



## Powwow Etiquette

Everyone is welcome to attend! For first-timers, here are a few quick tips on how to fully experience a Powwow respectfully.

### Be On Time

Start times vary for each event, but make sure you're not running late.

### Listen to the Master of Ceremonies

The Emcee will let you know who's performing next and provide you with context about each performance including cultural significance and meaning.

### Be Respectful

Whether it's during the opening prayer, a performance, or when trying new food, be mindful that many of these experiences are considered sacred and need to be respected as such.

### Respect the Opening Prayer

The Grand Entry and the Opening Prayer signal the beginning of the Powwow. The Opening Prayer is always performed by an Elder, and the drum takes centre stage as the most important part.

### Ask Before Taking Photos

Be sure to ask permission before taking a photo as some parts of the ceremony are sacred and private. Additionally, some performers may not wish to have their image captured.

### Ask Questions

Powwows are spiritual experiences for those performing. If you don't fully understand what's going on, that's ok - just ask respectfully.

### Bring Tobacco

Offering tobacco to an Elder or dancer is a sign of tremendous respect in the Indigenous community. It can be offered to them when you ask them to share their knowledge.

### Shop & Explore

There are often vendors and artisans present where you can purchase something to commemorate your experience!

