

Dr. Duke Redbird has worked with all levels of government and the private sector to meet the needs of First Nations in the fields of education, alcohol and drug abuse, economic development, housing, tourism, culture, the arts, and health care. "Duke has been described as a multifaceted artist, practicing across a number of disciplines including literature, painting, theatre, cinema and most recently rap poetry." In 1977 a multi-media musical based on his poetry was performed in the presence of Their Royal Highnesses Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh during Silver Jubilee celebrations.



Source: <https://afptoronto.org/blog/the-power-of-the-land-by-dr-duke-redbird/>

I am a Canadian

I'm a lobster fisherman in Newfoundland

I'm a clambake in P.E.I.

I'm a picnic, I'm a banquet

I'm mother's homemade pie

I'm a few drafts in a Legion hall in Fredericton

I'm a kite-flyer in Moncton

I'm a nap on the porch after a hard day's work is done

I'm a snowball fight in Truro, Nova Scotia

I'm small kids playing jacks and skipping rope

I'm a mother who lost a son in the last Great War

And I'm a bride with a brand new ring

And a chest of hope

I'm an Easterner

I'm a Westerner

I'm from the North

And I'm from the South

I've swam in two big oceans

And I've loved them both.

I'm a clown in Quebec during carnival

I'm a mass in the cathedral of St. Paul

I'm a hockey game in the forum

I'm Rocket Richard and Jean Beliveau

I'm a coach for little league Expos
I'm a babysitter for sleep defying rascals
I'm a canoe trip down the Ottawa
I'm a holiday on the Trent
I'm a mortgage, I'm a loan
I'm last week's unpaid rent

I'm Yorkville after dark
I'm a walk in the park
I'm a Winnipeg gold-eye
I'm a hand-made trout fly
I'm a wheat-field and a sunset
Under a prairie-sky

I'm Sir John A. MacDonald
I'm Alexander Graham Bell
I'm a pow-wow dancer
And I'm Louis Riel

I'm the Calgary Stampede
I'm a feathered Sarcee
I'm Edmonton at night
I'm a bar-room fight

I'm a rigger, I'm a cat
I'm a ten-gallon hat
And an unnamed mountain in the interior of
B.C.
I'm a maple tree and a totem pole
I'm sunshine showers
And fresh-cut flowers

I'm a ferry boat ride to the Island
I'm the Yukon
I'm the Northwest Territories
I'm the Arctic Ocean and the Beaufort Sea
I'm the Prairies, I'm the Great Lakes
I'm the Rockies, I'm the Laurentians

I am French
I am English
And I'm Métis
But more than this
Above all this
I am Canadian and proud to be free.