

# Spirit Bear's PICTURE BOOKS

& Other Reconciliation Resources  
SPRING 2021

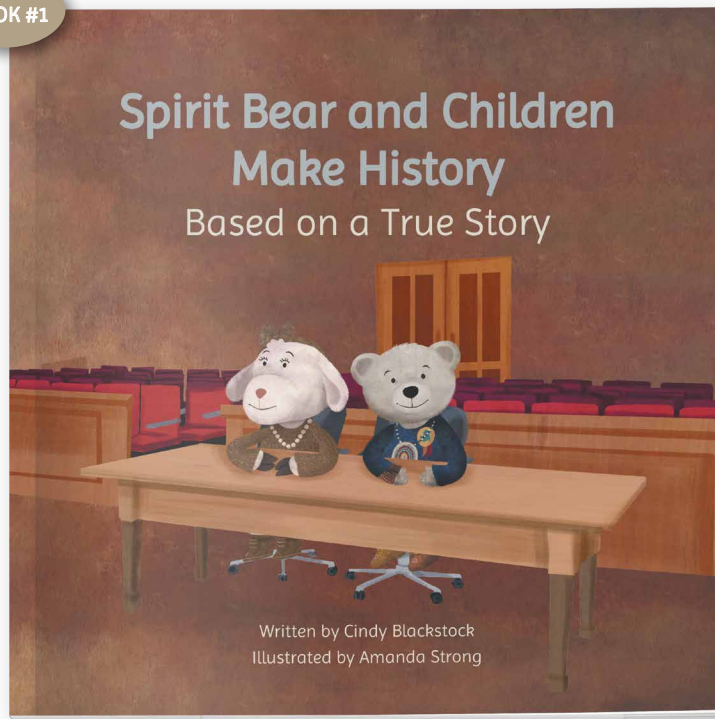


First Nations Child & Family  
Caring Society of Canada

Société de soutien à l'enfance  
et à la famille des Premières Nations  
du Canada

## New Releases (Frontlist)

BOOK #1



ISBN 978-1-7770091-6-8



### **Spirit Bear and Children Make History** *Based on a True Story*

By Cindy Blackstock &amp; Eddy Robinson | Illustrated by Amanda Strong

December 2020 | Paperback, Picture book | \$15.00

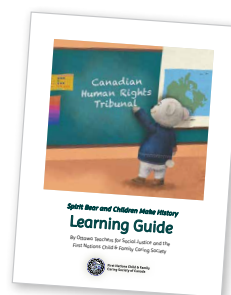
(Originally published in 2017)

**Did You Know?** *Spirit Bear and Children Make History* and learning guide was an Indspire Successful Practice in K–12 Indigenous education!

When Spirit Bear's mom tells him about an important human rights case happening in Ottawa, Ontario, he makes the LONG trip (by train, his favourite way to travel) to go and watch, and to stand up for First Nations kids. And he isn't the only one! Lots of children come too—to listen, and to show they care. Spirit Bear knows that children can change the world because he's there to see it happen. This is the story of how kids—kids just like you—made a difference... with a bit of help from some bears and other animals along the way!

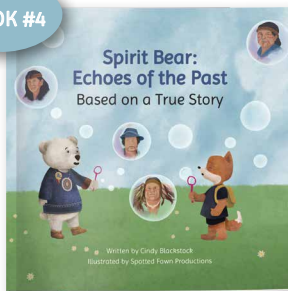
- English
- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour
- 8.25" × 8.25" × 0.2"
- 54 pages

A free electronic learning guide is also available for parents, educators and others at [Spiritbearrister.com](http://Spiritbearrister.com)



## Already *Paw-pular* (Backlist)

BOOK #4



ISBN 978-1-7770091-3-7



### Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past *Based on a True Story*

By Cindy Blackstock | Illustrated by Spotted Fawn Productions

July 2020 | Paperback, Picture book | \$15.00

***Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past* is the latest addition to the award-winning picture book series written by Order of Canada recipient Cindy Blackstock (Gitksan Nation) and illustrated by Spotted Fawn Productions, led by Amanda Strong (Michif)!**

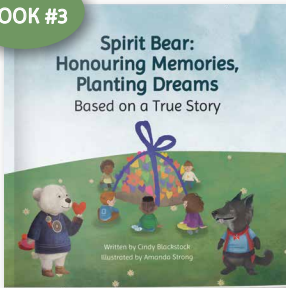
It's been a long journey, and Spirit Bear needs a vacation! He and his family set out for Songhees and Esquimalt territories (Victoria, British Columbia) for their holiday adventure. Along the way, they see a statue of John A. Macdonald—Canada's first Prime Minister—being removed from the steps of Victoria City Hall. Some people have signs that say, "Save the statue," and others have signs that say, "The statue must go!" Spirit Bear and his family learn why people disagree and how we can learn from the good and bad parts of history to make better decisions now and for future generations of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit kids.

