The Catholic Women's League of Canada



Walking Together With Indigenous Catholic Women

RESOURCES


THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
OF CANADA
FOR GOD AND CANADA

Table of Contents

PURPOSE 2

INTRODUCTION 3

- Background 3

MAKING CONNECTIONS 4

- Indigenous Governing Bodies and Organizations 4
- Federal, Provincial and Regional Government Bodies 9
- Regional Maps 11

LEGISLATIVE AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS 12

KNOWING AND UNDERSTANDING 14

- Articles and Books 14
- Films and Videos 17

PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAYS AND EVENTS 20

ALLYSHIP RESOURCES 21

FAITH RESOURCES 22

SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS 23

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES 24

- Continuing Education 24
- Dictionaries, Guides and Workbooks 26
- Toolkits and Workshops 28

INDIGENOUS ROLE MODELS 29

PURPOSE



Members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada are in a perfect position to be leaders in enhancing Indigenous relationships within the church and society because of the large membership of Catholic women, structure as an organization and focus on connectedness. Doing so would be in keeping with the League's core purpose, values and mission statement. The need for action is critical and central to the League from the definition of what the League is as an organization, from the perspective of the dignity of human persons and respect for diverse cultures.

It is important to provide resources to members across the country. For Indigenous members seeking information on their heritage, the organizations listed first may provide helpful information on their websites or, if contacted, may be able to assist in referrals to other sources. Non-Indigenous members looking to learn about Indigenous communities in their area could contact an organization in their region of the country to get Indigenous community names and contacts to then make personal contact in their locale. After all, in-person sharing provides the best opportunity for learning and building relationships.

Leaming for some is a personal experience, and some members may prefer traditional educational environments, written works, visual aids or a mix of all media. The remainder of this document provides references to books, films, videos, Catholic organizations, papal documents, prayers and more to hopefully assist any member or council wishing to develop a relationship with Indigenous peoples in Canada. As a first step, members are encouraged to select those that first interest them or their council.

INTRODUCTION



Background

As followers of Christ, it is essential for all members to be attentive to the quality of relationships that exist between them and through the organization. The history of colonization and residential school trauma makes the relationship of Indigenous members with the League unique. For Indigenous members, this requires respect for their unique history, experiences of trauma and spiritual expression. Members are called to give life to the apology by Pope Francis in his penitential pilgrimage in 2022 to Canada and to build on the 94 calls to action of truth and reconciliation. Members are called to be agents of change through listening, education, and changing hearts and attitudes. This important commitment was encouraged by Saint John Paul II on his pastoral visit to Canada in 1984. He spoke strongly of the deep debt of gratitude the whole church owes to Indigenous peoples, whose welcoming of the gospel contributes profoundly to assisting all Christians to understand the mystery of Christ in new ways (Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle).

Pope Francis has called for a synodal church to enhance understanding of the other. Consistent with this call, deepening relationships with Indigenous peoples will best result from encountering and journeying together. This concept of accompaniment is best described as allyship. Allyship means a person from a privileged group walking behind and beside another who belongs to or identifies with a marginalized group. It is not taking over or determining for the other but rather working with them to help remove systems that challenge their basic rights, equal access and ability to thrive in society. As true allies of Indigenous women, it is to understand and respect “their cultural traditions, religious consciousness and their long-standing ability to decide and control their development programs [to] foster better interaction and cooperation ...” (Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops).

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Indigenous Governing Bodies and Organizations

ALBERTA		
Name	**Website**	**Description**
Métis Nation of Alberta	albertametis.com/	Priorities include governance, relationship ("to participate in bilateral/multilateral processes of policy development with different orders of government and to coordinate and develop our governance policies through multi-disciplined and researched approaches to strategic analysis and action"), partnership ("to establish, promote, and support public and private sector partnerships that will improve the economic circumstances of Métis people") and people ("to establish, promote, and support initiatives that will improve the quality of life of Métis people").
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
British Columbia Assembly of First Nations	bcafn.ca/	"The British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) is a Provincial Territorial Organization (PTO) representing and advocating for the 203 First Nations in British Columbia. BCAFN representation and advocacy is inclusive and extends to First Nations currently engaged in the treaty process, those who have signed modern treaties, and those who fall under historic treaty agreements which include the Douglas Treaties and Treaty 8. The BCAFN also represents and advocates for First Nations in BC that are not in treaty negotiations."
British Columbia Treaty Commission	bctreaty.ca/	The British Columbia Treaty Commission answers questions about treaties, including what they are and why they exist and provides information about modern treaties.
The Métis Nation Government in British Columbia	mnbc.ca	The Métis Nation Government in British Columbia's website offers information on applying for Métis citizenship, chartered communities, Métis ministries, culture, heritage and language and more.

MANITOBA		
Manitoba Inuit Association	manitobainuit.ca/	"Manitoba Inuit Association (MIA) is the representative organization for Inuit living in Manitoba. MIA provides dynamic Inuit-specific programs and services that embody Inuit principles and values, and ensure opportunities to strengthen connections to Inuit culture, language and community while living in urban and rural/remote areas of Manitoba."
Manitoba Métis Federation	mmf.mb.ca/	"The [Manitoba Métis Federation] represents the claims, rights, and interests of the Red River Métis… [It] delivers programs and services including in the sectors of child and family services; justice; housing; youth; education; human resources; economic development and natural resources."
NEW BRUNSWICK		
New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council (NBAPC)	nbapc.org/home/	The New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council is the "voice for approximately 28,260 Status and Non-Status Aboriginal People who reside in the Province of New Brunswick."
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES		
Northwest Territory Métis Nation	nwtmetisnation.ca/	Learn about the Northwest Territory Métis Nation's values, mission and guiding principles on its website.
NEWFOUNDLAND		
Mi'kmaq First Nation Assembly of Newfoundland	mfnan.ca/	"The Mi'kmaq First Nations Assembly of Newfoundland is a non-profit organization fighting to promote and develop awareness of the Mi'kmaq Peoples of Newfoundland."

