



Truth and  
Reconciliation  
Commission of Canada

# BRITISH COLUMBIA

NATIONAL EVENT

SEPTEMBER 18-21, 2013

VANCOUVER | PACIFIC NATIONAL EXHIBITION

## PROGRAM



★ VANCOUVER

**IT'S ABOUT HONESTY** – A National Journey  
for Healing and Reconciliation

[trc.ca](http://trc.ca)

# STAY CONNECTED

If you are interested in staying connected with the work of the TRC through social media, visit us at [trc.ca](http://trc.ca)

OR...



**HASHTAG ALERT!** We'll be live-tweeting from the British Columbia National Event... find us under **#BCNE**.

Follow us on Twitter @TRC\_en for all news, events and opportunities for Reconciliation.



Over 6,500 people like us on Facebook. You should too! Visit our Truth and Reconciliation Commission page and 'like' us today!



Watch TRC videos on YouTube (TheTRCCanada) and Vimeo. Visit our website and click on the icons.

## TRC EVENT T-SHIRTS!

Purchase in the Registration Tent for \$20 (cash only).

Survivors will receive, with registration, a \$10 off coupon for the purchase of one T-shirt.



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## A Message from the TRC Commissioners



PHOTO L-R: Commissioner Marie Wilson, Justice Murray Sinclair, Chair and TRC Commissioner Chief Wilton Littlechild.

**Welcome** to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) British Columbia National Event in Vancouver from September 18-21, 2013. We acknowledge the Squamish, Musqueam and Tsleil-waututh Nations, on whose traditional territory this historic gathering is taking place.

TRC events provide an important opportunity for those affected by the legacy of the Indian Residential Schools to share their experiences with the Commission and the public. They help educate Canadians about the country's 150-year history of residential schools, and their legacy.

This TRC National Event – the sixth of seven mandated by the 2007 Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement – is being held in collaboration with Reconciliation Canada, which has been mandated by the First Nations Leadership Council to advance reconciliation activities throughout BC. Reconciliation Canada has organized activities before and after the BC National Event.

In preparation for this event, the TRC has held public hearings in Port Hardy, Campbell River, Port Alberni, Duncan (Cowichan), Victoria, Prince George, Williams Lake, Kamloops and Terrace.

Survivors from these and adjacent communities shared their experiences with the Commission in public and private sessions. Most of these hearings were webcast on [www.trc.ca](http://www.trc.ca), where the BC National Event will also be webcast, with large numbers of people tuning in from all over the world. Survivors and their family members shared many personal and emotional stories, as well as hope for change and reconciliation.

In this same spirit of openness, the TRC British Columbia National Event will offer a unique opportunity for all Canadians, to hear first-hand the experiences of those who attended the schools, to bear witness to the legacy of the residential schools, and to celebrate Aboriginal culture. It is free and open to everyone.

We welcome you to Vancouver as we continue on this national journey for truth, healing and reconciliation.

Respectfully,  
**Justice Murray Sinclair**  
CHAIR

**Chief Wilton Littlechild**  
COMMISSIONER

**Dr. Marie Wilson**  
COMMISSIONER

## A Message from the BC First Nations Leadership Council



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ASSEMBLY OF  
FIRST NATIONS



FIRST  
NATIONS  
SUMMIT



UNION OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
INDIAN CHIEFS

**On behalf** of the BC Assembly of First Nations, the First Nations Summit, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, the First Nations Leadership Council welcomes the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) to Vancouver.

We commend the Commission for the important work that it will undertake during the BC National Event from September 18 to 21, and welcome all those who will take part – residential school Survivors and their family members who will share their stories, dignitaries, Church delegates, Commissioners, event organizers, volunteers, and British Columbians from all walks of life.

Truth-telling is a critical step along the path to healing and recovery for those impacted by the residential schools and their legacy, and bearing witness to the truths of others is equally important in moving towards reconciliation. Reconciliation is only possible if it is firmly rooted in a shared understanding of each other's truths.

The residential school system sought to systematically destroy our languages, cultures, spirituality, families, communities and pride. It unquestionably did enormous and lasting damage, but it has also confirmed our resilience. Our commitment to reclaiming our heritage and culture is stronger than ever, as is our commitment to reconciliation among Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples.

