



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE TWO SPIRIT?

Giiwedin (Northwind)
(Taran Howard)



TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

➤ **ABOUT TWO SPIRIT, 2SPIRIT, INDIGIQUEER**
History & definitions

02

➤ **ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**
Line 3 & Awareness

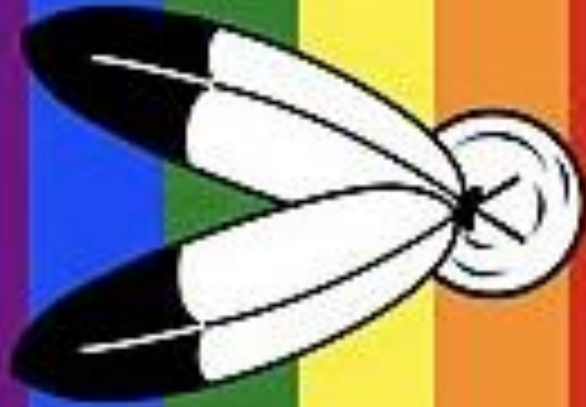
03

➤ **FOOD SOVEREIGNTY & QUEERNESS**
Mandaamin & Manoomin

04

➤ **CONTEMPORARY TWO SPIRIT PEOPLE TO KNOW**
Notable Native 2S/Queer people





01

ABOUT
TWO SPIRIT,
2SPIRIT,
INDIGIQUEER

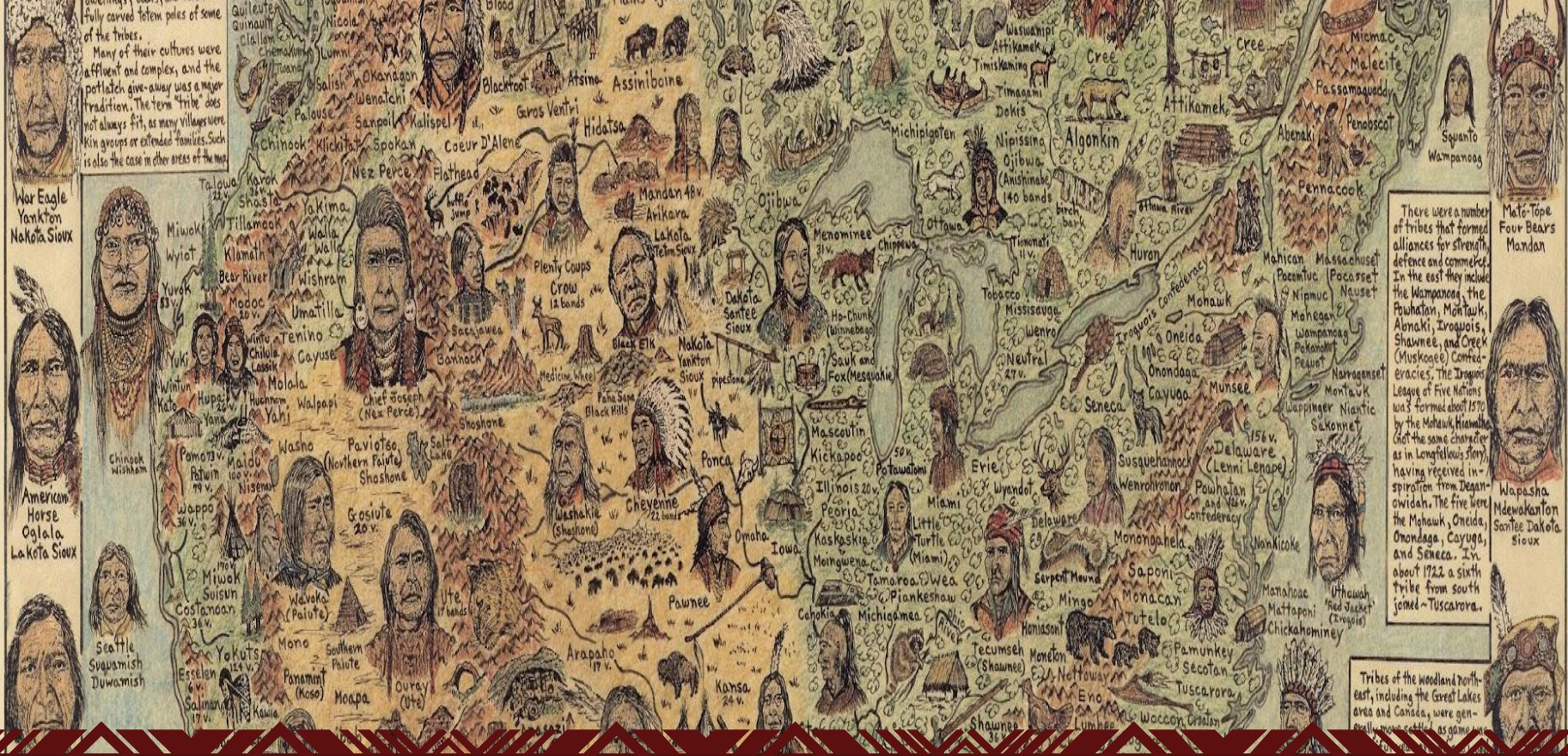
2S & THE LGBTQ INDIGENOUS CONFERENCE

Two-Spirit is a new umbrella term that is “pan-Indian” and is used by some Indigenous peoples to describe a tribally specific gender or social role.