NOVA SCOTIA		
Eastern Woodland Métis Nation of Nova Scotia	easternwoodlandmetisnation.ca/	The Eastern Woodland Métis Nation's goal is to "help [its] people reach their full potential and realize Economic, Cultural, Social and Spiritual wellness, while becoming more economically independent and self-reliant."
Native Council of Nova Scotia (NCNS)	ncns.ca/	"The Native Council of Nova Scotia is the self-governing authority for the large community of Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal peoples residing off-reserve in Nova Scotia throughout traditional Mi'kmaq territory. [Its] goal is to operate and administer a strong and effective Aboriginal Peoples Representative Organization that serves, advocates and represents [the] community."
The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq	cmmns.com/	The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq aims to "proactively promote and assist Mi'kmaw communities' initiatives toward self determination and enhancement of community."
NUNAVUT		
Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated	tunngavik.com/inuit-associations-and-affiliated-organizations/	Links to various Inuit associations and affiliated organizations, including government departments.
ONTARIO		
First Nations, Métis & Inuit Education Association of Ontario (FNMIEAO)	fnmieao.com/	"The First Nations, Métis & Inuit Education Association of Ontario is a subject association for First Nations, Métis and Inuit education in Ontario, Canada. [It] support[s] and help[s] all educators understand issues related to First Nation, Métis and Inuit Peoples in Canada as well as offer strategies for teaching this content to all learners."
The Métis Nation of Ontario	metisnation.org	The Métis Nation of Ontario was formed to bind the Métis people of Ontario together to collectively promote their common cultural, social, political and economic well-being and have specific aims and objectives.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		
Native Council of Prince Edward Island (NCPEI)	ncpei.com/	"The Native Council of Prince Edward Island is a community of Indigenous people living off-reserve in traditional Mi'kmaq territory. [It] is the self-governing authority for all off-reserve Indigenous living on Epekwitk (PEI)."
QUEBEC AND LABRADOR		
Assembly of First Nations-Quebec/Labrador (AFNQL)	apnql.com/en/	The Assembly of First Nations-Quebec/Labrador is "composed of the Chiefs of the 43 communities of the First Nations of Quebec-Labrador and represent[s] a total of ten nations…"
Métis Nation Quebec	nationmetisquebec.ca/en	The Métis Nation Quebec citizens include persons whose descendants are from Quebec and can prove a direct link with a person of a First Nation.
SASKATCHEWAN		
Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) Saskatchewan	fsin.ca/	"The Federation of Sovereign Indian Nations represents 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan. The Federation is committed to honouring the spirit and intent of the Treaties, as well as the promotion, protection and implementation of the Treaty promises that were made more than a century ago."
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan	metisnationsk.com/	"Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) represents the province's Métis citizens."
Office of the Treaty Commissioner Saskatchewan	otc.ca/	The Office of the Treaty Commissioner has a mandate to "facilitate a bilateral process to discuss treaty and jurisdictional issues between Saskatchewan First Nations and the government of Canada, with the government of Saskatchewan present as an observer."

NATIONAL		
Congress of Aboriginal Peoples	abo-peoples.org/about-us/	"The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples represents the interests of Métis, status and Non-status Indians, and Southern Inuit Indigenous People living off-reserve in Canada."
Métis National Council (MNC)	metisnation.ca/	The Métis National Council "is dedicated to working collaboratively across the Métis homeland to fulfill the vision of Louis Riel."
Métis Nation of Canada (MNOC)	mnoc.ca/english/home/	The Métis Nation of Canada "promotes unity among legitimate Métis organisations and communities across Canada through partnership treaties. [It] seeks recognition for its citizens for the same reason other Canadian Métis do: the freedom to claim [their] true identity; to maintain [their] cultural and spiritual heritage; to exercise the right as an Indigenous person to access meaningful programs and services…"
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada	pauktuutit.ca/	"Pauktuutit is the national representative organization of Inuit women in Canada… [It] foster[s] greater awareness of the needs of Inuit women, advocate[s] for equality and social improvements, and encourage[s] Inuit women's full participation in the community, regional and national life of Canada."
Women's Council Assembly of First Nations	afn.ca/about-us/councils/womens-council/	The Women's Council ensures "that the concerns and perspectives of First Nations women inform the work of the [Assembly of First Nations]."

Federal, Provincial and Regional Government Bodies

ALBERTA		
First Nations Government of Alberta	alberta.ca/first-nations	The provincial government's web page contains information on land claims, Indigenous development funding and First Nations relations.
Guide to Indigenous Organizations and Services in Alberta	open.alberta.ca/dataset/1e38502a-550b-4351-86cf-10cc5f393f93/resource/23e099cb-4ec6-4a40-adc0-27e4f5ab660e/download/2017-01-guide-indigenous-organizations-services-alberta.pdf	The guide provides a list of not-for-profit Indigenous organizations.
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
Indigenous Peoples Government of British Columbia	www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/indigenous-people	Many resources are available from the provincial government's web page, including links to a language map, a list of First Nations, a pronunciation guide, Indigenous tourism, a guide to organizations and services and registering and applying for status/status cards.
MANITOBA		
First Nations in Manitoba Government of Canada	sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100020400/1616072911150	The federal government web page provides basic statistics on Manitoba First Nations and links to the "[three] active provincial political organizations divided on a north-south basis" that represent them, including the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak and Southern Chiefs Organization.
NEW BRUNSWICK		
Aboriginal Affairs Government of New Brunswick	www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/aboriginal_affairs.html	The provincial government's web page provides links to resources and Indigenous groups.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR		
Combined Councils of Labrador	combinedcouncils.ca/home/29	Combined Councils of Labrador's website provides historical information on Inuit in Labrador and links of interest.
Office of Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation Government of Newfoundland and Labrador	gov.nl.ca/exec/iar/	The Office of Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation's website offers information on the Indigenous peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador and government initiatives.
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES		
Executive and Indigenous Affairs Government of Northwest Territories	eia.gov.nt.ca/en/mandate	Provides information about Indigenous regional governments that have negotiated, or are in the process of negotiating, self-government agreements with the territorial and federal governments.
NOVA SCOTIA		
Office of L'nu Affairs Government of Nova Scotia	beta.novascotia.ca/government/lnu-affairs novascotia.ca/abor/resources/links/aboriginal/	The Office of L'nu Affairs "leads negotiations on Aboriginal and treaty rights with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and the federal government." The website offers links to resources and Indigenous groups.
NUNAVUT		
Aboriginal Affairs Government of Nunavut	gov.nu.ca/eia/information/aboriginal-affairs	Aboriginal Affairs advises on policies relating to Nunavut's relationship with Indigenous peoples and manages relations with other levels of government on Indigenous issues that impact the territory. Its website contains information on the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement and the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement.
ONTARIO		
Ministry of Indigenous Affairs Government of Ontario	ontario.ca/page/ministry-indigenous-affairs	
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		
Indigenous Relations Government of Prince Edward Island	princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/indigenous-relations	The provincial government's web page links to governmental actions and resources related to Indigenous issues.