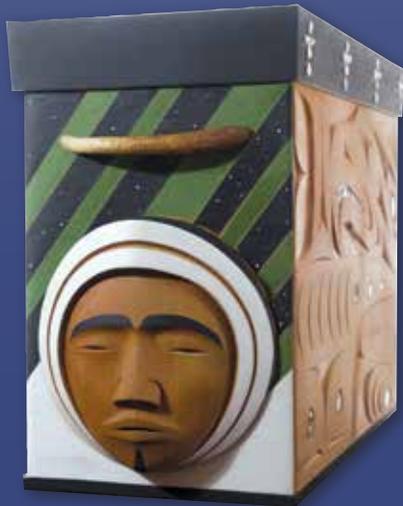
Thank you for being part of the TRC's BC National Event, and all of the events taking place during Reconciliation Week. We wish you many meaningful and memorable experiences.

**BC Assembly of First Nations**  
**First Nations Summit**  
**Union of BC Indian Chiefs**

# Bentwood Box

The TRC Bentwood Box reflects the strength and resilience of Residential School Survivors and their descendants, and honours those Survivors who are no longer living.

The Box will travel with the TRC to all of its seven National Events throughout Canada.



As the Box travels with the Commission to different provinces and territories, offerings will be made to it to commemorate personal journeys toward healing and reconciliation.

At the end of the TRC's mandate, it will be housed in the National Research Centre at the University of Manitoba.

Throughout the TRC National Event, the Bentwood Box will be on site for the Commissioners Sharing Panels, Honorary Witness Ceremonies and during the Expressions of Reconciliation.



Carved by Coast Salish artist Luke Marston, the TRC Bentwood Box is a lasting tribute to all Indian Residential School Survivors.

Steamed and bent from a single piece of red cedar, the carved panels represent the unique cultures of former First Nations, Inuit and Métis students. The artist pays respect to his own grandmother by depicting her residential schools experiences at Kuper Island in the carvings.

## Wednesday, September 18, 2013

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
<b>6:30am-8am</b>	Lighting of the Sacred Fire and Morning Prayers	<b>Sacred Fire site</b>
<b>8am-8:30am</b>	Survivor Walk	<b>From Sacred Fire to Coliseum</b>
<b>9am-10:30am</b>	Welcome to the Territory, Opening Ceremonies and Induction of Honorary Witnesses	<b>Coliseum</b>
<b>11am-noon</b>	How to Share your Truth	<b>Forum — Sharing Circle Area</b>
<b>11am-1pm</b>	Reconciliation Dialogue. Be the Change: Young People Healing the Past & Building the Future	<b>Coliseum</b>
<b>1pm-3pm</b>	Commissioners Sharing Panel	<b>Coliseum</b>
<b>1pm-2pm</b>	How to Share your Truth	<b>Forum — Sharing Circle Area</b>
<b>1pm-2:30pm</b>	Creating and Sharing Digital Stories	<b>Forum — Program Area</b>
<b>1pm-3pm</b>	Survivors in Solidarity	<b>Forum — Panel Area</b>
<b>1pm-4pm</b>	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Workshop	<b>Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Tent</b>
<b>1:15pm-3pm</b>	Churches Listening Circle	<b>Churches Listening to Survivors Area</b>
<b>3pm-4pm</b>	From the Heart Project	<b>Forum — Program Area</b>
<b>3pm-4pm</b>	Expressions of Reconciliation	<b>Coliseum</b>
<b>4pm-5pm</b>	Call to Gather: Honorary Witness Ceremony and Reflections	<b>Coliseum</b>

## Daily Programming

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
<b>8am-5pm</b>	Survivor Registration	<b>Registration Tent</b>
<b>9am-5pm</b>	Learning Place	<b>Agrodome</b>
<b>9am-6pm</b>	Private Statement Gathering	<b>Rollerland</b>
<b>9am-5pm</b>	Displays and Artisans	<b>Agrodome</b>
<b>1pm-5pm</b>	Churches Listening to Survivors Area	<b>Agrodome</b>



PHOTO: Alert Bay Mission School, 1885. George M. Dawson / Library and Archives Canada / PA-037934

