

VISION

*To advance treaty
and Indigenous awareness
by covering Canada in moccasins.*

JOIN US

The **Moccasin Identifier** needs you!
Are you or your organization interested in achieving the Calls to Action from
the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada?
Help us achieve our vision one moccasin at a time!

#WeAreAllTreatyPeople

#MoccasinIdentifier

#MNCFN

#Greenbelt

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

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Possibility grows here.

THE MOCCASIN IDENTIFIER

*“If we, as First Nations, don’t get a marker
on the ground today, we will be lost forever.”*

Carolyn King, former Chief Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)

Imagine that you are standing in downtown Toronto.
There are no high-rise buildings, no CN Tower, no highways,
no airplanes flying overhead.

Instead, you hear the birds singing and the wind blowing through
the trees and the sound of the waves lapping at the shores of Lake
Ontario. Now imagine that there are people living there,
Indigenous people, families caring for each other, hunting,
fishing, and harvesting.

OUR STORY

During the 2011 Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation Annual Historical Gathering, Archaeologists presenting on a dig related to the renowned Anishinaabe historical figure Nahnee-bahwequa (meaning upright woman) known as Catherine Sutton, asked Elder Carolyn King,

"When the archaeological resources are removed, how will we ever know that your people were here?"

After, Carolyn thought about their question for three days. It finally became so clear she wondered why it took so long.

The answer was "our footwear!" From there, the **Moccasin Identifier** was born and began its decade long journey.

VISION

To advance treaty and Indigenous awareness by covering Canada in moccasins.

MISSION

To educate children on treaties through the **Moccasin Identifier** educational kit, promote public awareness to Indigenous culture on the landscape through site installations of moccasins and develop a network of knowledge for the benefit of truth and reconciliation.



OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

- 1 Help facilitate a cultural shift in Canada by sharing Treaty history with children through the distribution of accessible educational kit across Ontario
- 2 Develop a coordinated branding program to mark significant Indigenous sites for the benefit of public awareness
- 3 Form partnerships with communities and organizations to build understanding, engagement and support
- 4 Create a network of knowledge on Treaties to restore harmony between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people



ANISHNAABE



CREE



HURON-WENDAT



SENECA

OUR PROGRAMS

Moccasin Identifier Educational Program

Become a Moccasin Identifier Education Leader.

- Teach Treaties using the Moccasin Identifier Educational Kit
- The kit includes:**
 - Curriculum grades K-8
 - 4 stencils (1 each Anishinaabe, Cree, Huron, Seneca)
 - Teachers resources books and videos
- Receive exclusive Moccasin Identifier merchandise

Moccasin Identifier Experience Week

As part of **Rock Your Mocs** week

- **Come to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation for a History Day and Tour:** Connect with your Treaty partners and learn firsthand through local Elders and members of Council about our history and life today through the Anishinaabe way.
- **Participate in Moccasin Identifier Week:** As part of **Rock Your Mocs** week in mid-November, join in the **Moccasin Identifier Rock Your Mocs** contest and host your own event to celebrate Treaty teachings through moccasins.

Moccasin Identifier Installations

- Install a **Moccasin Identifier** in your community, public space or work environment; Moccasin Identifier will participate in ribbon cutting ceremony.
- Attend a cultural event as a special guest.



BACKGROUND

Initiated, designed and led by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the **Moccasin Identifier** is a teaching tool and public awareness-building program for Treaty relationships between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Canadians.

With stencils in-hand, Carolyn and the **Moccasin Identifier** team have travelled across Southern Ontario teaching about Treaties, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and the Indigenous relationship to land. The **Moccasin Identifier** uses four moccasin symbols reflective of the Indigenous diversity of Ontario. These stencils are adapted by acclaimed Indigenous artist Phil Coté from the original 16th century moccasins in the private collection of the Bata Shoe Museum.

OUR FUNDING GOALS

The **Moccasin Identifier** requires capacity and resources to achieve its vision. Following are our funding goals for the next five years:

2020 - \$100,000

2021 - \$175,000

2022 - \$200,000

2023 - \$250,000

2024 - \$250,000

PARTNERS

- Greenbelt Foundation
- Two Rivers Community Development Centre
- York Region District School Board
- Bata Shoe Museum

Since 2011, the **Moccasin Identifier** has worked at a grassroots level visiting over 1,000 schools, universities, workshops, major events, opening ceremonies and celebrations, reaching over 10,000 people. In 2014, Carolyn worked with the City of Toronto to create a one of a kind Moccasin Identifier stone installation at Ontario Place's new Trillium Park on Toronto's waterfront. In 2018, **Moccasin Identifier** received a two-year grant from the Greenbelt Foundation. This boosted the program to the next level by building capacity, launching a website, producing and testing the pilot educational kit and gathering all of the archaeology of the Greenbelt for the Moccasin Identifier Installations .

For more information please visit www.moccasinidentifier.com