QUEBEC		
First Nations and Inuit Gouvernement du Québec	quebec.ca/en/government/quebec-at-a-glance/first-nations-and-inuit	"Discover the First Nations, the Inuit and the programs of the gouvernement du Québec for the Indigenous peoples."
SASKATCHEWAN		
Saskatchewan First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs Directory	saskatchewan.ca/residents/first-nations-citizens/saskatchewan-first-nations-metis-and-northern-affairs-directory	The provincial government's web page offers links for more information about the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations, Saskatchewan First Nations and the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan.
YUKON		
Find Out About Yukon First Nations Government of Yukon	yukon.ca/en/your-government/about-yukon/about-yukon-first-nations	The territorial web page provides information about First Nations in Yukon.

Regional Maps

ALBERTA		
Map of First Nations Reserves and Métis Settlements	alberta.ca/map-of-first-nations-reserves-and-metis-settlements	A map of Indigenous communities in Alberta. "First Nations reserves are located in [three] treaty areas or regions… Métis Settlements are located mainly in north-west and east-central Alberta."
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
First Nations in B.C. Interactive Map	bcafn.ca/first-nations-bc/interactive-map	An interactive map to help find First Nations communities in British Columbia, including some contact information.
NUNAVUT		
Maps of Inuit Communities in Nunavut	rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1623352635700/1623352671979	The federal government web page provides links to interactive maps of Inuit communities in Nunavut.

LEGISLATIVE AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

Name	Website	Description
Bill 3 *The Vital Statistics Amendment Act (Name Registration)* The Legislative Assembly of Manitoba	web2.gov.mb.ca/bills/42-5/b003e.php	This provincial bill received royal assent on December 1, 2022, and enables residential school survivors and their families to reclaim their birth names and assists families giving traditional names to children in accordance with their culture.
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada Government of Canada	canada.ca/en/indigenous-northern-affairs.html	"In 2017, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) was dissolved and replaced by [two] new departments: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)."
Indigenous Languages Act	laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/i-7.85/page-1.html	"The recognition and implementation of rights related to Indigenous languages are at the core of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and are fundamental to shaping the country, particularly in light of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action."
Indigenous Peoples and Communities Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, Government of Canada	rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1100100013785/1529102490303	The federal government's website defines "Indigenous peoples" and includes various links to obtain additional information.
Lii Buflo: A Métis Way of Life Arts and Heritage St. Albert	artsandheritage.ca/collections/lii-buflo-a-metis-way-of-life	This online exhibition features the history of the Métis and the bison around Elk Island National Park.
Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement Government of Canada	rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1641476532215/1641476589226	The agreement recognizes the Manitoba Métis' right to self government and the mandate of the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) as the government of the Manitoba Métis and recognizes the MMF's jurisdiction over citizenship, leadership selection, elections and the operations of their government on behalf of the Manitoba Métis.
Parks Canada's Indigenous Peoples Open Doors Program	parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/mb/fortgarry/visit/ouvert-open	Manitoba Métis citizens are exempt from paying entry fees to access Lower Fort Garry and Riel House national historic sites when presenting their Manitoba Métis Federation citizenship card or Harvester Card.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, 2015.	www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/indigenous-people/aboriginal-peoples-documents/calls_to_action_english2.pdf	To redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada makes 94 calls to action.
Umbrella Final Agreement between The Government of Canada, the Council for Yukon Indians and the Government of the Yukon.	yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/eco/eco-ar-umbrella-final-agreement.pdf	Ratification of the *Umbrella Final Agreement* by Yukon First Nations, through the Council for Yukon Indians and territorial and federal governments signifies their mutual intention to negotiate the *Yukon First Nation Final Agreements*.
United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) United Nations, 2007.	un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf	The declaration enshrines the rights that "constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of Indigenous peoples." Canada was one of the last nations to sign the declaration.

KNOWING AND UNDERSTANDING

Articles and Books

Title, Author	Publisher, Date	Synopsis
21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act: Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a Reality Bob Joseph	Indigenous Relations Press, 2018. Available at Amazon.ca and Google Books.	Based on a viral article, this book is "the essential guide to understanding the legal document and its repercussion on generations of Indigenous Peoples, written by a leading cultural sensitivity trainer." Author Bob Joseph is Indigenous and a member of the Gwawaenuk Nation. As the son of a hereditary chief, he will also become a hereditary chief.
"48 Books by Indigenous Writers to Read to Understand Residential Schools" David A. Robertson	CBC Books, 2021. cbc.ca/books/48-books-by-indigenous-writers-to-read-to-understand-residential-schools-1.6056204	In 2021, David A. Robertson curated this list of books by Indigenous writers about residential schools. He originally posted the list on Twitter and repurposed it for CBC Books.
A Journey of Love and Hope: The Inspirational Words of a Mi'kmaw Elder Sr. Dorothy Moore	Nimbus Publishing Ltd., 2022.	A collection of Sr. Moore's talks, presentations, prayers and ceremonies.
Birdie Tracie Lindberg	HarperCollins Publishers, Reprint Edition, 2015.	*Birdie* is a national bestseller and winner of international awards. It is a "darkly comic and moving novel about the universal experience of recovering from wounds of the past, informed by the lore and knowledge of Cree traditions…The novel touches on the universality of women's experience, regardless of culture or race" (Amazon review).
Black Elk Speaks John G. Neihardt	Bison Books, Reprint Edition, 2014.	"The story of the Oglala Lakota visionary and healer Nicholas Black Elk (1863-1950) and his people during momentous twilight years of the nineteenth century." It relates Black Elk's searing visions of the unity of humanity and Earth.