## Thursday, September 19, 2013

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
8:30am-9am	Commissioners Welcome	Forum — Panel Area
9am-10am	Expressions of Reconciliation	Forum — Panel Area
9am-11am	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
9:30am-2:30pm	Education Day	Coliseum and other locations
10am-noon	Commissioners Sharing Panel	Forum — Panel Area
12:30pm-2:30pm	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
1pm-1:30pm	Honorary Witness Reflections	Forum — Panel Area
1pm-2:30pm	It Matters to Me: A Town Hall on Reconciliation	Forum — Program Area
1:15pm-3pm	Churches Listening Circle	Churches Listening to Survivors Area
1:30pm-3pm	Commissioners Sharing Panel	Forum — Panel Area
3pm-4pm	Film Screening: <i>A Sorry State</i>	Forum — Program Area
3pm-5pm	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
4pm-5pm	Film Screening: <i>The Story of Dancing Bear</i>	Forum — Program Area
4pm-6pm	Call to Gather: Honorary Witness Reflections and Expressions of Reconciliation	Forum — Panel Area
7pm-9pm	Free Concert	Coliseum

## Daily Programming

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
6:30am	Sunrise Ceremony	Sacred Fire site
8am-5pm	Survivor Registration	Registration Tent
9am-5pm	Learning Place	Agrodome
9am-6pm	Private Statement Gathering	Rollerland
9am-5pm	Churches Listening to Survivors Area	Agrodome
9am-5pm	Displays and Artisans	Agrodome

## FREE CONCERT

Please join us in celebrating some of BC's most gifted performers.

FEATURING: Award-winning Canadian songwriter and entertainer

# GEORGE LEACH

with special guests

- Inez Jasper
- Zaccheus
- Uzume Taiko
- Leanne Goose

• bitterly divine

- Gary Fjellgaard
- Royal Academy of Bhangra
- Shot of Scotch



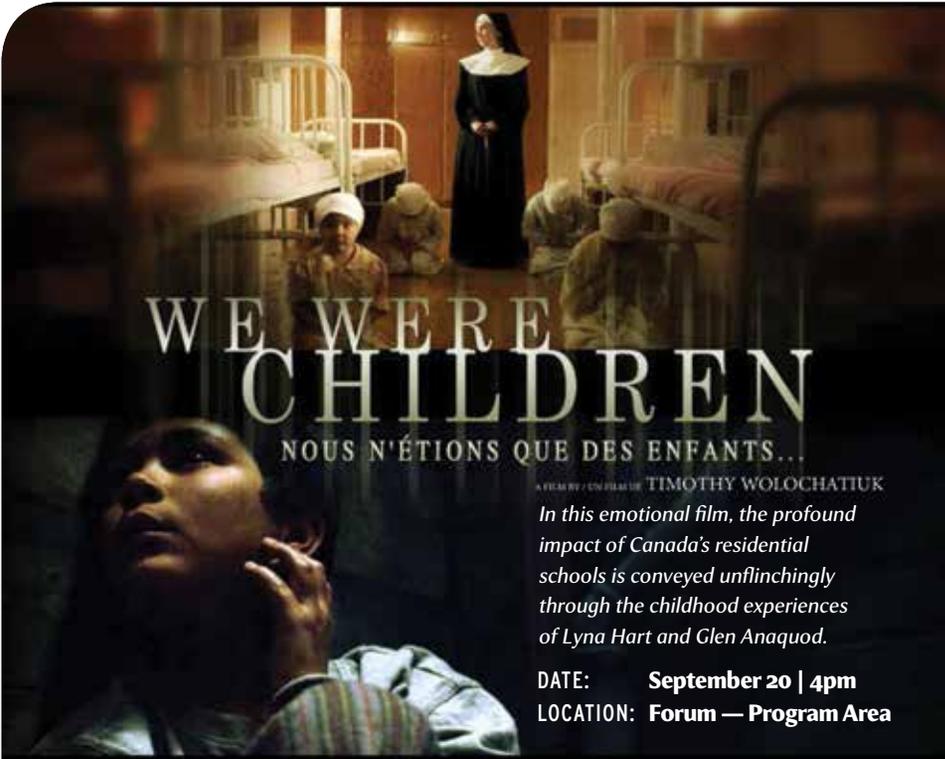
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 AT 7pm  
AT THE PACIFIC COLISEUM

