

- A sacred plant
- Given as offering to others such as Elders, knowledge keepers, or Cultural advisors in exchange for services such as a prayer.



Red Cedar

- Used by First Nations and Métis People (does not grow in Inuit regions)
- Used for purification and to attract positive energy, feelings, emotion, and balance.
- Used for its Vitamin C content when fruits were unavailable in Winter months.



Sage

- Used by First Nations and Métis People
- A woman's medicine.
- Represents strength, wisdom, and clarity of purpose.
- Purifying medicine: drives away negative energies.
- Used for smudging.



Sweetgrass

- Used for spiritual cleansing by almost all First Nations People.
- Braiding of this plant honours the teachings of interconnection between mind, body, and spirit.
- Has been associated with the virtue kindness because it bends (but does not break) when you walk on it.



Diamond Willow Fungus

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- Used for ceremonial and medicinal purposes.
- A sacred mushroom
- Usually found in Northern Alberta.
- Usually picked in the fall or winter

References

Content:

The Alberta Teachers' Association. (2019, January). First Nations Traditional Plants and Uses. Stepping Stones. https://legacy.teachers.ab.ca/SiteCollectionDocuments/ATA/For%20Members/ProfessionalDevelopment/Walking%20Together/PD-WT-16i%20-%209%20First%20Nations%20Traditional%20Plants%20and%20Uses-2019%2001%2028.pdf

Photos:

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- Indigenous Corporate Training Inc. (2012a, June 5). *Indigenous sacred plants: Sweetgrass*. Indigenous Corporate Training Inc. https://www.ictinc.ca/blog/indigenous-sacred-plants-sweetgrass
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