Come Dance with Me: A Medicine Wheel Practice of Anishinaabe Catholic Interculturation of Faith Sr. Eva Solomon	Novalis, 2022.	"This book explores [the] interculturation of Anishinaabe Roman Catholic faith through a mutually respectful and culturally appropriate dialogue process".
Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, Volume One: Summary: Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.	James Lorimer & Company Ltd., First Edition, 2015.	This book includes the history of residential schools, the legacy of that school system, and the full text of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 calls to action to address that legacy.
In This Together: Fifteen Stories of Truth & Reconciliation Danielle Metcalfe-Chenail, editor	Brindle & Glass, 2016.	This collection of essays from Indigenous and non-Indigenous contributors presents a healing conversation by journalists, writers, academics, visual artists, filmmakers and more to show how they grappled with the reality of colonization and its harmful legacy. It is a deep and honest look at assumptions about race and racial divides in the hope that the rest of Canada will follow.
Price Paid: The Fight for First Nations Survival Bev Sellars	Talonbooks, 2016.	This book documents "the dark period of regulation by racist laws during the twentieth century, and then discusses new emergence in the twenty-first century into a re-establishment of Indigenous land and resource rights." It is a personal account of a culture's fight for its rights and survival.
Quest for Respect: The Church and Indigenous Spirituality Jeff Frieson and Steve Heinrichs, editors	Mennonite Church Canada, 2017. Free digital version available at: commonword.ca/ResourceView/82/19134	More than "40 authors from diverse backgrounds… take up this call to respect Indigenous spirituality, exploring what it might mean to Christians across North America and what it entails for relationships with host peoples and host lands."
Secret Path Gord Downie and Jeff Lemire	Simon & Schuster, 2016.	"*Secret Path* is a ten song digital download album by Gord Downie… that tells the story of Chanie 'Charlie' Wenjack, a twelve-year-old boy who died in flight from the Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School [more than] fifty years ago."
The Sacred Pipe: Black Elk's Account of the Seven Rites of the Oglala Sioux Joseph Epes Brown	University of Oklahoma, 1989.	Black Elk's account of the rights of the Oglala Sioux.

Understanding Racism	National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health nccah-ccnsa.ca/Publications/Lists/Publications/Attachments/103/understanding_racism_EN_web.pdf	Since the time of first contact with Europeans, Indigenous peoples have experienced several forms of racism that have negatively affected all aspects of their lives and well-being.
"White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack," *On Privilege, Fraudulence, and Teaching as Learning: Selected Essays 1981-2019* Peggy McIntosh	Routledge, First edition, 2019. Print version available at: taylorfrancis.com/chapters/mono/10.4324/9781351133791-4/white-privilege-unpacking-invisible-knapsack-1989-1-peggy-mcintosh	The author discusses the causes and manifestations of white privilege. She identifies some of the daily effects of white privilege in her life and suggests way that others may become aware of these effects in their own life.
Wrongs to Rights: How Churches can Engage the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Steve Heinrichs, editor	Mennonite Church Canada Free digital version available at: commonword.ca/FileDownload/48846/TRC1_WrongsToRights_DigitalEdition.pdf/8ecd0100314893 95b88472ba2eb909af	"Honouring the call of Indigenous peoples from around the world, Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission has specifically summoned, not only the State, but all churches to embrace the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*... Over 40 authors from diverse backgrounds... wrestle with the meaning of the Declaration for the Church. With a firm hold on past and present colonialism, the authors tackle key questions that the Declaration and the TRC's call to 'adopt and comply' raises."
Yours, Mine, Ours: Unraveling the Doctrine of Discovery Cheryl Woelk and Steve Heinrichs, editors	Mennonite Church of Canada Out of Print. Free digital version available at: commonword.ca/ResourceView/82/18692	All religious denominations and faith groups are called upon to "repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius" (Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #49). But what are these concepts of dispossession? And in what ways are they connected to contemporary communities?

Films and Videos

Title, Length	Producer, Link	Description
"21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act," *TELUS Talks with Tamara Taggart* 00:41:21	Telus youtube.com/watch?v=1RzuooDOV6U	Tamara Taggart interviews author, Bob Joseph.
"Bishop Bolen Discusses the Catholic Churches Response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission," *Perspectives Daily* 00:09:15	Salt + Light Media youtube.com/watch?v=bfquHYgcplk	
Decolonization is for Everyone Speaker, Environmental Educator and Author 00:13:18	Indigenous Media Maker, TEDx youtube.com/watch?v=QP9x1NnCWNY	"'This history is not your fault, but it is absolutely your responsibility.' A history of colonization exists and persists all around us. Nikki discusses what colonization looks like and how it can be addressed through decolonization. An equitable and just future depends on the courage we show today." Nikki Sanchez "holds a master's degree in Indigenous Governance and is currently completing her Ph.D. on emerging visual media technology as it relates to Indigenous ontology for climate change mitigation strategies."
"Dr. Joy DeGruy 'A Trip to the Grocery Store,'" *Cracking the Codes: The System of Racial Inequity* 00:03:48	World Trust youtube.com/watch?v=Wf9QBnPK6Yg	In this story from *Cracking the Codes: The System of Racial Inequity*, author and educator Dr. Joy DeGruy "shares how her sister-in-law uses her white privilege to stand up to systemic inequity."
"First Contact Canada"	Animiki See Digital Production Inc., Nüman Films, Indios Productions Inc. firstcontactcanada.ca/episodes/	Six Canadians, with stereotypical opinions about Indigenous people, are taken on a unique 28-day exploration of Indigenous Canada. The journey turns their lives upside down, challenges their perceptions and confronts their prejudices about a world they never imagined.

Justice for Aboriginal Peoples—It's time! 00:05:48	PSAC-AFPC (Public Service Alliance of Canada) youtube.com/watch?v=r5DrXZUIinU	Indigenous people answer the often-asked question, "Why don't you just get over it?"
Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls, a Canadian Responsibility 00:17:47	TEDx youtube.com/watch?v=DpKa54RcfnE	Former member of Ontario's provincial parliament Sophie Kiwala speaks as an ally, not as an Indigenous person.
National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation	National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation youtube.com/@nationalcentrefortruthandr92/videos	A variety of different videos in English and French.
Parks Canada's Métis Reconciliation Projects: Sharing the Métis Story 00:06:18	Parks Canada youtube.com/watch?v=UMDu-ffDI8s	Part of Parks Canada's Métis Reconciliation Projects to provide opportunities for Métis to connect to lands they've traditionally used, their culture, other Canadians and Parks Canada.
Reserve 107: Reconciliation on the Prairies 00:32:00 minutes	Mennonite Central Committee Saskatchewan and St. John's Lutheran Church (ELCIC), Rebel Sky Media reserve107thefilm.com/	The film explores how the Young Chipewayan Band, Mennonites and Lutherans work together to repair the wrongs of the past in Laird, Saskatchewan. Through a series of storytelling vignettes, the film shares the stories of a unique moment in history where new relationships form around a contentious land conflict.
"Sen. Murray Sinclair: How Can Canadians Work Towards Reconciliation," *CBC News* 00:07:00	Canadian Broadcasting Corporation youtube.com/watch?v=j2Lv21Ktz84&t=5s	Truth and Reconciliation Commissioner Murray Sinclair says, "Canadians can work toward reconciliation by reading the report and finding a call to action that interests them."
Still Thirsty for Justice 00:08:20	PSAC-AFPC (Public Service Alliance of Canada) youtube.com/watch?v=WiZuOVIY7y4	In 2015, the federal government promised to end all long-term drinking water advisories by 2021. Hundreds of communities across the country—a majority of them Indigenous—still don't have access to safe, clean water.
The Myth of Race 00:07:01	BBC Ideas, The Open University youtube.com/watch?v=926PqQUOVOg	"People imagine that people have always thought about skin colour in this racialized way, and we really haven't." Is there any biological basis for categorizing humans by race?

