

Faculti Summary

<https://staging.faculti.net/snewiyalh-tla-sta%e1%b8%b5w-teachings-of-the-water/>

This video video discusses a collaborative project initiated by ethnomusicologist Jeanette Ga Launch, who sought to connect contemporary music with the traditional Cree water teachings of First Nations in Canada. The Electra Women's Choir in Vancouver, led by conductor RNA Edmondson, was involved in this initiative. The speaker, who identifies as Métis and has ties to the University of British Columbia, became part of the project to facilitate connections with local Indigenous communities and their unique water teachings.

The project aims to create a musical piece titled "Teachings of the Water," which includes five movements. Each movement reflects different aspects of water and its significance within Indigenous cultures. The speaker emphasizes the importance of respecting and adapting to the local context, underscoring the diverse traditions among the many First Nations in Canada. They also highlight the changing dynamics of music composition, moving toward a more communal and adaptable approach that reflects Indigenous practices.

Throughout the piece, there is a focus on interconnectedness, cultural identity, and the relationship between people and the land. The speaker shares personal experiences of learning and reconnection within their Métis culture, advocating for meaningful connections with Indigenous traditions and emphasizing the importance of collaborative and respectful practices in music and beyond. The narrative encourages an understanding of the complexities of cultural identity and the significance of place, community, and environmental stewardship.