The term came from the 3rd annual Inter-tribal Native American, First Nations, Gay and Lesbian American Conference in Winnipeg, MB.

Deliberate act of resistance to colonization (sets us aside)





fully carved totem poles of the tribes. Many of their cultures were affluent and complex, and the potlatch give-away was a major tradition. The term "tribe" does not always fit, as many villages were kin groups or extended families. Such is also the case in other areas of the north.

There were a number of tribes that formed alliances for strength, defence and commerce. In the east they include the Wampanoag, the Powhatan, Montauk, Abenaki, Iroquois, Shawnee, and Creek (Muskogee) Confederacies. The Iroquois League of Five Nations was formed about 1570 by the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca. In about 1722 a sixth tribe from south joined - Tuscarora.

Tribes of the woodland north-east, including the Great Lakes area and Canada, were generally more settled, as game

WE ARE NOT A MONOLITH

ORIGINS OF THE TERM TWO-SPIRIT

01

Berdache

“Native
American
Crossdresser”

*Dated and
offensive*

02

Two-spirit

Came out of
Winnipeg, MB at
a conference

*New and
empowering*

03

Indigiqueer

Coined by TJ
Cuthand to be
more inclusive

*Also new and
empowering*

04

Choice

Up to the
individual
Native person

Self-determined

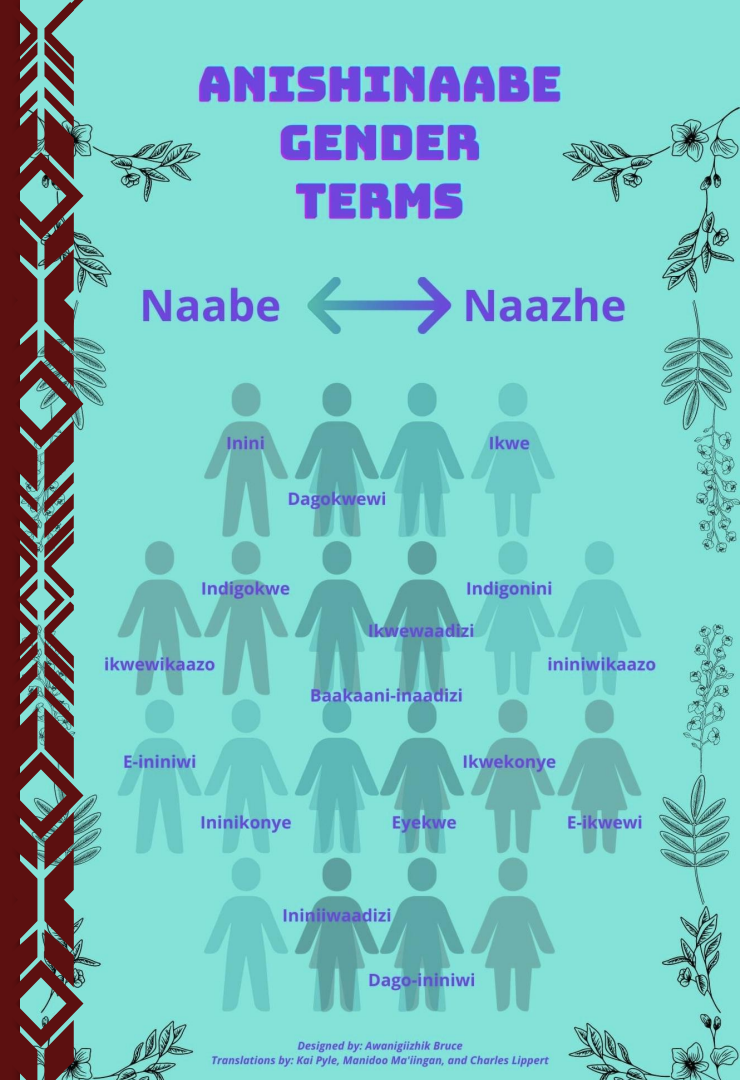
ANISHINAABE WORLDVIEW



“These terms were compiled from research and conversations from Kai Pyle, Manidoo Ma’ingan, and Charles Lippert.”