Walking the Good Red Road: Nicholas Black Elk's Journey to Sainthood 00:58:15	Judith Ann Zielinski, Christopher Salvador, Diocese of Rapid City, South Dakota vimeo.com/420363725	"The next American to be named a saint may be a Native American holy man, Nicholas Black Elk. A Lakota Sioux medicine man baptized a Catholic, Nicholas integrated his Christianity and Indigenous spirituality, recognizing that one God created all earth's children and calls them to live as brothers and sisters." The documentary "encompasses his entire life and legacy culminating with his family's request that the Catholic Church declare him a saint."
We Know the Truth: Stories to Inspire Reconciliation 00:44:19	CBC News youtube.com/watch?v=SEC_BoSS68E	On September 20, 2021, the inaugural National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, CBC introduced Canadians to Indigenous people who are flipping the conversation on reconciliation.

PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAYS AND EVENTS

Name	Date, Website	Description
Louis Riel Day (Manitoba)	Third Monday in February, annually. louisrielday.com/	Louis Riel, the Métis leader of the Red River Resistance (1869-70), was "instrumental in drafting the List of Rights that formed the basis of the *Manitoba Act*" adopted in 1870, which brought Manitoba into Confederation. A resolution was adopted by parliament citing that Louis Riel was the founder of Manitoba on March 10, 1992.
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day	September 30th, annually canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html	A public day to commemorate and honour the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities.
National Indigenous Peoples Day	June 21st, annually rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1100100013718/1534874583157	A day for Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.
National Ribbon Skirt Day	January 4th, annually laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/N-16.2/FullText.html#:~:text=2%20Throughout%20Canada%2C%20in%20each,%E2%80%9CNational%20Ribbon%20Skirt%20Day%E2%80%9D	Bill S-219 *An Act respecting a National Ribbon Skirt Day*, received royal assent on December 15, 2022.
The North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) (International)	naigcouncil.com/	NAIG's mission is "to improve the quality of life for Indigenous Peoples by supporting self-determined sports and cultural activities which encourage equal access to participation in the social/cultural/spiritual fabric of the community in which they reside and which respects Indigenous distinctiveness."
Treaty Day	Date varies between provinces, annually. thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/treaty-day	Treaty Day is celebrated on different days throughout Canada, depending on the treaty being commemorated. October 1st was proclaimed Treaty Day in Nova Scotia and is celebrated annually to recognize the connection between the Crown and the Mi'kmaq and to commemorate the Peace and Friendship Treaties. Treaty Day or Treaty Days (also known as Urban Treaty Days, which generally applies to all Indigenous nations in the region regardless of treaty affiliation) is celebrated in the summer in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

ALLYSHIP RESOURCES

Name	Website	Description
"10 Ways to Be a Genuine Ally to First Nations Communities" Amnesty International	amnesty.org.au/10-ways-to-be-an-ally-to-first-nations-communities/	
Being an Ally to an Indigenous Person 00:01:46	United Way Calgary youtube.com/watch?v=v55mm2wzmCA	
How To Be An Ally To Indigenous Peoples Laurentian University	laurentian.ca/indigenous-programs/how-to-be-an-ally	Links to articles, videos, blogs and other info related to allyship.
"How to be an Indigenous Ally in Canada," 00:06:46	CityTV youtube.com/watch?v=VlObmhyqvuo	Chief Executive Officer Sarah Midanik of the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund, shares how to practice allyship in the community and invite all people to join in reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through awareness, education, and connection.
Indigenous Ally Toolkit Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network	segalcentre.org/common/sitemedia/201819_Shows/ENG_AllyTookit.pdf	This toolkit includes points for self-reflection, protocols and traditional practices.
Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.	ictinc.ca/blog/topic/allyship	This website provides tips on building relationships with Indigenous peoples.

FAITH RESOURCES

Title	Website	Description
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops	cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/	Visitors to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishop's (CCCB) website can find many interesting articles to read on the CCCB's section on Indigenous peoples.
"Meeting with Indigenous Peoples: First Nations, Metis, and Inuit" Pope Francis	vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2022/july/documents/20220725-popolazioniindigene-canada.html	Address of His Holiness, July 25, 2022.
"Meeting with Representatives of Indigenous Peoples in Canada" Pope Francis	vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2022/april/documents/20220401-popoli-indigeni-canada.html	Address of His Holiness, April 1, 2022
National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples	cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/prayer-and-spirituality/national-day-of-prayer-in-solidarity-with-indigenous-people/	
Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle	ourladyofguadalupecircle.ca/	Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle is a Catholic coalition of Indigenous peoples, bishops, clergy, lay movements and institutes of consecrated life, committed to renewing and promoting relations between the church and Indigenous peoples. It seeks to provide a forum for dialogue and understanding, and to help Catholics engage in the truth and reconciliation process and its calls to action.
Pope Francis' Penitential Pilgrimage Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops	cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/pope-francis-penitential-pilgrimage/	Speeches and homilies by Pope Francis during his penitential pilgrimage in Canada, July 24-29, 2022.
"That We May Walk Together" Series of Pastoral Letters Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops	cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/that-we-may-walk-together-series-of-pastoral-letters-2023/	Includes pastoral letters to First Nations, Inuit, Métis and the people of God in Canada.

The "Doctrine of Discovery" and Terra Nullius: A Catholic Response Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops	cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/catholic-response-to-doctrine-of-discovery-and-tn.pdf	A Catholic response to truth and reconciliation.
Truth and Reconciliation Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada	cwl.on.ca/truth-and-reconciliation/	Links to information related to truth and reconciliation and spiritual resources.

SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS

Resource	Link	Description
A Liturgy for The National Indigenous Day of Prayer The Anglican Church of Canada	anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/nidp-liturgy.pdf	Councils can easily use this seven-page liturgical resource throughout the year, focusing on Indigenous peoples, people experiencing poverty, the vulnerable or reconciliation. The uses are many and varied.
National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples	cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/prayer-and-spirituality/national-day-of-prayer-in-solidarity-with-indigenous-people/	Celebrated annually on December 12th—the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas. The Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council celebrates this day for prayer, solidarity and reconciliation by issuing an annual message honouring Indigenous people who were inspired by their Catholic faith.
Praying For Healing and Reconciliation Darcie Lich, Oblate Associate	canadianmartyrs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Enoch-Reserve-Alberta.pdf	A prayer for the wrongs committed against the people of this land—First Nations, Inuit and Métis children in Canada's residential school system.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Continuing Education

Name	Link	Description
Agowiidiwinan Centre 15 Forks Market Road, Winnipeg, MB	theforks.com/events/calendar-of-events/event/783	An accessible educational space to enable broader public engagement and education about treaty histories, relationships and responsibilities.
Faculty of Native Studies University of Alberta	ualberta.ca/native-studies/index.html	The faculty strives to create transformative change through research and teaching with real-world impact.
First Nations Languages of British Columbia University of Victoria	libguides.uvic.ca/c.php?g=707487&p=5035443	"Collections, tools, guides and online resources from the UVic Libraries and others regarding Indigenous languages" spoken in British Columbia.
Indigenous Canada University of Alberta	ualberta.ca/admissions-programs/online-courses/indigenous-canada/index.html	An online course.
Indigenous Pastoral & Lay Ministry Education Greater Saskatoon Catholic School	rcdos.ca/ministries-services/indigenous-ministry-2/indigenous-ministry-education/	Four online courses, each consisting of nine weeks. Courses offered include Introduction to Indigenous Studies, Indigenous-Settler Relationship, Introduction to Colonization and Introduction to Reconciliation.
Indigenous Resource Hub/L'nuey Etl-Mawo'tumk Mount St. Vincent University, Nova Scotia	msvu.ca/about-msvu/indigenous-initiatives/indigenous-resource-hub/	Source for select resources, including podcasts, books, documentaries, reports, articles, films and free online courses.
Jilaptoq Mi'kmaw Language Center	jilaptoq.ca/en/	The Jilaptoq Mi'kmaw Language Center involves the creation of digital, multimedia and interactive Mi'kmaw educational support material. Initially, the material is being designed for the Nova Scotia Department of Education's Grade 7 Mi'kmaw curriculum. However, the project website will ultimately be helpful for all Mi'kmaw and non-Mi'kmaw educators who are endeavouring to teach the Mi'kmaw language and culture.

National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation 208-177 Dysart Rd. Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2	nctr.ca/	The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) is "a place of learning and dialogue where the truths of the residential school experience will be honoured and kept safe for future generations… [It] was created as part of the mandate of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC). The TRC was charged to listen to Survivors, their families, communities and others affected by the residential school system and educate Canadians about their experiences. The resulting collection of statements, documents and other materials now forms the sacred heart of the NCTR."
United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) United Nations	un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf	UNDRIP is the most comprehensive international instrument on the rights of Indigenous peoples. It "establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity, and well-being of the Indigenous peoples of the world and elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of Indigenous peoples."

Dictionaries, Guides and Workbooks

Name	Link	Description
Alberta Elders' Cree Dictionary Nancy LeClaire and George Cardinal	The University of Alberta Press, 2002. uap.ualberta.ca/titles/122-9780888642844-alberta-elders-cree-dictionary-alperta-ohci-kehtehayak-nehiyaw-otwestamakewasinahikan	"This remarkable dictionary includes extensive Cree-English and English-Cree sections based upon both Northern Cree (the 'TH' dialect) and Plains Cree (the 'Y' dialect). It also includes: parts of speech, a 'New Terms' supplement to the English-Cree section, appendices on kinship terms, months and numbers, and terms commonly used in government, courts and other institutions."
Connecting — Resilience — Indigenous Truth & Reconciliation (CRITR) Workbook	Classroom Ready Inc., 2022. classroomready.com/product/indigenous-truth-and-reconciliation-workbook/#:~:text=Connecting%20%E2%80%93%20Resilience%20%E2%80%93%20Indigenous%20Truth%20%26,Days%20of%20Recognition%20in%20Canada	This resource includes articles and activities that can be used with little or no prior knowledge or understanding of Indigenous peoples or subjects. Although its contents cannot be photocopied, the information can be used and shared respectfully. Available for purchase through Amazon.ca.
Giga-Ganoonidimin Miinawaa! Anishinaabemowin Dictionary for Students and Families	7oaks.org/Resources/indigenouseducation/Ojibwe%20Dictionary/Anishinaabemowin%20Dictionary.pdf	An online Anishinaabemowin dictionary in PDF (portable document format).
Guidebook to Indigenous Protocol	Indigenous Corporate Training Inc. ictinc.ca/guidebook-to-indigenous-protocol	The online guidebook, available in English and French, offers information on land acknowledgement, elder, talking Stick, potlatch and powwow protocols. Sign up for access.
Indigenous Peoples: A Guide to Terminology, Usage Tips & Definitions	Indigenous Corporate Training Inc. ictinc.ca/indigenous-peoples-a-guide-to-terminology	This e-book explains 43 different terms used in building Indigenous relations and provides insights into usage and best terminology.
Listening to Indigenous Voices: A Dialogue Guide on Justice and Right Relationships Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice	Novalis, 2021. en.novalis.ca/products/listening-to-indigenous-voices	"This guide is a self-contained kit to engage with others on themes related to justice, reconciliation, right relationships, and decolonization with Indigenous Peoples."
Nishnaabemwin Odawa & Eastern Ojibwe Online Dictionary	dictionary.nishnaabemwin.atlas-ling.ca/#/help	An online dictionary.

