

# JOURNEY TOWARDS INDIGENOUS ALLYSHIP TOOLKIT



CHINOOK WINDS REGION  
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Version 1- September 2022

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The land upon which the communities of faith of the Chinook Winds Region inhabit include the territories covered by Treaties 4, 6, 7 and 8 which were signed between 1874-1899. Today this also includes the territories Metis Nation of Alberta Regions 2,3 and 4.

As a denomination, The United Church of Canada, made the first incursions into these territories in the 1850s with the work of the Methodist Missionaries, and later established their churches under union in 1925.

We remember that these lands were places of origin and homelands for many. They lived according to their own agreements and their own laws. They respected their lands and had title to these lands as described in the Royal Proclamation of 1763.

As we begin, we acknowledge the harm done, the violence committed and the injustice that continues to unequal conditions today. We acknowledge that efforts are being made through IRSSA and the TRC to right these relationships by our actions, by our efforts and by our acknowledgement.

During months of negotiation that ensued, Indigenous Leaders and Elders expressed concern about sharing the land, they expressed concern about respect for Mother Earth and their deep connection of stewardship they provided for sacred lands.

Upon the signing of the Treaties, the original people were displaced and a new narrative about the land emerged. One in which they were absent, erased, confined to reserves and made wards of the state.

As Canadians work to reconcile themselves to the reality that Indigenous peoples continue to exist, may we find a way to end the narrative of conquest and begin a path toward implementing the treaties promises that our Elders and Wisdom Keepers continue to venerate.

Aba Wathtec, Oki, Danit'ada, Tanshi, Hello,

The toolkit was created by Chinook Region Members of The United Church of Canada, located in Southern and Central Alberta (predominantly Treaty 7), to address information needs, an expression of our journey and the work of the Indigenous church in its ongoing work to build better relations. We bring together and share trusted resources and information to move our church and congregations forward in our work to build right relations with Indigenous peoples. It aligns with the TRC Call to Action #59, which states:

*“We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church’s role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary”*

To respect Indigenous perspectives, and value the importance of place, most of these resources were written or presented by Indigenous people and many are from Treaty 7 where we are located. Some of the resources have come from and will be relevant to other territories as well. If you are not in Treaty 7, we encourage you to also seek out relevant information and perspectives from the Traditional Territory where you are from.

While some of the resources are specific to The United Church of Canada, and reflect years of learning and work by community and congregations across the country, we hope that the toolkit will also be used by other organizations or churches and adapted to be useful in your own reconciliation journeys, at whatever point you may be at.

For everyone using this toolkit, regardless of your location, age, background or level of knowledge, we hope it will be a valuable resource in your learning journey!

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The toolkit shares resources around important concepts and ideas that are interconnected and mutually reinforcing. While we have sequenced the sections intentionally, you are also welcome to jump between sections, or find your own path through.

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## LEGEND



Resources that are suitable for children and youth - but we strongly encourage adults to look at them as well!



Resources that have an action component



Resources from or specific to Treaty 7





Resources associated with The United Church of Canada

# INDIGENOUS ALLYSHIP, RECONCILIATION, AND RIGHT RELATIONS

“Reconciliation is about establishing and maintaining a mutually respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in this country. In order for that to happen, there has to be awareness of the past, an acknowledgement of the harm that has been inflicted, atonement for the causes, and action to change behaviour.”

This definition from the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, demonstrates that Reconciliation involves showing up, building relationships, learning, putting in effort, taking action, and making mistakes. It's not easy, it can't be done by just one group, and it's not something that can be done overnight. An important part of the process for those who are not Indigenous, is building your own understanding of what it means to work towards becoming an Indigenous Ally, and how you can contribute to this work in good ways. The following resources share different perspectives on what Indigenous Allyship, Reconciliation, and Right Relations mean to different people, how they interact and why they are important. We hope that through these resources you will strengthen your understanding of what it means for you to learn and work towards Indigenous Allyship.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>Indigenous Ally Toolkit</u></b></p>	<p>Created by The Calgary Foundation, this toolkit builds understanding of how we can play a role in the collective experience of creating a positive and sustainable impact on the lives of Indigenous people in Treaty 7. A related <a href="#">Indigenous Ally Toolkit</a> from the Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network has further reflections on Allyship.</p>	
<p><b><u>Ally Bill of Responsibilities</u></b></p>	<p>Dr. Lynn Gehl, Algonquin Anishinaabe-kwe shares what is needed to be a responsible ally to Indigenous people.</p>	
<p><b><u>Reconciliation Begins with You and Me</u></b></p>	<p>In this video from the First Nations Child and Family and Caring Society, you will learn from young people why reconciliation matters and how you can help make a difference.</p>	




