



t̥sa'w̥an̥x-winter
(Kwakwala)

ćúńǰ - winter
(Haíłzaqv̥!a)

Winter Solstice

There are many names which describe winter solstice. Each nation would have their own word for the winter ceremony in their own language.

In Kwakwala we call winter t̥sa'w̥an̥x

In Haíłzaqv̥!a we call winter ćúńǰ.

The Squamish and Tseil-wauthuth nation will also have their own words for winter.

What is the word for Winter in your Indigenous language? Share with your neighbour or your class.

Seasonal Rounds

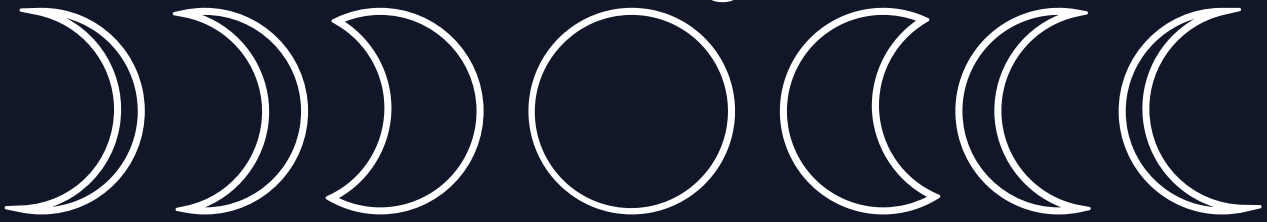


Indigenous peoples have a vast knowledge of the land, animals and plants. They also have a deep respect for the land, there were many protocols about how to treat the plants and animals. Many nations had strict hunting & fishing laws.

Indigenous people follow the natural cycles and events that occur during a year. This is a visual example of the Coast Salish seasonal round.

In the winter, coastal peoples would move from the summer homes to their winter homes. It is a time to reflect, listen to elders, the land to rest, connect and celebrate with family and friends, share food, songs, dances and stories.

Moon Cycles



**SIS,ET- The ELder
Moon (Dec)**



**NINENE – MOON OF THE CHILD
(Mid December to Mid
January)**

Indigenous calendar

13 moons-

Moon is a significant part of Indigenous cultures, with each nation having their own teaching and stories about their relations and connections to the moon cycles.

These two images are from the

W̱SÁNEĆ, Saanich nation in Victoria, Bc. The moon on the left depicts the elder moon, where the Elder's hair holds and shields the elderly people who share the teachings, the beliefs, the history and the culture with the children who are gathered in the warmth of the firelight.

The image on the right, the moon of the child depicts the face of the young man represents youth, a new beginning, the rebirth of the animal world, and the new edible shoots. This is the Saanich New Year. The moon's yellow hair is the returning light to the world.

Winter Ceremonies



Potlatches are a northwest coast winter ceremony, today they are held year around.

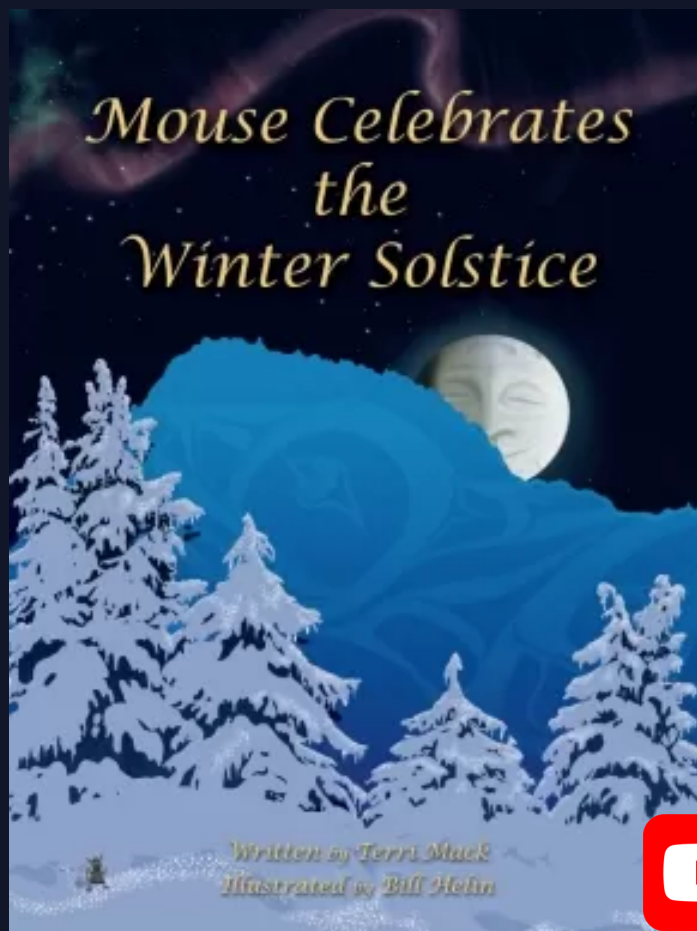
Different nations host different types of potlatches.

In Coast Salish communities, some members live in the long house for the winter season.

Quviasukvik is the Inuit winter feast that celebrates the coming year and placates the roaming spirits for good luck in the year to come. .

Many Indigenous communities and families celebrate Christmas, but many are reviving traditional winter ceremonies.

Winter Solstice is a time for storytelling and sacred ceremony.



Read Aloud

*By Terri Mack,
Kwakwakawa'kw*



this is a fictional story of Mouse celebrating winter solstice Kwakaka'wakw author Terri Mack.