

CINE Publishes Encyclopedia Detailing the Diets of Indigenous Groups in Canada, Alaska, Greenland, and Northern US

The Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment (CINE) published *Traditional Animal Foods of Indigenous Peoples of North America: The Contributions of Wildlife Diversity to the Subsistence and Nutrition of Indigenous Cultures*, an encyclopedia of more than 500 animal species that form the traditional diet of First Nations. It is a free, open access online encyclopedia that is catalogued in the McGill Library and available to thousands of libraries worldwide.

The new web encyclopedia focuses on Canada, Alaska, Greenland, and the northern US, but many of the animal species presented are also found in the northern latitudes of Europe and Asia. Close to 500 ethnographic sources in 100 languages are cited—some going back about a century. The information can be searched through three main tabs: animals, cultures, and nutrients.

As it is stated in the presentation of the encyclopedia, “Recent local, national, and international efforts are bringing forward the vast knowledge of Indigenous Peoples to better document food biodiversity and its cultural and nutritional contributions to human well-being. Our intent is for this publication to recognize the contributions of Indigenous Peoples in North America to our global heritage of food knowledge.”

This encyclopedia follows an earlier ‘sister’ publication on *Traditional Plant Foods of Canadian Indigenous Peoples* that is also available through the McGill library and free online through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, who digitized the volume of over 600 pages.

The goal of the publication is stated on the website: “This is a reference guide that we hope will be useful to a variety of users: public health professionals, wildlife resource managers, Indigenous Peoples, and the education of their youth, nutritionists, ethnographers, wildlife enthusiasts, the variety of organizations serving Indigenous Peoples, and academics working in several disciplines. The presentation is in academic style that is as user-friendly as practical for this large amount of information.”