## DIVING DEEPER

<p><b><u>Elder in the Making</u></b></p>	<p>Filmmakers Cowboy Smithx, a Blackfoot, and Chris Hsiung, a Chinese-Canadian, agree to go on road trip across traditional Blackfoot Territory to rediscover the stories of their shared home. Presented by Story Hive.</p>	
<p><b><u>Redx Talks</u></b></p>	<p>Through a series of art, cultural, and educational programming, Iiniitsi Treaty Arts Society explores iiniitsis (treaties) between Indigenous and Settler cultures and individuals; treaties past, present, and possible.</p>	
<p><b><u>It's Not My Job to Teach You About Indigenous People</u></b></p>	<p>In her Walrus Magazine article, Mel Lefebvre shares the importance of taking initiative to do your own learning while working towards reconciliation.</p>	
<p><b><u>In Reconciliation - Walking Together</u></b></p>	<p>A website developed by Scarboro United Church that invites you to walk together in your knowledge and understanding of Indigenous Peoples of Canada.</p>	
<p><b><u>Urban Indigenous Circle</u></b></p>	<p>An in-depth archive of online Indigenous speakers, teachings and wisdom about reconciliation.</p>	
<p><b><u>Being In Good Relation Facebook Page</u></b></p>	<p>A facebook group for The United Church of Canada Chinook Winds and Northern Spirit Regions, Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people who share a vision for our life together.</p>	

# LAND IMPORTANCE, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & CONNECTION

Indigenous peoples have a very different perception of land than non-Indigenous people. Land is sacred, with its own agency and spirituality, and must be protected and respected, rather than a resource to be exploited. Humans are caretakers of the land, and therefore the concept of buying and selling land is a foreign concept to Indigenous people. The resources listed here will help us to understand the unique connection which Indigenous people have with the land and why it is important that we acknowledge the land where we live, work and play.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>Stories of the Land: Acknowledging Treaty 7 Territory</u></b></p>	<p>In this video, produced by Calgary Foundation, First Nations and Metis from the Treaty 7 territory explain the importance of the land and their relationship with it.</p>	
<p><b><u>Text of Treaty 7</u></b></p>	<p>Treaty 7 was signed on Sept 22, 1877, and is the document that enabled settlement on this land. To Indigenous peoples it was an agreement to share and respect the land together. As you will read here, the British Crown had different ideas.</p>	
<p><b><u>Treaty 7 Land Acknowledgment</u></b></p>	<p>In this video, Henri and Charlie from Calgary Public Library, teach us the significance of the local Treaty 7 land acknowledgment.</p>	
<p><b><u>Indigenous Relationship to the Land - Part 1</u></b></p>	<p>This module from the University of Alberta's course "Indigenous Canada" looks at how land is viewed by Indigenous people.</p>	

# LAND IMPORTANCE, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & CONNECTION

## DIVING DEEPER



<p><b><u>These Mountains are our Sacred Places</u></b></p>	<p>In this book, Chief Dr. John Snow interprets oral teachings, to share wisdom of the Stoney Nakoda People on their interdependence and connection to the land.</p>	
<p><b><u>Questioning the usefulness of land acknowledgements</u></b></p>	<p>This APTN special, questions whether land acknowledgements are useful in reconciliation or superficial platitudes, and what is needed for them to be meaningful.</p>	
<p><b><u>Braiding Sweetgrass</u></b></p>	<p>In her book, Robin Wall Kimmerer draws on her experience as a botanist and Citizen of the Potawatomi nation to show how all living beings offer us gifts and lessons. You can also read her essay Speaking of Nature in Orion Magazine.</p>	
<p><b><u>The True Spirit and Original Intent of Treaty 7</u></b></p>	<p>Sharing testimony of over 80 elders from the five Treaty 7 First Nations, this book highlights the grave misconceptions and misrepresentations of Treaty 7.</p>	
<p><b><u>Native Land</u></b></p>	<p>Native Land Digital is a website provides educational resources such as an interactive North American Territory map and Land Acknowledgement Guide. Find out what traditional lands you are from, visit or live on today.</p>	
<p><b><u>Land Back</u></b></p>	<p>This Red Paper by the Yellowhead Institute is about how Canada dispossesses Indigenous peoples from the land, and what communities are doing to get it back.</p>	
<p><b><u>Ancestors and the Land</u></b></p>	<p>Winona LaDuke speaks at the 2017 Geography of Hope Conference answers the question “What type of ancestor do you want to be?”</p>	