Nehiyaw Masinahikan Online Cree Dictionary	creedictionary.com/	An online Cree-English and English-Cree dictionary that contains articles from the famous *Alberta Elders' Cree Dictionary and Cree Words Dictionary*. There is a supporting application (app) for smart phones and a version for children.
Pulling Together: A Guide for Indigenization of Post-Secondary Institutions Kory Wilson and Colleen Hodgson	BCCampus Open Education, 2018. eBook ISBN: 978-1-77420-054-4 Print ISBN: 978-1-77420-053-7 Link to download opentextbc.ca/indigenizationfoundations/	This guide highlights nine myths about Indigenous peoples.
The Ojibwe People's Dictionary Nora Livesay and John D. Nichols, University of Minnesota	ojibwe.lib.umn.edu/	An online dictionary.

Toolkits and Workshops

Name	Link	Description
Circles for Reconciliation	circlesforreconciliation.ca/	Circles for Reconciliation aims to build trusting relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people by creating small gatherings of equal numbers of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in talking circles.
Returning to Spirit	returningtospirit.org/	Returning to Spirit is a non-profit organization that develops and delivers workshops for reconciliation of the residential school legacy. This program is for anyone willing to explore new possibilities for the future.
Returning to the Spirit: Seeds of Reconciliation Workshop	returningtospirit.org/workshops	This workshop introduces participants to the Returning to Spirit (RTS) reconciliation conversation. It is an entry point for those considering the workshop process, groups interested in creating a shared reconciliation language to build from, or former RTS participants wanting to revisit concepts and learn new ones. This one-day workshop can be delivered either in person or virtually.
The Kairos Blanket Exercise	canadac3.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/AFN-PT1-KAIROS.pdf	Information on the Kairos Blanket Exercise to help prepare for the activity.

INDIGENOUS ROLE MODELS

It is recognized that among Indigenous peoples there are many people who are elders, role models and also those who have been inspirational not only to their communities but to the people of Canada. Following are just a few Indigenous people who are identified in order to start the journey to recognizing the history, leadership, culture, traditions and spirituality of the Indigenous brothers and sisters in Canada.



Adam Beach

Born: November 11, 1972, Ashern, Manitoba

Adam Reuben Beach, is a Saulteaux actor, advocate and motivational speaker and is one of Canada's most successful actors of Indigenous descent. His "efforts to augment the voice of [Indigenous] people are best illustrated by his film school in Winnipeg—the Adam Beach Film Institute—which is aimed at training [Indigenous] students in all aspects of filmmaking, both in front of and behind the camera" (APTN National News).



Nicholas Black Elk

Born: December 1863, Little Powder River, Wyoming

Death: August, 1950, Manderson, South Dakota

"Black Elk is remembered for his many dreams and mystical experiences. The first of these occurred at the age of nine when he fell ill and [laid] unconscious for several days. He had a vision that seemed to predict the future of his tribe and his own role as a medicine man; he was disturbed by some of the things he saw but told no one. Eventually, more visions came, and finally, he told his father about them. By the time, he returned from Canada, his reputation had preceded him as a gifted medicine person, and he was sought after as a healer" (Aktá Lakota Museum & Cultural Center).

Larry Phillip Fontaine

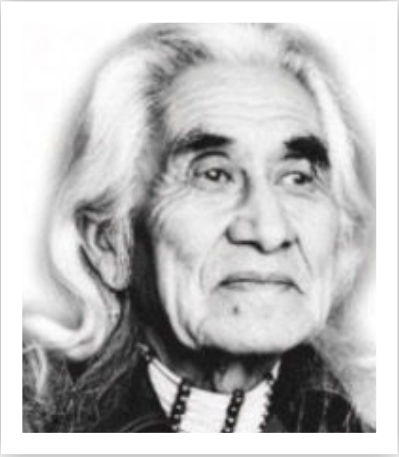


Born: September 20, 1944

Member: Sagkeeng First Nation, Manitoba

Larry Phillip Fontaine, OC, OM is “an Indigenous Canadian leader and former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. He best known for his central role in raising public awareness of the Canadian Indian residential school system and pushing to secure Federal and Papal apologies in 2008 and 2022 respectively.” He made key contributions to the defeat of the Meech Lake Accord. “In 2005, Fontaine successfully negotiated the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, which will mean a financial contribution of more than $5 billion to survivors and programs for them” (Wikipedia).

For more information, visit en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phil_Fontaine.



Chief Dan George

Born: July 24, 1899

Death: September 23, 1981

Birth Name: Geswanouth Slahoot

An easily recognized face in Canada, Chief Dan George was a poet, author, activist and professor and was one of the first activists for Indigenous rights in Canada. At age five, his name was changed when he entered a mission boarding school where speaking his language was discouraged. He sought to increase understanding of the First Nations people among non-Indigenous Canadians.

At the 1967 celebration of the Canadian centennial, he used his poem “Lament for Confederation” to draw attention to European colonization. He is the only Indigenous actor in Canadian history to date with the right to use the title “Chief,” as he served as leader Squamish First Nation of Burrard Inlet (1951–63) and retained the honorary title after his term ended.

To learn more about Chief Dan George visit newfederation.org/Native_Leaders/Bios/George.htm.

Photograph courtesy of Cheryl Petten (Windspeaker.com).



Graydon Nicholas

Born: 1946, Tobique, New Brunswick

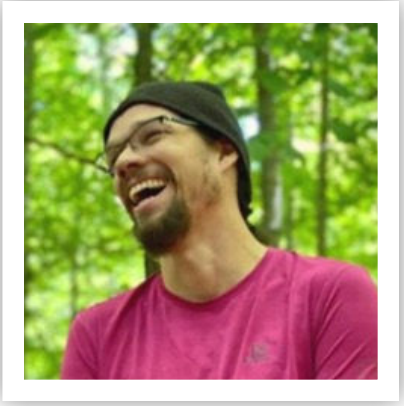
Graydon Nicholas is a Maliseet descendant and grew up on the Tobique Indian Reserve, and faced challenges in his early years, learning English as his second language. He is a member of the Order of Canada and Order of New Brunswick and has made remarkable contributions to law and public service.

Graydon Nicholas became the first Indigenous person to practice law in the Maritimes. In 1991, he was appointed as a provincial court judge in New Brunswick, becoming the first Indigenous provincial court judge in the province. In 2009, he made history again when he was appointed 30th lieutenant governor of New Brunswick, becoming the first Indigenous person to hold the office. Shortly after concluding his five-year term, he was named endowed chair in native studies at St. Thomas University, a position he currently holds.

Learn more about Graydon Nicholas at campusmagazine.wlu.ca/2018/fall-winter/alumni-updates/alumni-profile-graydon-nicholas.html.