## Friday, September 20, 2013

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
8:30am-9am	Commissioners Welcome	Forum — Panel Area
9am-10:30am	Honorary Witness Talking Circle	Forum — Panel Area
9am-11am	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
9am-10am	Why Memory Matters - Panel	Forum — Program Area
9am-noon	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Workshop	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Tent
10am-11am	Reconciliation and the Arts - Panel	Forum — Program Area
10:30am-12:30pm	Commissioners Sharing Panel	Forum — Panel Area
11:30am-12:30pm	Film Screening: <i>The Learning Path</i>	Forum — Program Area
12:30pm-2:30pm	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
1pm-3:30pm	Reconciling Indigenous Healing and Health Education Leadership	Forum — Program Area
1pm-4pm	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Workshop	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Tent
1:15pm-3pm	Churches Listening Circle	Churches Listening to Survivors Area
1:30pm-3:30pm	Commissioners Sharing Panel	Forum — Panel Area
3pm-5pm	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
4pm-6pm	Call to Gather: Honorary Witness Reflections and Expressions of Reconciliation	Forum — Panel Area
4pm-6pm	Film Screening: <i>We Were Children</i>	Forum — Program Area
7pm-9pm	Talent Night	Forum — Panel Area
7:30pm-9:30pm	Vancouver Giants Home-opener honouring Survivors	Coliseum* See p. 29 for ticket information

## Daily Programming

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
6:30am	Sunrise Ceremony	Sacred Fire site
8am-6pm	Survivor Registration	Registration Tent
9am-5pm	Learning Place	Agrodome
9am-6pm	Private Statement Gathering	Rollerland
9am-5pm	Churches Listening to Survivors Area	Agrodome
9am-5pm	Displays and Artisans	Agrodome



**WE WERE CHILDREN**  
NOUS N'ÉTIENS QUE DES ENFANTS...

A FILM BY / UN FILM DE TIMOTHY WOLOCHATIUK

*In this emotional film, the profound impact of Canada's residential schools is conveyed unflinchingly through the childhood experiences of Lyna Hart and Glen Anaquod.*

DATE: **September 20 | 4pm**  
LOCATION: **Forum — Program Area**

PRODUCED BY EAGLE VISION AND ENTERTAINMENT ONE IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA  
PRODUIT PAR EAGLE VISION ET ÉCINE TELEVISION EN CO-PRODUCTION AVEC L'OFFICE NATIONAL DU FILM DU CANADA

Eagle Vision  
e one  
NFB  
FMO

## Saturday, September 21, 2013

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
8:30am-10:30am	Commissioners Welcome: Honorary Witness Ceremony and Expressions of Reconciliation	Forum — Panel Area
9am-10:30am	Institutions of Memory - Panel	Forum — Program Area
9am-noon	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Workshop	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Tent
10am-noon	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
10:30am-12:30pm	Commissioners Sharing Panel	Forum — Panel Area
11am-12:30pm	Film Screening: <i>Hidden Legacies</i>	Forum — Program Area
1pm-3pm	Commissioners Sharing Panel	Forum — Panel Area
1pm-3pm	Sharing Circle	Forum — Sharing Circle Area
1pm-2:30pm	Honouring Women's Wisdom: Pathways of Truth, Resilience and Reconciliation	Forum — Program Area
1pm-4pm	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Workshop	Reconciliation Canada Dialogue Tent
1:15pm-3pm	Churches Listening Circle	Churches Listening to Survivors Area
4pm-5pm	Call to Gather: Honorary Witness Reflections and Expression of Reconciliation	Forum — Panel Area
5pm-6pm	Survivor Birthday Party and Closing Ceremonies	Forum — Panel Area

## Daily Programming

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
6:30am	Sunrise Ceremony	Sacred Fire site
9am-noon	Survivor Registration	Registration Tent
9am-3pm	Learning Place	Agrodome
9am-6pm	Private Statement Gathering	Rollerland
9am-3pm	Churches Listening to Survivors Area	Agrodome
9am-3pm	Displays and Artisans	Agrodome

## TRC Indian Residential School Survivor Committee (IRSSC)

This committee serves as an advisory body to the TRC.