- English
- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour throughout
- 8.25" × 8.25" × 0.2"
- 62 pages





BOOK #3



English  
ISBN 978-1-7751914-9-0



French  
ISBN 978-1-7770091-4-4



**Spirit Bear: Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams**  
*Based on a True Story*

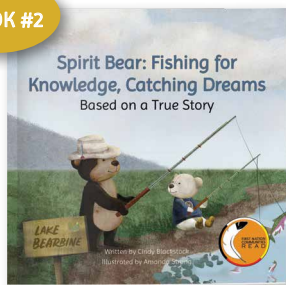
**Spirit Bear : Rendre hommage aux souvenirs, semer des rêves**  
*Basé sur une histoire vraie*

By Cindy Blackstock | Illustrated by Amanda Strong  
November 2019 | Paperback, Picture book | \$15.00

Spirit Bear is on his way home from a sacred ceremony when he meets Jake, a friendly dog, with a bag full of paper hearts attached to wood stakes. Jake tells Spirit Bear that school children and residential school survivors will plant the hearts when a big report on residential schools called the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC for short) is shared. The TRC will have Calls to Action so we can all help end the unfairness and make sure this generation of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children grow up healthy and proud!

- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour throughout
- 8.25" × 8.25" × 0.2"
- 66 pages

BOOK #2



English  
ISBN 978-1-7751914-2-1



French  
ISBN 978-1-7751914-5-2



**Spirit Bear: Fishing for Knowledge, Catching Dreams**  
*Based on a True Story*

**Spirit Bear : Pêcher le savoir, attraper des rêves**  
*Basé sur une histoire vraie*

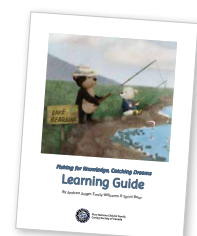
By Cindy Blackstock | Illustrated by Amanda Strong  
November 2018 | Paperback, Picture book | \$15.00

**Winner of the 2019-2020 First Nation Communities Read and Periodical Marketers of Canada Indigenous Literature Award!**

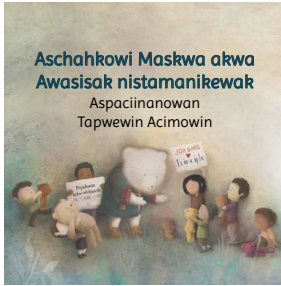
Spirit Bear is off on another adventure! Follow him as he learns about traditional knowledge and residential schools from Uncle Huckleberry and his friend, Lak'inswx, before heading to Algonquin territory, where children teach him about Shannen's Dream. Spirit Bear and his new friends won't stop until Shannen's Dream of "safe and comfy schools" comes true for every First Nations student.

- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour throughout
- 8.25" × 8.25" × 0.2"
- 52 pages

A free electronic learning guide is also available for parents, educators and others at [Spiritbearrister.com](http://Spiritbearrister.com)



## Accompanying Resources



### Free Indigenous Language Translations

Spirit Bear's first picture book, *Spirit Bear and Children Make History*, is available in two Indigenous languages. Visit [spiritbearrister.ca](http://spiritbearrister.ca) to download free electronic versions of the translated book.

Cree translation by Madeline Gamblin  
Carrier translation by Dorothy Patrick



### Spirit Bear Animations

In September 2020, the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society, in collaboration with Spotted Fawn Productions, released an adaptation of *Spirit Bear and Children Make History*! This is the first of three stop-motion films and provides a great learning opportunity for educators, parents, and others to engage in social justice for First Nations young people. Learn more at [fncaringsociety.com/films](http://fncaringsociety.com/films).

## About the Authors and Illustrators



### Spirit Bear (Author)

Spirit Bear was born in a huckleberry patch in the Carrier Sekani territory in British Columbia. He is a *Bearrister*, which means when he sees something wrong, he has to learn about it and try to help. Spirit Bear represents the First Nations children impacted by the First Nations child welfare case at the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, as well as the thousands of other children who have committed to learning about the case and have taken part in peaceful and respectful actions in support of reconciliation and equity.



### Cindy Blackstock (Author)

A member of the Gitksan First Nation, Cindy has been working for First Nations children for over 25 years, first as child welfare worker and now as the Executive Director of the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society and Professor of Social Work at McGill University. In case you haven't guessed, she is also the real-life inspiration behind Spirit Bear's fashion-loving friend, Cindy the Sheep!



### Amanda Strong (Art Director and Illustrator)

Amanda is a Michif filmmaker, media artist, and stop motion artist currently based out of the unceded Coast Salish territory also known as Vancouver. Amanda's work explores ideas of blood memory and Indigenous ideology. Amanda has received numerous awards for her work, including the K.M. Hunter Artist Award for Film and Video, the Vancouver Mayors Arts Awards for Emerging Film and Media Artist, and the Clyde Gilmour Technicolor Award, selected by Alanis Obomsawin. Additional illustrations by Amanda's studio team at Spotted Fawn Productions.



**Spotted Fawn Productions (SFP)** was founded in 2010 and incorporated in 2014 by Michif Owner/Director/Producer Amanda Strong. SFP is an Indigenous-led production company that is creative, community oriented with a focus on illustration, stop motion, 2D, 3D, and virtual reality animations. Their mission is to provide mentorship and training opportunities for emerging and diverse artists. They create space for Indigenous people, women and non-binary individuals to engage in the many aspects of film, animation and production.

The First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada is a charitable organization based in Ottawa, Ontario. The Caring Society provides reconciliation-based public education, research, and support to promote the safety and wellbeing of First Nations children, young people, families, and Nations. All proceeds from the sale of Spirit Bear's picture book series help ensure First Nations children can grow up healthy and proud!

**PUBLISHER**

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[www.fncaringsociety.com](http://www.fncaringsociety.com) | 1-613-230-5885

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**SALES**

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Caring Society of Canada**

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