Joseph Pitawanakwat

Joseph Pitawanakwat is an Ojibway educator from Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Territory on Manitoulin Island, Ontario. Specializing in plant-based medicine, his teachings have reached 40 countries and been translated in more than 25 different languages, changing how people think about medicine. He is the founder and director of Creators Garden, an Indigenous outdoor-education based business, that focuses on plant identification, sustainable harvesting, and teaching their linguistic, historical, cultural, edible, ecological and medicinal significance through experience. He introduced to academia the legitimization of an ancient interpretive technique called “The Doctrine of Signatures,” developed curriculum and has lectured in 20 universities and 12 colleges across Canada and the United States.



Rose Prince



Born: August 1915, Fort St. James, British Columbia

Death: August 19, 1949

From the age of six until her death, Rose Prince lived at Lejac Residential School. Though English was the only language permitted at the school, Rose translated hymns and prayers into her first language, Dakelh, and were used by the students and sisters at the school. In 1951, several graves on the school grounds were moved, including Rose's, and her body was found to be still perfectly preserved.

Rose Prince, though not yet a saint, has become an object of local devotion. Many regard her as a saint, with signs and wonders supporting this belief and physical healings being reported. Additionally, many people report experiencing a sense of peace after visiting her grave.

For more information, including a planned pilgrimage to her grave, visit pgdiocese.bc.ca/lejac/.



Thomas George "Tommy" Prince

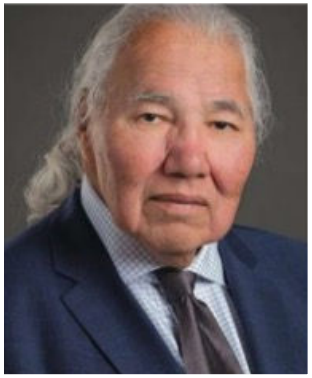
Born: October 1915, Petersfield, Manitoba

Death: 1977

At age five, Tommy Prince was forced to leave his community to attend Elkhorn Residential School, where he joined the cadet corps. "Tommy Prince was a prominent Anishinaabe activist and veteran whose brave and tragic life has long held popular resonance. His story is one of the most widely known examples of the wartime contributions of First Nations soldiers in the mid-20th century, and the poor treatment they received upon their return to civilian life in Canada. His accomplishments attracted national media attention during his lifetime and earned him a great many posthumous tributes…" (Parks Canada).

"After the war, he agreed to serve as spokesperson and vice-president of the Manitoba Indian Association and appeared on its behalf before a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons, tasked with studying the *Indian Act*. During his testimony in 1947, he advocated for the abolition of the *Indian Act* and respect for existing treaties, and presented submissions from First Nations in Manitoba, which called for improved schools, better living conditions, and expanded hunting, trapping, and fishing rights… Military service took a heavy toll on his health and, following his honourable discharge from the army, he faced a difficult return to civilian life in Manitoba. Tommy Prince endured discrimination, illness, and poverty in the years that followed" (*ibid*).

For more information visit parks.canada.ca/culture/designation/personnage-person/tommy-prince.



The Honourable Murray Sinclair

Born: January 24, 1951

Spirit Name: *Mizhana Gheezhik* (The One Who Speaks of Pictures in the Sky)

Member: Peguis First Nation (Anishinaabe)

The Hon. Murray Sinclair is "a Fourth Degree Chief of the Midewiwin Society, a traditional healing and spiritual society of the Anishinaabe Nation responsible for protecting the teachings, ceremonies, laws, and history of the Anishinaabe… [He] graduated from law school in 1979. He has been involved with the justice system in Manitoba for over 40 years, first as a lawyer representing Indigenous clients, as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Robson Hall, as Associate Chief Judge of Manitoba's Provincial Court and as a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench. He was the first Indigenous Judge appointed in Manitoba and Canada's second.

"He served as Co-Chair of the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry of Manitoba and as Chief Commissioner of Canada's Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). As head of the TRC, he participated in hundreds of hearings across Canada, culminating in the TRC's widely influential report in 2015. He also oversaw an active multi-million-dollar fundraising program to support various TRC events and activities, and to allow survivors to travel to attend TRC events. In 2017 Governor General Julie Payette awarded him and the other TRC Commissioners the Meritorious Service Cross (Civilian) (MSC) for service to Canada for their work on the TRC… He has won numerous awards, including the National Aboriginal Achievement Award, the Manitoba Bar Association's Equality Award (2001), its Distinguished Service Award (2016) and the CBA President's medal (2018). He has been named as one of Canada's Indigenous People's Counsel (IPC) by the Indigenous Bar Association" (Wîcihitowin Indigenous Engagement Conference).

Sr. Eva Solomon

Spirit Name: *Megisique* (Eagle Woman)

Sr. Eva Solomon is an Anishinaabe from an Ojibway community in Northern Ontario. She is committed to the development of a truly Indigenous Catholic church and is a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie. Recognized as a leader in Anishinaabe spiritual tradition, Sr. Solomon developed a pious association, The Companions of Kateri Tekakwitha, and created a 13-part series on the "Kateri Movement." The series aired nationally on VisionTV and in the Eastern United States. She is a sacred pipe carrier and conductor of the sweat lodge and other ceremonies.





Born: 1656, New York, United States

Died: April 17, 1680, Kahnawake, Canada

Place of burial: St. Frances Xavier Mission Catholic Church, Kahnawake, Canada

Feast Day: July 14th

Kateri Tekakwitha is a Mohawk saint. “Harassed, stoned, and threatened with torture in her home village, she fled 200 miles (320 km) to the Christian mission of St. Francis Xavier at Sault Saint-Louis, near Montreal. There she came to be known as the ‘Lily of the Mohawks’ in recognition of her kindness, prayer, faith, and heroic suffering” (Mario Alexis Portella).

Jesuit missionary Jacques de Lamberville and fellow missionaries contributed to the documentation necessary for Kateri Tekakwitha’s beatification, which began in 1932 and was proclaimed by Pope John Paul II in 1980. After evaluating the testimony of a young boy who claimed that his infection with flesh-eating bacteria disappeared after he prayed for her intercession, Pope Benedict XVI recognized Kateri Tekakwitha in December 2011 as a saint, and she was canonized the following October.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

C-702 Scotland Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5

Tel: (204) 927-2310
Website: cwl.ca
E-mail: info@cwl.ca

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