# TRUE HISTORY OF CANADA AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

History is the telling of past events to give us a sense of who we are, where we came from and how we are connected. Unfortunately, the history which many of us learned in school either excluded Indigenous people or left us with a distorted view of them, and our own past. We can't move forward into reconciliation without a shared understanding of truth about what has happened. The resources listed here will help to fill the gap and provide us with an Indigenous perspective and more accurate account of past events that frame who they are, where we've all come from and the foundations of our relationship.

## START HERE

<b><u>It's Time to Re-imagine Canada's 'nice' Identity.</u></b>	Riley Yesno's Tedx Talk challenge us to think critically about the identities we create as Canadians and their ability to be changed.	
<b><u>Heros</u></b>	This rap song by Wab Kinew celebrates Indigenous heros through history. To learn more about the heros referenced in the song, make sure to also check out his book " <a href="#"><u>Go Show the World</u></a> ".	
<b><u>Timeline of Alberta's Indigenous History.</u></b>	Education for Reconciliation and the Alberta Teachers Association examine key historical events that have affected the past and current First Nations, Métis and Inuit populations living in Alberta	

# TRUE HISTORY OF CANADA AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE



## DIVING DEEPER

<p><b><u>Indigenous Canada</u></b></p>	<p>This highly regarded online course from the University of Alberta, provides an Indigenous perspective on the history and key issues facing Indigenous peoples today highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations.</p>	
<p><b><u>The Inconvenient Indian</u></b></p>	<p>Thomas King's looks back over hundreds of years and critically examines the story of what it means to be "Indian" in North America.</p>	
<p><b><u>Telling our Twisted Histories</u></b></p>	<p>Indigenous histories have been twisted by centuries of colonization. Kaniehti:io Horn hosts this CBC podcast that brings us together to decolonize our minds– one word, one concept, one story at a time.</p>	
<p><b><u>This Place</u></b></p>	<p>This CBC podcast series by Rosanna Deerchild is a 10-part journey through 150 years of Indigenous resistance and resilience.</p>	
<p><b><u>The Secret Life of Canada</u></b></p>	<p>CBC Pod Cast hosts Leah-Simone Bowen and Falen Johnson explore the unauthorized history of a complicated country, highlighting the people, places and stories that probably didn't make it into your high school textbook.</p>	
<p><b><u>21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act</u></b></p>	<p>This book, written by Bob Joseph is an essential guide to understanding the legal document and its repercussion on generations of Indigenous Peoples. He also shared this presentation '<u>Dispelling Common Myths about Indigenous Peoples</u>' to the Creative City Network of Canada.</p>	

# ANTI-RACISM, DECOLONIZATION, AND WHITE PRIVILEGE

An important part of Right Relations work is the process of unlearning colonial and racist practices that have been ingrained in our dominant culture over hundreds of years. We must understand and accept that racism is a system of power, that unfairly disadvantages people of colour and provides privilege to white people. It is important to remember that individually we are not at fault for creating these practices, but once we are aware, we hold a responsibility to not be complicit in these oppressive systems and use our privilege to work towards changing them, rather than upholding them.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>What Is White Privilege. Really?</u></b></p>	<p>In this Learning for Justice article, Cory Collins explains how recognizing white privilege begins with understanding the term itself.</p>	
<p><b><u>A Kids Book About Racism</u></b></p>	<p>Jelani Memory reads his book that explains what racism is, how it makes people feel, and how to recognize it. Enlightening for all ages.</p>	
<p><b><u>Sharing Responsibility for Decolonization</u></b></p>	<p>Tim Fox, shares his lived experience in this The Good Partnership podcast to reflect on how we make ourselves open and vulnerable and share the responsibility for decolonization.</p>	
<p><b><u>How to Be a Better Ally</u></b></p>	<p>This Harvard Business Review article looks at how people in positions of power must step up personally to make organizations more fair and inclusive.</p>	

