10 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT THE EAGLE FEATHER

- To be given an **Eagle Feather** is the highest honour that can be awarded within Aboriginal cultures. The person receiving the Eagle Feather is being acknowledged with gratitude and the ultimate respect.
- 2. The eagle is a symbol of truth, power and freedom and is considered to be a messenger to the Creator.
- 3. The down of an eagle is distinctive and usually given as a token of honour.
- 4. When one holds the **Eagle Feather**, one must speak the truth in as positive a way as one can.
- 5. It is the responsibility of the person giving an **Eagle Feather** to provide the recipient with an explanation of the Eagle Feather at the time of giving.
- The vane of an Eagle Feather represents flexibility and adaptability. Each vane has a unique design as each feather is unique, each individual is also unique.
- Eagle Feathers are very sacred and are never to be abused, shown disrespect, dropped or contaminated.
- 8. The **Eagle Feather** should be kept safely and protected. It should be hung up within one's home, not placed in a drawer, cupboard, etc.
- Retrieving an Eagle Feather that has been dropped is a serious matter and requires a special retrieval ceremony.
- 10. The teachings of the **Eagle Feather** are passed on person to person.

ABORIGINAL RELATIONS OFFICE

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