

Montanah Paulson



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Our Responsibility

This is the story of new life and how we as First Nation's youth have the responsibility of carrying on the traditions of our forefathers and ancestors here on this great Country, we call home. The story starts at the base with the traditional burning off of country that is represented through the red and golden orange sparks flying up towards the sky. The yellow and white circles symbolise new life and the growth of flora and fauna after the rain.

The u-shaped icons seated around the meeting place on country represents each family member and their individual journeys and responsibilities of maintaining restoration and balance on country, land, sea and waterways. The long curved green and blue line stretching from left to right is symbolic of the rivers, watering holes, lakes and riverbanks that carve out the traditional boundaries throughout the countryside. This is also symbolic of the main source of life – "Water" and the important role that it has in sustaining the country, land and people.

At the very top is a representation of the sea and the saltwater people. The smaller blue and white circles are the coral cays, reefs and marine life that keep the ocean and sea life in balance. The white footprints at the bottom are the Elders and ancestors walking the land and passing the knowledge and cultural tools onto each of us to carry on and practice for many more generations. The white handprints depict the care and generosity that has been shown through replanting and caring for the country by only taking what you need. The dots throughout the entire background that are represented in the various colours of brown, beige and mustard symbolise the uplifting tones and positivity that is shared by those that are on this journey of healing our country, land and waterways.