# ANTI-RACISM, DECOLONIZATION, AND WHITE PRIVILEGE





## DIVING DEEPER

<p><b><u>So You Want to Talk About Race</u></b></p>	<p>Ijeoma Oluo guides readers of her book through a wide range of race related subjects and examines how they infect all aspects of our society.</p>	
<p><b><u>The Difference Between Being "Not Racist" and Antiracist</u></b></p>	<p>In this TED interview, Ibram X Kendi, explains how there's not such thing as being "not racist" and shares how to use this awareness to uproot injustice in the world.</p>	
<p><b><u>For Our White Friends Desiring to be Allies</u></b></p>	<p>Courtney Ariel writes this letter with the hopes of lightening the load that people of colour are often put under to answer the question "How Can I be a Better Ally?"</p>	
<p><b><u>Anti-Racism Organizational Change Resources (AROC)</u></b></p>	<p>A suite of tools developed and shared by Community Wise Resource Center as they have undertaken their own Anti-Racist Organizational Change process.</p>	
<p><b><u>Intersection Allies we make room for all</u></b></p>	<p>Written by By Chelsea Johnson, LaToya Council, and Carolyn Choi, this book introduces the stories of kids from diverse backgrounds, explaining how they're shaped by their identities.</p>	
<p><b><u>Ryan McMahon's 12-step guide to decolonizing Canada</u></b></p>	<p>Part one of a four-part series where Ryan McMahon defends that colonialism exists in Canada and explores how we can move forward. Make sure to follow the links for parts 2-4 at the end of the article.</p>	
<p><b><u>Anti-Racism in United Church</u></b></p>	<p>A webpage sharing the United Church's commitment to becoming an anti-racist church, with resources and action opportunities.</p>	

# INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Building relationship is rooted in connection with community, language and culture. Respecting and learning about each other's. Indigenous communities have rich and resilient celebrations, arts and teachings, that we know little about. It is amazing that many of us know languages from all over the world but can't speak any of those that are native to the place we call home. These resources provide background, a basis for understanding, and a starting point to build important connections for further experiential learning.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>Four Directions Teachings</u></b></p>	<p>An interactive website, including learning activities that share Elder teachings and philosophy from five diverse First Nations across Canada, including the Piikani Nation of Treaty 7.</p>	 
<p><b><u>How to be an ally during pow wow season</u></b></p>	<p>In this CBC Arts article, Waawaate Fobister and Catherine Hernandez provide insight into pow wow protocol, and how to be a welcomed guest at these important community celebrations.</p>	
<p><b><u>CPL Indigenous Languages Resource Center</u></b></p>	<p>This website provides video lessons of basic phrases and greetings in the Treaty 7 languages, as well as links to Treaty 7 Nation language apps to expand your vocabulary further.</p>	
<p><b><u>Indigenous Media Sources</u></b></p>	<p>Seek out news and current events from Indigenous perspectives through Indigenous media outlets such as <b><u>APTN</u></b>, <b><u>Windspeaker Radio</u></b>, <b><u>Media Indigena</u></b>, <b><u>Alberta Native News</u></b> and <b><u>New Tribe Magazine</u></b>. This is also a great way to hear about Indigenous community and arts events.</p>	

# INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## DIVING DEEPER

<p><b><u>Indigenous Lenten Series: 7 Sacred Teachings</u></b></p>	<p>This seven-part webinar series led by the Urban Indigenous Circle shares and compares the cultural traditions and seven sacred teachings of Stoney-Sioux-Assiniboine Nations with the Christian teachings of lent.</p>	 
<p><b><u>CPL Elders Guidance Circle</u></b></p>	<p>Submit a request to meet virtually and have an Elder or Knowledge Keeper from Calgary Public Library's Elders Guidance Circle share knowledge and expertise.</p>	 
<p><b><u>CPL Treaty 7 First Nations Language Series</u></b></p>	<p>Calgary Public Library worked with aspiring Treaty 7 Indigenous writers, to create children's books about their world in their traditional languages.</p>	
<p><b><u>Warrior Kids</u></b></p>	<p>In this podcast, Pam Palmatar shares Indigenous cultures and values for kids to learn about what it means to be strong, healthy and compassionate warriors for themselves and their communities.</p>	
<p><b><u>Unreserved</u></b></p>	<p>Rosanna Deerchild hosts this CBC podcast that introduces listeners to Indigenous storytellers, culture makers and community leaders from across Canada.</p>	
<p><b><u>@notoriuscree</u></b></p>	<p>James Jones from Treaty 6, has become a TikTok influencer, sharing videos about Nehiyaw culture and traditions. You can also find him on <b><u>Instagram</u></b> and <b><u>Facebook</u></b>.</p>	

# CURRENT ISSUES AND MOVEMENTS




“As history tells us, the journey for change is for the long term, spanning across generations. The long history of Indigenous leadership and resistance is a story for the ages. It’s time we really recognize and get to know these stories, while learning how to stay well in order to do this work that is beyond our life times.”

