

# Listening to Music

Topic: Famous Indigenous Heroes who have contributed to the history of Canada.

Do you recognize these Indigenous heroes? Record the name of the hero under the photo if you know them.

Louis Riel

St. Kateri

Chief Peguis

Buffy Sainte Marie

Waneek Horn Miller

Leonard Peltier

Chief Fontaine

Tommy Prince

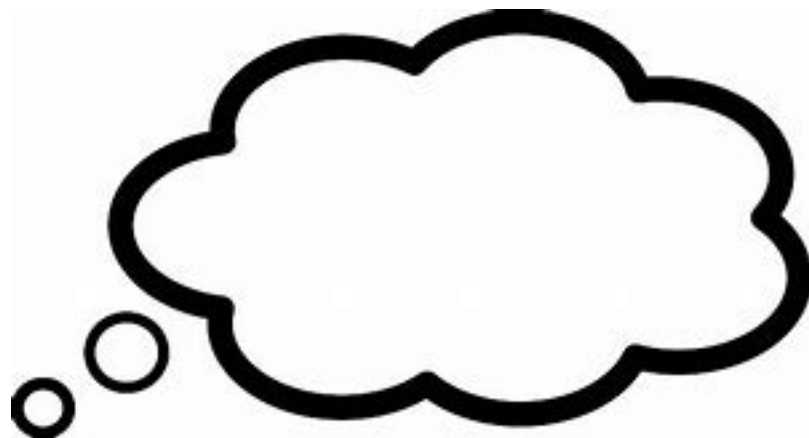
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## Step One: Listen to the song

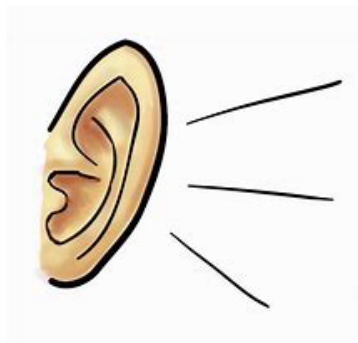
- Listen to the song “*Heroes*” by Wab Kinew by clicking on the following youtube link [Wab Kinew – Heroes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UI4KmHlzMc&noredirect=1)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UI4KmHlzMc&noredirect=1>

## Step Two: Understanding the title

- Why do you think Wab Kinew named the song “*Heroes*”?



Step Three: Listen to the song again, and this time look at the lyrics that are listed below as you view the video.



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## Wab Kinew - "Heroes" lyrics

I hear a lot of people say that the Native Community needs heroes  
well we already have our heroes so let's just take a minute to remember them

And any man who knows a thing  
Knows he knows not a damn, damn thing at all  
And every time I felt the hurting  
I felt the giving getting me up off the wall  
I'm just gonna take a minute and let it ride  
I'm just gonna take a minute and let it breeze  
I'm just gonna take a minute and let it ride  
I'm just gonna take a minute and let it breeze



How did Louis Riel become a buffalo soldier?  
Stood up to Canada and the father of Manitoba  
How did Fontaine get the apology?  
He told his story then he said come on follow me  
That's to give.... I guess I'll pass it on  
Like the teachings past at the Sun Dance before dawn  
How did Waneek take a knife to the ribs than represent this country? Damn she forgive  
And how does Leonard Peltier get out of bed each day?  
Finding hope in the hopeless it's the Indian way  
And why did Tommy Prince fight for all Canadian people?  
When right here at home he wasn't considered an equal  
Overseas he fought with the heart of a warrior  
than came back home to be treated like a foreigner  
So yeah.... I'ma live real lavish for all the times you called my people savage

How did Kateri know that she should keep up the faith?  
Time to put the first native saint in her proper place  
How did Buffy Sainte-Marie know to keep on singing?  
Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee it keeps on ringing  
[How did Freddy Krueger know he had to stand up?](#)  
[Since I saw that photo knew I had to man up](#)  
How did Peguis know that he should help that white man?  
Did he understand that others would take his land?  
But damn.... The worst is over now  
The bro Adam Beach is on movie posters now  
This is Big Wab.... Still reppin' the rez  
Though I'm in the city I won't soon forget  
What the L has taught me always to share  
My people don't want the pride well I don't care  
How did K'naan know the world needs this song?  
Well I never know the answer so I just sing along like  
Yeah  
Some true Native heroes right there  
If you haven't heard of them learn about them

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I'd tell you to go read a book about them  
But they don't write about our heroes in the history books  
So go ask an elder  
Go ask Grandma  
Go ask Kookum  
better yet ask Wab Kinew  
I've got opinions for days  
Gladly talk your ear off  
And this is just the beginning  
This could be a 500 bar song  
1 bar for every year of oppression  
1 bar for every rhyme i got to make an impression on today's youth

**Step Four: Draw, label or write, in the chart, how the song made you feel, what you noticed, and what you enjoyed.**

<u>I felt</u>	<u>I noticed</u>	<u>I enjoyed</u>
<u>Ex:</u> I felt sad they were treated poorly.	<u>Ex:</u> I noticed the heroes were oppressed.	<u>Ex:</u> I enjoyed learning about interesting Indigenous people.

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## Extension #1

### **Inquiry Project / Big Idea related to English/Social Studies**

**How might a hero have the power to change the world?**

Make a list of all the heroes the writer mentions.

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- 
- 
- 

What words describe a hero?

The Hero that I choose:

Date and place of birth of the hero:

Family:

A chronological account of his/her life:

- 
- 
- 
- 

Major accomplishments:

- 
-

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Do you think the hero you chose has/had the power to change the world?

Power to change	Does not have the power to change
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Two large, empty purple circles are positioned side-by-side, intended for students to place a mark (like a check or an X) to indicate their answer to the question above.

## Extension #2 - Music/Language Arts

**Compose your own lyrics based on the Indigenous hero you chose.**









