



# **“The Kodiaks”**

## **Discussion Questions**

1. In *The Kodiaks*, Alex and his parents move from Norway House Cree Nation to Winnipeg. Have you gone through a similar big change or life event? How did it make you feel?
2. What are some of the differences Alex notices between his home community and Winnipeg? Would you prefer living in a small community or a big city? Why?
3. Alex worries about revealing to his new friend Jenny that he is Cree. Why do you think he feels this way? Do you think racism and discrimination have affected Alex’s identity and self-esteem?
4. Alex emerges as a leader on his new hockey team. What do you think are good traits of a leader, whether on a sports team or another area in life?
5. Would you say that Alex is brave for speaking up to adults like his new coach and his peers on the team to educate them about using expressions like “low man on the totem pole” and “having a powwow” being inappropriate? Would you feel confident enough to have what could be a difficult conversation?