Anishinaabekwe lawyer Rayanna Seymour-Hourie shared this quote in her article [Indigenous activism in Canada’s past, present and future](#), along with many examples of the important leadership and change that Indigenous people have made, and continue to lead forward. The following sections outline some of the important movements currently underway.

# RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS AND THE TRC

For many, it wasn't until we started hearing about the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), that we learned about the horrors of the residential school system which Indigenous children in Canada were forced to attend. Since the final report of the TRC was released in 2015, many governments, organizations, companies and individual Canadians have been wrestling with how to implement the 94 Calls to Action that were recommended by the TRC. The resources listed here provide us with the truth of what happened in those residential schools and how residential school survivors and their children continue to be impacted by them, generations later.




## START HERE

<p><b><u>Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action</u></b></p>	<p>The TRC Calls to Action provide a road map for Canada to address the ongoing impacts of residential schools on Indigenous communities. They are an important first step for understanding what you, and the institutions you are part of, can do. Children and youth may want to check out <b><u>Spirit Bear's Guide to the TRC Calls to Action.</u></b></p>	
<p><b><u>Namwayut: We Are All One</u></b></p>	<p>In this animated CBC short film, Chief Robert Joseph shares about his experience at Residential school, the reconciliation process, and the impact it has had in his life.</p>	
<p><b><u>How can Canadians work toward reconciliation</u></b></p>	<p>In this CBC interview, Senator Murray Sinclair, Chair of the TRC, discusses the TRC process and what Canadians can do now.</p>	
<p><b><u>215+ Pledge</u></b></p>	<p>Specific resources, actions and tools that individuals and groups can use to respond to the discovery of unmarked graves at residential schools across the country.</p>	



# RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS AND THE TRC

## DIVING DEEPER

<p><b><u>Every Child Matters</u></b></p>	<p>The National Center for Truth and Reconciliation provides a two part video series providing history, stories and perspectives on Residential schools.</p>	
<p><b><u>Bringing Our Children Home</u></b></p>	<p>Reconciliation Canada online gatherings series hosted following the discovery of unmarked graves, discussing next steps with Indigenous leaders from across the country.</p>	
<p><b><u>Calls to Action Accountability</u></b></p>	<p>The Yellowhead Institute provides an annual status update on the Calls to Action and continues to find an ongoing failure by the Federal Government to meaningfully enact the Calls to Action.</p>	
<p><b><u>We Were Children</u></b></p>	<p>A feature length film from the National Film Board shares the story of two children who were taken from their homes and experienced many forms of abuse at residential schools.</p>	
<p><b><u>The Children Remembered</u></b></p>	<p>A website detailing the history of United Church Residential Schools including photographic archives as part of truth-telling about the Church's role.</p>	
<p><b><u>A Day to Listen</u></b></p>	<p>Coordinated by the Downie Wenjack Fund and aired on July 1, 2021 on over 500 radio stations across Canada, this series elevates Indigenous voices to move us towards a more equitable future.</p>	
<p><b><u>10 books about residential schools to read with your kids</u></b></p>	<p>CBC provides a list of stories that open space for conversations about residential schools with children and youth.</p>	


# UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

After many years working with Indigenous groups around the world, including Alberta's Chief Wilton (Willie) Littlechild, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) was adopted in 2007. The document provides the 'minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being' of the world's Indigenous Peoples. Four countries, including Canada, voted against the Declaration mainly due to concern over the clause that required 'free, prior and informed consent' by Indigenous peoples before economic development projects could take place on lands they inhabit or have a claim. Canada said this requirement was not consistent with our Constitution.


In 2010, Canada shifted its position and considered the Declaration an 'aspirational' document. Then, in 2016, Canada endorsed the Declaration and in 2021 enacted legislation (Bill C-15) to establish a process for Canada to work with Indigenous groups to implement the Declaration. These resources describe why adopting UNDRIP is fundamental to moving reconciliation forward.

# UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

## START HERE

<p><b><u>How UNDRIP Changes Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples</u></b></p>	<p>This video from Wiyasiwewin Mikiwahp Native Law Centre and Center for International Governance Innovation offers an overview on the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and the Canadian Government and why UNDRIP is needed.</p>	
<p><b><u>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</u></b></p>	<p>The Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, along with the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and UNICEF provide a youth friendly version of UNDRIP, including context and background of the document.</p>	
<p><b><u>Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</u></b></p>	<p>The Assembly of First Nations details up to date history and context of UNDRIP in Canada and explains why it is such an important document in the reconciliation process.</p>	

## DIVING DEEPER



<p><b><u>UNDRIP</u></b></p>	<p>The United Nations website provides details about the history, commemorations, and full text of UNDRIP.</p>	
<p><b><u>UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and The United Church of Canada</u></b></p>	<p>Details and resources from the United Church of Canada about the church's commitment to living out the declaration and its connection to the TRC Calls to Action.</p>	

# MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS, AND TWO SPIRIT+

Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit+ (MMIWG2S+) people has been a recognized issue in Indigenous Communities in Canada and the United States for generations. With women and two-spirit people playing a central role in most Indigenous cultures, the impact is far reaching. Sadly, many Canadians still do not know the depth or seriousness of the issue, as it remains under-reported and slow to progress.




Systemic racism, impacts of colonial history and residential schools all have contributed to this tragedy. These resources share the stories, context and impacts of lack of action over many decades.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>How do we stop aboriginal women from disappearing?</u></b></p>	<p>In this TEDx Calgary Event, Beverly Jacobs calls on us to recognize the epidemic of missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada and reminds us of our collective responsibility to end this violence first by acknowledging the tough truths about colonization, racism and sexism in our communities.</p>	
<p><b><u>Mmiwg2s &amp; MMIP Cochrane</u></b></p>	<p>Honouring the mothers, sisters, aunties, all the close relations and heart of Indigenous peoples. This page is dedicated to upholding their memories, legacies &amp; stories by raising awareness, local connections &amp; education.</p>	
<p><b><u>Canada Must End Genocide of Indigenous Women &amp; Girls Now</u></b></p>	<p>Mi'kmaq lawyer, activist and academic Pamela Palmater provides insights on the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls finding of genocide, and the Government of Canada's inaction since the report was released.</p>	

# MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS, AND TWO SPIRIT+



## DIVING DEEPER

<p><b><u>National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls</u></b></p>	<p>The in addition to the <b><u>Executive Summary, Full Report, and Calls for Justice</u></b>, the website for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls has <b><u>videos, podcasts, and artwork</u></b> from the Inquiry.</p>	
<p><b><u>2022 Wisdom Of The Elders: International Women's Day</u></b></p>	<p>Indigenous Elders and Leaders in the United Church reflect upon the teachings of Indigenous Women and their contribution to community stability, wellbeing and cultural education.</p>	
<p><b><u>Highway of Tears</u></b></p>	<p>"Highway of Tears" by Director Matt Smiley, is a film about the missing or murdered women along a 724 kilometer stretch of highway in northern British Columbia.</p>	
<p><b><u>Safe Passage</u></b></p>	<p>The Native Women's Association of Canada has created this website to tell the full story and help individuals learn more about missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people in Canada. Includes mapping and database as well as training for various industries.</p>	
<p><b><u>Generation4 Equality</u></b></p>	<p>Generation 4 Equality is a platform created by the Native Women's Association of Canada for youth to get information, ask questions, and connect with others who are working hard for gender equality.</p>	
<p><b><u>Moosehide Campaign</u></b></p>	<p>An Indigenous-led grassroots movement of men, boys and all Canadians - standing up to end violence against women and children. Their site includes action campaign materials, teachers' resources, and a pledge to stand against violence towards women and children.</p>	

