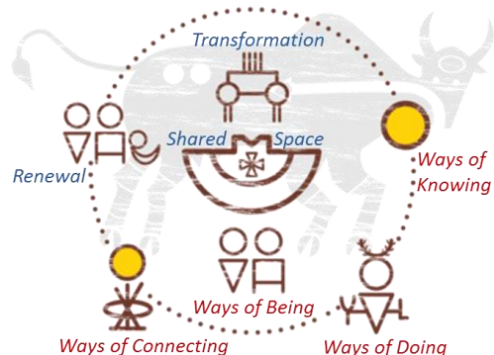


## Indigenous Cultural Protocol Training

Part of your training will include an introduction to Canadian Indigenous history and culture, as represented by the four visionary circles of the U.Calgary's cultural model: Ways of knowing, connecting, being and doing. Follow the link to learn more about [ii' taa'poh'to'p](#).

The Canadian government and its energy sector has a long history of exploitation of natural resources in remote parts of the western provinces inhabited by Indigenous peoples; often with little understanding of cultural differences. This perspective is changing. It started in 2007, with the adoption of the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) and the creation of the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada](#).



### REDEVELOP students will receive the following training:

1. You will attend a 4-day workshop in [Indigenous Relations Training](#), which is taught in November, February and May by the [Writing Symbols Lodge](#) at the University of Calgary.
2. You will be assigned an Indigenous elder/mentor to advise your team on relevant perspectives and challenges impacting Indigenous communities affected by your topic choice. You will need to prepare for this meeting. An elder is a traditional knowledge keeper, who is highly respected in his/her community, carries a great deal of responsibility and has many demands on their time. Through relationship-building with the [Indian Resource Council](#), REDEVELOP has arranged for our student teams to have the privilege of meeting with an elder. It is appropriate, then, that you honour them with a gift.

You can obtain traditional ceremonial tobacco, fabric and twine from the REDEVELOP Program Manager to prepare your tobacco offering in a pouch. As you prepare the offering, it is important to take the time to think about what kinds of questions you will ask and the unknown depth or impact of your questions. When you meet, offer the tobacco pouch by holding it in your left hand in front of you, state your request, such as: We are offering this tobacco for your time to talk; we appreciate your efforts to meet with us, share your stories and help us to understand your perspective. As the elder accepts your request, place the tobacco in their hand.

