In Our Words Full video

Sun, February 12h

Online (YouTube)

This video explored how the dispossession of land from indigenous people occurred throughout Canada. As it has been emphasized in previous events as well as this course, Indigenous people's ways of knowing are strongly connected to their history, land, and animals. This event began by exploring what a treaty is supposed to mean. It explained that a treaty is not supposed to take away but give on top of what one already has. It went further to talk about some of the indigenous treaties their and their importance such as the wampum belt, the dish with one spoon and the two-row wampum. When listening to the meaning behind these treaties I learned the immense value indigenous people placed in making sure everyone could work together in peace and harmony. Just the thought of that I found amazing, which made me realize it is not something that can easily be witnessed in a western society that emphasizes individual rights. After hearing about the beautiful treaties from the indigenous community, the video began explaining their history from the moment the religious community, specifically, the pope gave those who followed the catholic way permission to conquer, kill and destroy indigenous peoples and get their lands theirs. I learned how, the Spanish, French, and British fought over the land and although in the end the British “won”. The indigenous people did not like what was going on which cause a fight between Indigenous people and the British. After hearing this part of history, I initially felt saddened and disappointed being a Christian myself, and hearing about the wars, the stolen land, and the innocent lives that were taken away over a land that was already owned without care of the people in it, just saddened me. This video gave me a better understanding on why some indigenous people may feel anger towards people or churches. I believe that in my future career as a nurse, I may not be able to heal the pain or trauma that is being experienced by Indigenous People but with this knowledge, I can be better equipped to help, better attend to and empathize with them.