BACK L-R: John Banksland, John Morrisseau, Eugene Arcand, Madeleine Basile, Lottie May Johnson, Rebekah Ugi Williams  
FRONT L-R: TRC Commissioner Chief Wilton Littlechild, Doris Young, Barney Williams Jr., Gordon Williams, Terri Brown

# SACRED FIRE

**The lighting of the Sacred Fire in June 2010 at the start of the TRC's first National Event, in Winnipeg, MB, was an emotional beginning to a landmark event, and a symbol of strength and warmth for everyone who participated.**

Ashes from the Winnipeg Sacred Fire were transported by members of the Indian Residential School Survivor Committee to Inuvik, NT, where they were added to the Sacred Fire that burned during the TRC Northern National Event in June/July 2011. From there, ashes were taken to the Atlantic National Event in Halifax (October 2011), to the Saskatchewan National Event in Saskatoon (June 2012), and to the Quebec National Event in Montreal (April 2013).

At the close of the Quebec National Event, ashes from the Sacred Fire were entrusted to Barney Williams, BC Representative of the TRC Survivor Committee. They will be added to the Sacred Fire that will burn in Vancouver for the duration of the TRC BC National Event.

DATE: **Wednesday, September 18**

BEGINS: **6:30am**

LOCATION: **Sacred Fire Site, PNE**

**The Lighting of the Sacred Fire happens before we begin each National Event to ensure that the Spirits and the Teachings guide and protect us while the Commission does its work.**



Madeleine Basile, Quebec representative on the TRC Survivor Committee, transfers the sacred ashes to BC representative Barney Williams. PHOTO: Melissa Knapp

## PLEASE HELP US RESPECT THE PROTOCOLS OF THE SACRED FIRE

- The Firekeeper has been entrusted with tending to this flame and deserves the utmost respect.
- Traditionally, it is the responsibility of the men to ensure the Fire burns all day and all night.
- A Sacred Fire is separate from a cooking or camp fire; please do not throw garbage or cigarette butts into the Sacred Fire.
- Please refrain from using drugs or alcohol near the Sacred Fire and for the duration of the TRC British Columbia National Event.

## IF YOU WISH TO MAKE AN OFFERING TO THE SACRED FIRE

- If you wish to share a prayer or offering, please ask the Firekeeper about the protocols.

# SHARE YOUR TRUTH

The TRC National Event offers many ways for you to share your truth with the Commission.

## COMMISSIONERS SHARING PANEL

Commissioners Sharing Panels provide an opportunity for Survivors, Intergenerational Survivors, former teachers, those who worked in the schools, or anyone else who wants to speak publicly about the affect of the schools on their lives to share their truth directly with the Commissioners of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

\* Registration: begins September 18 at the Registration Tent

\* Members of the public and the media may witness.

**DATES:** September 18-21      **LOCATION:** Forum — Panel Area

**BEGINS:** See Program at a Glance

## SHARING CIRCLES

Facilitated by members of the TRC Indian Residential School Survivors Committee (IRSSC), Sharing Circles enable Survivors, their family members, former staff and anyone else affected by the residential schools to share their truth with others in a public setting.

\* Registration: begins September 18 at the Registration Tent

\* Members of the public and the media may witness.

**DATE:** September 19-21      **LOCATION:** Forum — Sharing Circle Area

**BEGINS:** See Program at a Glance

## PRIVATE STATEMENT GATHERING

Those wishing to share their experiences with the TRC in a private and confidential setting can do so. The Private Statement Gathering Area, located at Rollerland, has individual rooms where private statements may be video or audio recorded. Health Supports will be available.

\* Registration: begins September 18 at the Registration Tent

**DATE:** September 18-21      **LOCATION:** Rollerland

**BEGINS:** See Program at a Glance



PHOTO: No. 610 Squadron Royal Canadian Air Cadets Summer Camp, Abbotsford, BC, 1956. Library and Archives Canada /a210715

## HOW TO SHARE YOUR TRUTH INFORMATION SESSION

Your statement is very important and can help Canadians understand the legacy of Residential Schools. Those who lived, attended and worked at the schools are given a voice through the statement gathering process.

This workshop will provide information on how you can share your experience. The three statement-gathering options will be discussed: private statement-gathering; sharing circles; and Commissioners' sharing panels. The role of Health Supports will also be discussed.

