CLEO CONNECT / COMMUNITY JUSTICE

INDIGENOUS JUSTICE

Care • Context • Accountability

Court Support / Gladue / Indigenous Peoples Court



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Three Connected Pathways

Court Navigation

Practical assistance from bail through sentencing

Gladue

Historical and systemic context for sentencing

Indigenous Peoples Court

Healing plans, accountability and cultural guidance



First Contact: Bail Court

Make Contact

Speak with the individual in cells or by phone; collect identifying information

Build a Bail Plan

Explain surety responsibilities and identify appropriate programming

Support Release

Prepare support letters for counsel and explain bail conditions

After Bail: Staying Alongside the Client

Understand the Process

Disclosure, Legal Aid, counsel and next court dates

Coordinate Supports

Friendship Centre and community program referrals; IPC applications

Follow Through

JPTs, plea court, bail variations, sentencing and final orders



Advocacy Extends Beyond the Courtroom

Explore Alternatives

Discuss diversion and suitable community programming with the Crown

Maintain Connections

Institutional calls, jail visits, external agencies and communication with families

Reduce Practical Barriers

Assist and address the court at future appearances

Bus tickets, snacks and support attending future appearances



What Gladue asks courts to consider

Legal foundation

Criminal Code section 718.2(e) and the Supreme Court's Gladue decision

Individual context

Systemic and background circumstances affecting an Indigenous person

Purpose

Inform a fair, contextual sentencing process—not an automatic lighter sentence



Source: Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC), @nwac_canada, n.d.

Common Gladue Factors

Colonial Disruption

Residential schools, Sixties Scoop and child welfare experiences

Systemic Inequity

Racism, discrimination, poverty and barriers to education or employment

Well-being and Belonging

Mental health, substance use, FASD and disconnection from land, language or community

Gladue Reports and Letters

Gladue Report

Detailed research, interviews and background information, takes approx. 6-8 weeks

Gladue Letter

More concise context and immediate healing recommendations, takes approx. 4-5 weeks

Outcomes

Availability and preparation time can affect sentencing decisions

When access to Gladue is delayed

Capacity Pressures

Insufficient local writers and inconsistent access to full reports

Time in Custody

Delays may prolong uncertainty or time awaiting sentencing

Incomplete Narratives

The oral summary given by counsel in lieu of a full report do not convey the lived experiences of the offender

Indigenous Peoples Court

A Different Court Approach

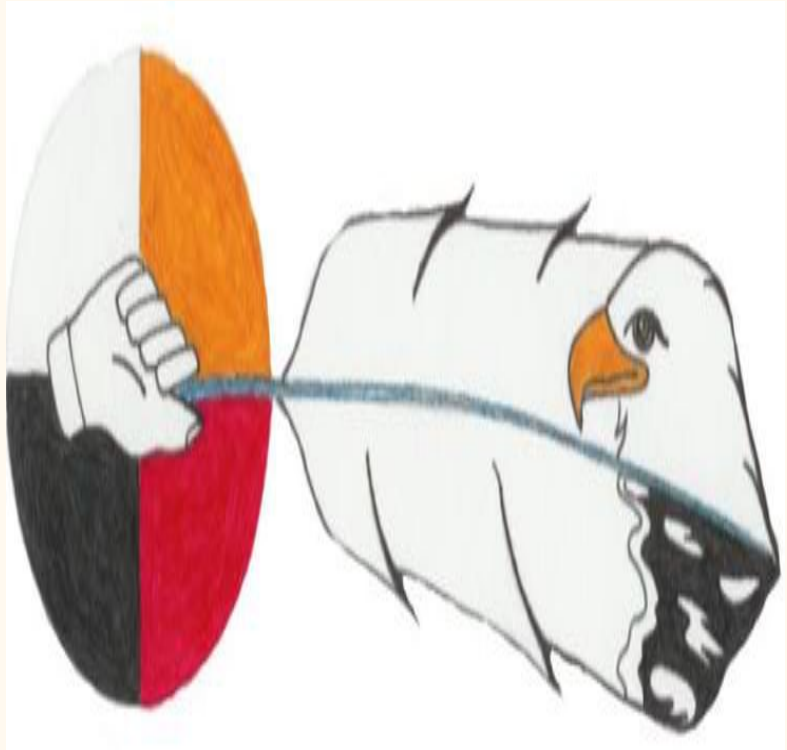
Gladue-informed case management and sentencing

Cultural Participation

Elders and Knowledge Keepers provide teachings and guidance

Individual Healing Plans

Programming and supports addressing underlying needs and harm



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Restorative Justice: Accountability and Repair

Relationships

Recognize harm to people and communities—not only broken laws

Shared Understanding

Circle-based dialogue where appropriate and voluntary

Meaningful Action

Healing, responsibility, restitution, service or apology

Closing: Justice Requires Connection

Navigation

Clear information and practical support at every stage as the court process

Context

A full understanding of colonial and systemic circumstances

Accountability

Community-informed healing and meaningful responses to harm

ARTWORK & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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