



# CREE ROUND CAPE

By FRC Archive

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This beautiful beaded artifact is a round dance cape in a style worn by Cree women in the Onion Lake/North Battleford/Waterhen region of Western Saskatchewan. It was given to Anne Weidenhammer by her father-in-law, who owned a general store in Cactus Lake, Saskatchewan. Not much is remembered about how this item was acquired, but it was likely received in the 1960s in payment for a debt.

The acquisition of Indigenous cultural artifacts by Canadian settlers has a long and complex history. At its worst, it included practices such as the desecration of Indigenous burial sites in pursuit of curiosities or objects of academic study.

It is hoped that this cape can be returned to an appropriate community or collection, though these arrangements have not yet been made.

Many thanks to Dr. Sherry Farrell Racette for identifying this object.



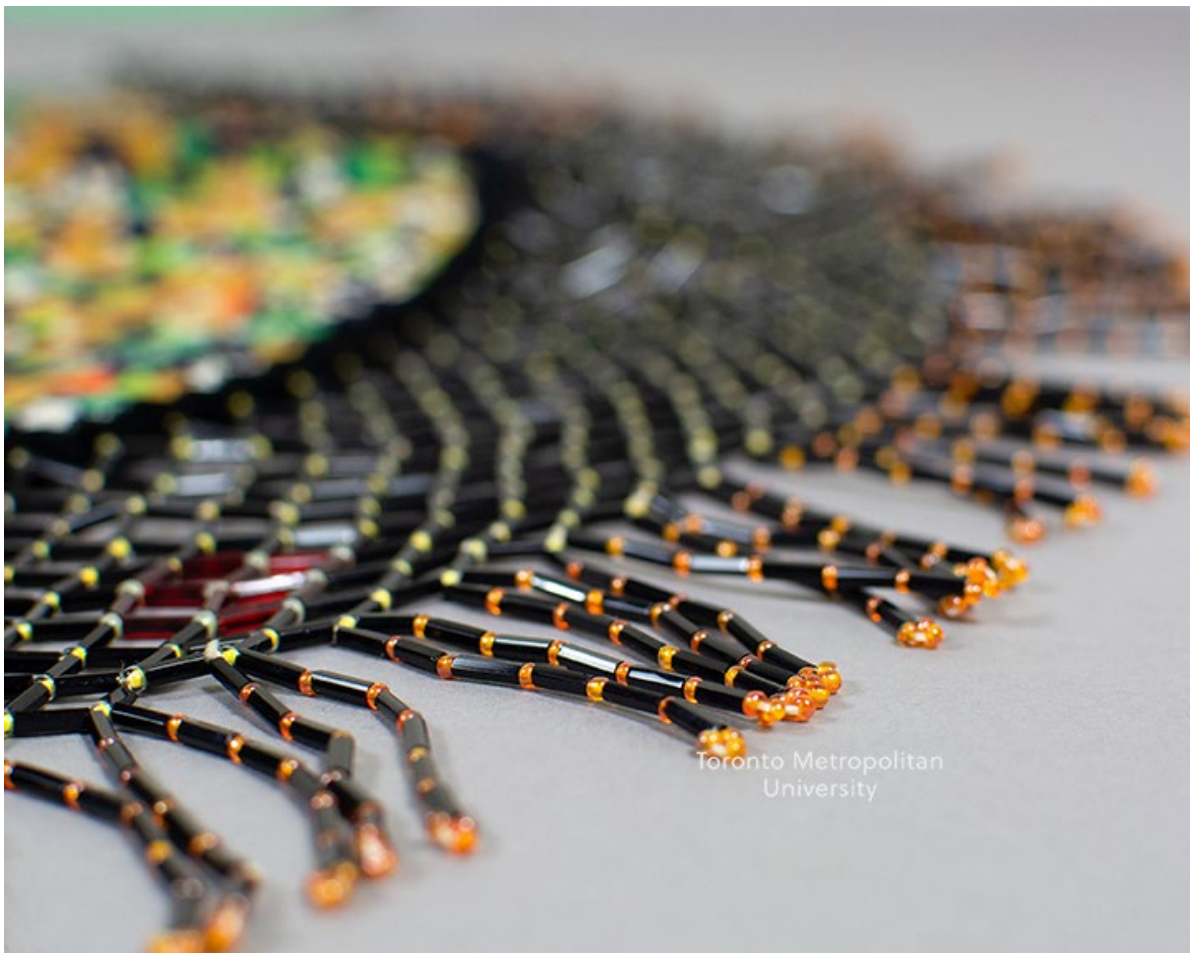
Cree women's round dance cape, ca. 1960s. Toronto Metropolitan University FRC2019.01.004. Inside of Cape. Donated by Weidenhammer Family. Photograph by Tori Hopgood, 2019.



Cree women's round dance cape, ca. 1960s. Toronto Metropolitan University FRC2019.01.004. Back of Cape. Donated by Weidenhammer Family. Photograph by Tori Hopgood, 2019.



Cree women's round dance cape, ca. 1960s. Toronto Metropolitan University FRC2019.01.004. Beading of Cape. Donated by Weidenhammer Family. Photograph by Tori Hopgood, 2019.



Cree women's round dance cape, ca. 1960s. Toronto Metropolitan University FRC2019.01.004. Fringe of Cape. Donated by Weidenhammer Family. Photograph by Tori Hopgood, 2019.