



Images drawn from the graphic narrative "Mikomis and the Wek'ice" (2013) by Yal Napoleon, Jim Henshaw, Ken Steacy, Simon Roy, and Janine Johnston.

LAW

IS NOT FRUIT. IT IS NOT SOME THING WAITING TO BE PLUCKED FROM BRANCHES, NOR CAN IT BE "PRESERVED". ALL LAW, BY ITS NATURE, IS ACTUALLY MADE AND REMADE THROUGH PEOPLE SERIOUSLY APPLYING THEMSELVES TO

DEEPLY ENGAGE WITH IT

AND STRUGGLING TO MAKE IT THEIR OWN.... ALL LAW HAS TO BE CAPABLE OF BEING SPECIFIC, RESPONSIVE, AND APPLIED TO THE REAL AND MESSY LIFE OF HUMAN COMMUNITIES. WHEN RESEARCHING CANADIAN STATE LAWS, WE BRING QUESTIONS TO IT THAT WE NEED ANSWERS TO. FOR THE MOST PART, THESE ARE PRACTICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT MANAGING OR SOLVING PROBLEMS. WHY WOULDN'T WE DO THE SAME WITH INDIGENOUS LAWS? AFTER ALL, IF THESE LAWS ARE NOT RELEVANT AND USEFUL TO REAL LIFE, WHY BOTHER?

– FRIEDLAND AND NAPOLEON, "GATHERING THE THREADS"