich and diverse spiritual traditions of Indigenous peoples, not only in Canada but across the globe. This day is a time for solemn commemoration and a renewed commitment to understanding, respect, and reconciliation. Memory matters.



### Similarities in Indigenous Spiritualities: A Global Perspective

Despite the vast diversity among Indigenous cultures worldwide, many share profound similarities in their spiritual beliefs and practices. These common threads offer a powerful testament to the universal human connection to the sacred and the land.

### Deep Connection to the Land and Nature:

A foundational principle across many Indigenous spiritualities is the profound and reciprocal relationship with the land, water, and all living beings. The Earth is often seen as a mother, a sacred entity that sustains life and provides spiritual guidance. This connection is not merely practical but deeply spiritual, with the land holding ancestral memories, sacred sites, and a living presence.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**12 Sep**

spirituality of coffee  
and tea

**19 Sep**

International day  
of peace

**26 Sep**

Hindu Navaratri

# GO TEAM!

## Meet the new interfaith LEADS students 2025

Hi, my name is Angelo Valim. I'm a SAIT student in Business Administration (BBA) with a major in Supply Chain, now in my second term. Before studying here, I worked for over 30 years in the oil & gas industry in Brazil and later dedicated myself to volunteer social projects.



**Angelo Valim**

I joined the Interfaith LEADS team because it feels more like a big family than just a group, and I see it as a place where I can learn from different perspectives while also helping build an inclusive and supportive campus community.

Hey Folks! I'm Gursimar Singh, and I go by Simar. I'm an international student from India in my third semester of the Business Administration – Finance program at SAIT. I'm really interested in financial services and leadership, and outside of school I love trying new foods, volunteering, and meeting new people.



**Gursimar Singh**

I joined Interfaith LEADS because I enjoy connecting with people from different backgrounds and learning from their experiences. I think conversations across cultures and perspectives make us grow in ways books can't. For me, this program is a chance to help build a community where everyone feels welcome and encouraged to share their stories.

My name is Muk, I'm an international student from Thailand, studying Business Administration, majoring in Supply Chain at SAIT. I'm a person who into music of all kinds, and I love chatting about different beliefs, diversity, and religion, it's amazing how much we can learn from each other. I'm also a big fan of exploring new places, trying fun new things, and getting creative with hobbies like drawing, crafting, and gaming for both board games and computer games.



**Paphaporn Akagai  
(Muk)**

I'm really excited to be part of LEADS at the Interfaith Centre! I can't wait to meet more people, make friends, and create a welcoming space for everyone at SAIT. Let's meet, share stories, laugh, and just have a great time together!

Hi, I'm Nikki, an international student from Taiwan! I'm currently in my first year of the Business Administration Diploma at SAIT, specializing in Supply Chain Management. With many years of experience as a project manager in the IT industry, I'm passionate about solving problems, collaborating across cultures, and turning ideas into impact. Outside of class, I love exploring Canada's beautiful nature, trying new foods, and sharing joyful moments with friends.



**Yu-Ting Shih  
(Nikki)**

As an Interfaith Centre LEADS, I'm excited to bring people together from diverse cultures and beliefs. My goal is to create a warm, supportive environment where everyone feels welcome, valued, and encouraged to share their stories. I truly believe that when we connect across differences, we not only build community but also discover new ways to grow together.