# EQUITY FOR INDIGENOUS CHILDREN





Despite residential schools being closed, Indigenous children continue to face significant inequities in the education, health care and social services that are available to them. Before Jordan’s principle was adopted in 2007, Indigenous children were denied needed health services, that non-Indigenous children could access, as federal and provincial governments argued over who should pay for them. Until 2019, schools on reserves were provided with significantly less funding per student than schools not on reserve. The child welfare system is underfunded, inadequate, and culturally insensitive. Indigenous children represent over 50% of kids in the system, but only 7% of children in Canada. The severity of this situation gained national attention when Dr. Cindy Blackstock, co-founder of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society (FNFCFS) helped win a landmark human rights case against the Government of Canada in 2016. The Human Rights Tribunal ruled that the government discriminated against First Nations children by under-funding on-reserve child welfare services.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>Dennis Ward Sits down with Cindy Blackstock</u></b></p>	<p>In this APTN Face to Face episode, Dr. Cindy Blackstock, explains the discrimination faced by First Nations children which led to the Human Rights Tribunal complaint by the FNFCFS.</p>	
<p><b><u>7 Ways to Make a Difference</u></b></p>	<p>The FNFCFS has 7 (free) campaigns for First Nations children and their families, that you can support. Learn more about these 7 Ways and how you can participate!</p>	
<p><b><u>Spirit Bear and Children Make History</u></b></p>	<p>This book tells the story of Spirit Bear and friends standing up for First Nations Children at the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal and the importance of the changes they are fighting for. Also available in film format.</p>	

# EQUITY FOR INDIGENOUS CHILDREN

## DIVING DEEPER


<p><b><u>Indigenous Children Then, Now and Tomorrow</u></b></p>	<p>United in Learning presents a panel of United Church Indigenous Ministry Leaders, that looks at how Indigenous children and families have been and continue to be impacted by colonialism for many years.</p>	
<p><b><u>Have a Heart Day</u></b></p>	<p>This Sunday school activity targeted for February 14th, encourages discussion and action for all children to be treated fairly.</p>	
<p><b><u>All Our Relations: Finding the Path Forward</u></b></p>	<p>In the 2018 Massey Lectures, Tanya Talaga explores the legacy of cultural genocide against Indigenous peoples, with particular focus on the on-going impacts on children and youth.</p>	
<p><b><u>Indigenous Children and the Child Welfare System in Canada</u></b></p>	<p>This National Collaborating Center for Indigenous Health fact sheet provides historical context as well as an overview of the child welfare framework in Canada.</p>	
<p><b><u>Jordan's Principle</u></b></p>	<p>In this Public Service Announcement, children explain Jordan's Principle, the law that ensures First Nation children receive the services and care they need.</p>	
<p><b><u>Education And Crown Paternalism</u></b></p>	<p>The Yellowhead Institute reviews the new on-reserve education funding model, and how it continues to fall short of Indigenous needs.</p>	

# REPARATIONS AND RIGHTS

Reparations are the making of amends for a wrong one has done, by paying money to or otherwise helping those who have been wronged. Reparations must start with the integrity of true history and a commitment to never repeat the actions again. Reparations also means spiritual and cultural repair. Until reparations occur, we will not have achieved reconciliation.

Apologies or a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation are symbolic but important as they acknowledge wrongdoings. Other reparations involve cash payments or land. They acknowledge inequality, breached obligations of the Indian Act, failure to provide what was promised, extreme trauma suffered and land claims. Governments and concerned citizens need to take on reparation responsibilities and ensure that issues are addressed, rights are fulfilled, and settlements are followed through.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>From Reconciliation to Reparation</u></b></p>	<p>Dr Sara Stratton, Indigenous and Justice Animator of the UCC shares the history of how Indigenous peoples of Canada have been mistreated. She then discusses Making Amends and Reparative Justice.</p>	
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# REPARATIONS AND RIGHTS

## DIVING DEEPER





<p>Federal Indian Day School Class Action</p>	<p><b><u>Federal Indian Day School Class Action</u></b> was brought to recover compensation for harms suffered by students who attended Federal Indian Day Schools. A settlement was reached in March 2019.</p>	
<p>Child Welfare Compensation Agreement</p>	<p>In a <b><u>CBC Power and Politics interview</u></b>, Dr. Cindy Blackstock discusses the details of the First Nations and child welfare compensation agreement, announced by the Federal Government in January 2022. You can also listen to her in this episode of <b><u>Homies Chatting: Sunday Edition with Tanya Talaga and Ian Campeau</u></b> from July 2020, discussing the work that needs to be done to implement the recent settlement.</p>	
<p>Clean Drinking Water</p>	<p><b><u>Government of Canada's progress update on improving access to clean water in First Nations communities.</u></b></p>	
<p>Land Claims</p>	<p>The act of returning land to Indigenous Nations is underway, but it is a slow process and there is still more work to do. <b><u>The Story of Bigstone Cree &amp; Peerless Trout First Nation</u></b> and <b><u>Siksika Nation</u></b> provide details about recent land settlements in Alberta and the impacts for these communities. More information about ongoing land claim settlements can be found from <b><u>Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.</u></b></p>	

# THE UNITED CHURCH'S INDIGENOUS ALLYSHIP JOURNEY







“We now stand at a crucial time in the life of the church, and the history of Canada, when we can see the journey through. For more than thirty years, the United Church and Indigenous peoples have been on a journey towards mutuality, respect and equity. Towards reconciliation. Towards justice.”

