**Alternate Feather Colors for use in Ceremonies**

**Colored Feathers Symbolism**

**Overview:** This ceremony is an alternate of colored feathers and their meanings. There is a relationship of the feather colors and meanings to the Six Aims.

The ceremony uses a “Totem Stick” which is a specially decorated ceremonial stick that represents the Longhouse and contains the feathers below. It could even be the stem of a long pipe as well.

**Participants:**

* Longhouse Chief, or other as the leader/main presenter.

**Alternate Feather Colors Ceremony**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief | In my hand, you see the sacred Totem Stick of the (Longhouse Name) Longhouse. Attached to it are many feathers. This is what they stand for: |
| Chief | |  |  | | --- | --- | | COLOR | MEANING | | White | Stands for purity. To be clean in body and pure in heart, even as the white dove of peace. | | Black | Represents the iron-like band that binds Father and Child together as “Pals Forever-Friends Always” | | Red | Represents the heart, and the blood tie that commands us to love the sacred circle of the family. | | Yellow | Stands for respect for others while they are speaking, true Native Sons & Daughters listen with care while others talk. | | Blue | Represents the sky which blankets the entire earth. It reminds us that many people live on the earth, and we should love our neighbor as our self. | | Green | Stands for the trees, mountains, and fields. It tells us to honor the beauty of the Great Spirits work in forest, field and stream. | |
|  |  |

Adapted from the old Michigan Manual