



## Turtle Island Creative Impact Coalition

*Bringing together Indigenous and non-Indigenous filmmakers, storytellers, and creators to explore new pathways of possibility across Turtle Island*

Turtle Island Creative Impact Coalition is an Indigenous-led initiative to coordinate communication, access, and opportunities across Turtle Island where creativity, innovation for impact; regenerative media, and reconciliation-focused, restorative, rural community economic most development intersect.

*"Stories -- and movies and television shows are just modern stories -- are the mechanism through which we process our experience of being alive. They're the way that we understand the world and our place in it."*

*~ Naomi McDougall Jones,  
Storyteller & Hollywood Filmmaker*



reGEN media is in the early-planning stages of a 600' impact media production studio within the Sunshine Coast Social Innovation Centre in the House of Clans currently under construction on the former site of a residential school on shíshálh Nation lands.

With a focus on advancing Indigenous film production and skills-building for Indigenous women in partnership with non-Indigenous creative allies, this unique enterprise ("The reGEN Academy") and its offering, an ongoing practice of healing, learning and unlearning, and growth towards reconciliation, will be a first for our rural community, while also building capacity for small businesses and the voluntary sector to fully embrace the digital economy. In preparation, positive anticipation, and holding highest intention, we formed the Turtle Island Creative Impact Coalition, a circle of Indigenous and non-Indigenous filmmakers, storytellers, and creators from across Turtle Island.

**Growing an interconnected web of creators and storytellers across Turtle Island.**



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**What we've learned so far. These are the obvious needs we are being called to address:**

- *There is a need across Turtle Island for more funds available sustainably to partner and support awareness-building campaigns for uplifting screen-based digital projects.*
- *There is a need for innovative fundraising support for creative endeavours that doesn't compete for a creator's time, energy, gifts, and attention.*
- *There is a need to fundamentally crack open / change the business model for film and story creation to create broader access for historically marginalized storytellers to tell their stories in ways that not only create soulful content, but do so in a way rooted in community, connection, self-care, and sustainability.*
- *There is a need for Indigenous-led protocol for working with Indigenous communities interwoven with story through film and media production.*
- *There is a need for an Indigenous-led youth well-being and digital storytelling training program designed by Indigenous youth for youth.*
- *There is a need for an Indigenous-led digital empowerment through storytelling and impact media certification program designed by Indigenous women for Indigenous women.*
- *There is a need for peer-mentoring, project collaborations and partnerships across Turtle Island to increase efficiencies, ripple of impact, and expansion opportunities.*

**Next steps and future-forward vision:**

At this time, we are relationship-building with potential sector-development and industry partners, seeking funding and partnership support, and preparing for reGEN media's launch, early May. Plans are now underway to host the 1st Annual Indigenous-led Creative Respite Retreat and Strategic Planning Session with a public community panel on the Sunshine Coast in August, 2022 and work towards a Sunshine Coast Film Festival for Indigenous filmmakers & allies in 2024.

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