The United Church of Canada recognizes that we are at an important moment in the life of the church, and the history of Canada to make amends for the harms that we have created. For many years, the United Church and Indigenous peoples have been on a journey towards mutuality, respect and equity. We have apologized as a church for our broken relationship, and we have pledged to heal it. We have shown leadership in repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery, adopting UNDRIP, and committing to the TRC Calls to Action. However, there is still much more to do. We have a responsibility to continue this journey and live into our promises. In 2018, Calls to the Church were presented by the Aboriginal Ministries Council to General Council and approved. The Calls spell out concrete measures toward supporting vital ministry and Indigenous self-determination within the United Church. The resources below outline the work that has been done by the United Church, and more importantly, the work that is still needed for the whole church to continue to walk toward justice, healing, and reconciliation.

## START HERE

<p><b><u>Chinook Winds</u></b> <b><u>Region</u></b> <b><u>Indigenous</u></b> <b><u>Ministries</u></b></p>	<p>Website of events, resources, and teachings to help United Churches in central and southern Alberta live into their truth and reconciliation work.</p>	 
<p><b><u>The Apologies</u></b></p>	<p>The text of The United Church of Canada's 1986 Apology to Indigenous Peoples, the 1988 Response from the All Native Circle Conference, and the 1998 Apology to former students of United Church Indian Residential schools, and to their families.</p>	
<p><b><u>A Different Future</u></b></p>	<p>A short United Church of Canada video detailing the process and context of the Calls to the Church.</p>	

## DIVING DEEPER

<p><b><u>Doctrine of Discovery</u></b></p>	<p>Information and resources about what the Doctrine of Discovery is, and how The United Church of Canada has responded.</p>	
<p><b><u>The United Church Statement to the TRC</u></b></p>	<p>Text of the The United Church of Canada statement made in Edmonton Alberta on March 28, 2014.</p>	
<p><b><u>Response of the Churches to the TRC</u></b></p>	<p>On June 2, 2015, The Anglican Church of Canada, The Presbyterian Church in Canada, the Roman Catholic Entities Parties to the Settlement Agreement, The United Church of Canada and the Jesuits of English Canada made the following statement in response to the findings and Calls to Action issued by the TRC.</p>	
<p><b><u>Calls to the Church</u></b></p>	<p>Read the full Calls to the Church presented by The United Church of Canada's Aboriginal Council to General Council. The Calls articulate the Indigenous Church's vision for the ongoing development of Indigenous Peoples' mission and ministry and communities of faith within The United Church of Canada.</p>	
<p><b><u>The United Church of Canada's Response to the TRC Calls to Action</u></b></p>	<p>In June 2021, The United Church of Canada provided comments and progress on each of the TRC Calls to Action that are directed to churches and faith groups.</p>	
<p><b><u>Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice</u></b></p>	<p>The United Church of Canada website, sharing many ways and resources for your church community to practice reconciliation and work for Indigenous justice.</p>	

# THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

We hope this toolkit has been a valuable resource, whether you are just starting out on your journey into Indigenous allyship or have been travelling this path for a long time, whether you are part of The United Church of Canada or another organization. We know that the journey doesn't end here, but hopefully you have reflected on where and how you can continue to learn and contribute to the important work that needs to be done.

Its not enough just to learn. We must commit to moving into action, building off the learning, changing ourselves, our systems and each other, making sure whatever we do is being guided and led by Indigenous perspective and teaching all along the way. We encourage you not to step into this work alone, but to join with others in your community to deepen each other's understanding and work together to go further.

Several of the resources in this document provide additional information about how you can join in on important work that is already happening. **The Chinook Winds Region Indigenous Ministry Page** provides upcoming and past events and opportunities for action to build right relations within Treaty 7 and Chinook Winds Region. We will also be sharing recorded workshops that can be used to explore this toolkit together as part of small groups, congregations, or other organizations. This will also be the home for this toolkit and additional resources going forward.

If you have questions or feedback about the toolkit, or want to share what you are doing to work towards reconciliation, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [chinookwinds@united-church.ca](mailto:chinookwinds@united-church.ca)

Isniyes, Siyisgaas, Maarsii, Thank You!