—Awanigiizhik Bruce

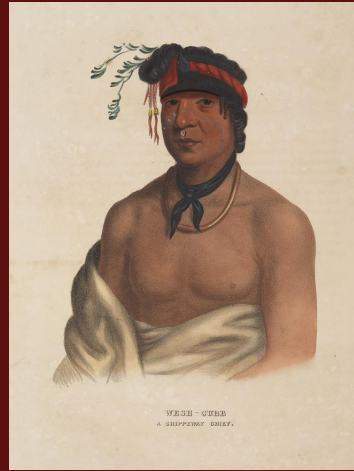
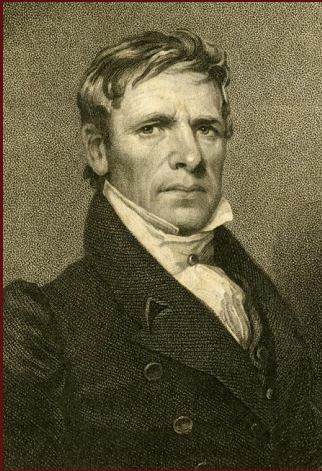
This poster was made for one of Awanigiizhik’s final presentations at school.



AGOKWE ICON:

OZAAWINDIB IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Ozaawindib has been recorded in history as Agokwe/Eyekwe
John Tanner and Henry Schoolcraft and other 1800 European journals
Guided Henry Schoolcraft to headwaters of the Mississippi River



Ozaawindib

Described as a fast
runner, skilled warrior
and hunter

IKWEWAADIZI

/verb/ ~ has the nature of a woman

Innate femininity

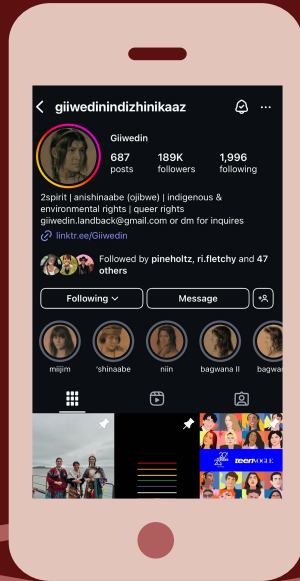
Drawn towards the “feminine”





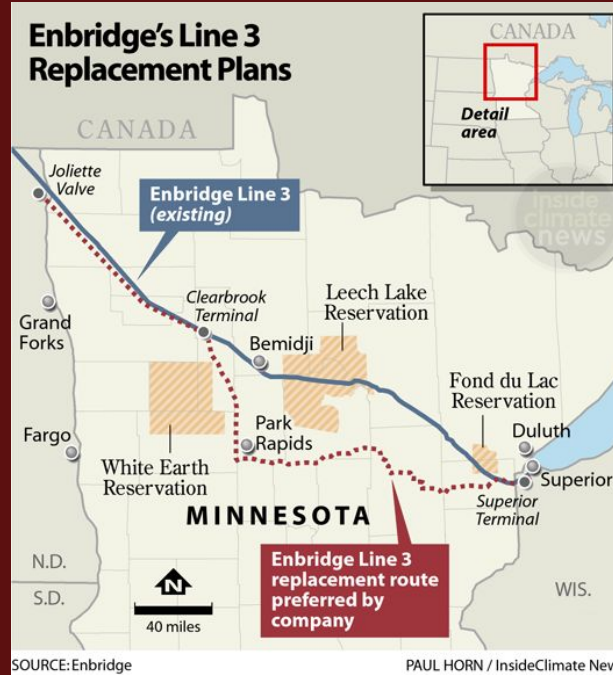
02

ABOUT
SOCIAL MEDIA,
ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE



SOCIAL MEDIA

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DFTmYKuSrNq/?igsh=MTgwY25xdGZtczZhZA==>



BEING A WATER PROTECTOR

Line 3, tar sands pipeline through Anishinaabe treaty territories

Social media as an organizing tool

THE IMPORTANCE OF AWARENESS



EDUCATION VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

<https://tinyurl.com/Two-spirit-pride-vid>

[https://tinyurl.com/y5f4s
pk9](https://tinyurl.com/y5f4s pk9)





03

ABOUT
FOOD
SOVEREIGNTY
& QUEERNESS

MANOOMINIKE



MANOOMIN/MANDAAMIN AS QUEER



04

CONTEMPORARY TWO SPIRIT PEOPLE TO KNOW ➤

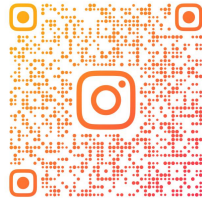
Photo from BAAITS
Powwow website





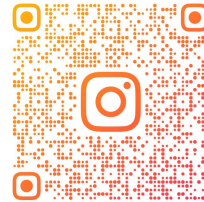
TWO-SPIRIT/QUEER NOTABLE NATIVES

CHARLIE AMÁYÁ SCOTT



@DINEAESTHETICS

SEAN SNYDER &
ADRIAN STEVENS



@SEANQSNYDER





MIIGWECH
THANK U



RESOURCES ➤

https://scholarlyediting.org/2012/essays/essay_fierst.html

https://c1.staticflickr.com/5/4156/347903423_25_36688331a0_o.jpg

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ozaawindib#/media/File%3AWesh-Cubb%2C_A_Chippeway_Chief._\(15870367152\).jpg](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ozaawindib#/media/File%3AWesh-Cubb%2C_A_Chippeway_Chief._(15870367152).jpg)

https://www.llojibwe.org/drm/maps/llrMap_WebView.jpg