**DATE:** September 18

**BEGINS:** 11am to noon, and 1 pm to 2 pm

**LOCATION:** Forum — Circle Area



**'Namwayut**

**WE ARE ALL ONE  
IF YOU BELIEVE IT, WALK IT.**

**WALK FOR RECONCILIATION AND A NEW WAY FORWARD.  
SUNDAY, SEPT 22. DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER  
RECONCILIATIONCANADA.CA**

reconciliation  
CANADA



# Education Day

The TRC is pleased to welcome students from across British Columbia to Education Day. Hundreds of students will participate in educational activities dealing with the residential schools.

On Thursday, September 19, all displays and activities will be reserved for school groups until 2:15pm

Students will be given priority access for Education Day activities.

DATE: September 19, 9:30am to 2:30pm

LOCATION: Coliseum and other PNE locations



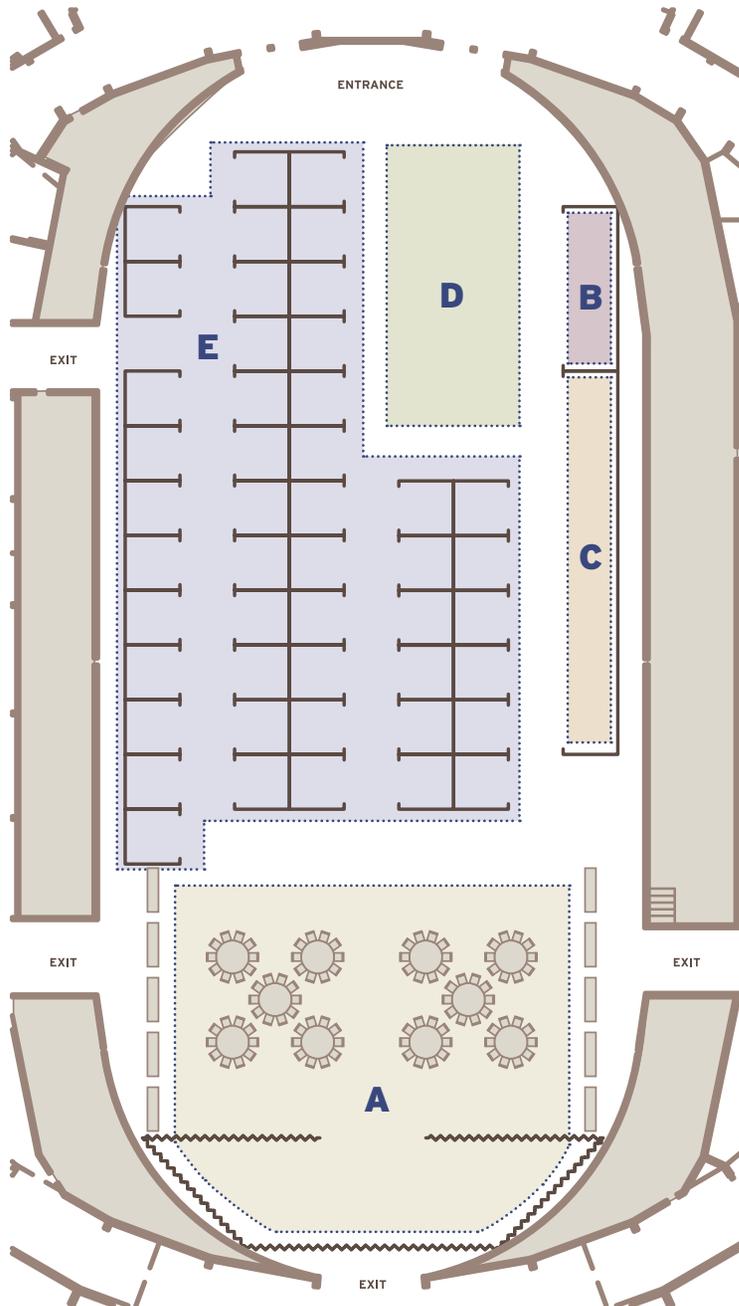
PHOTO: School band, Kuper Island School. British Columbia Archives, D-05991

# PACIFIC NATIONAL EVENT GROUNDS



# THE LEARNING PLACE

## PNE AGRODOME



- A** Church Archives & Listening to Survivors Area
- B** Project of the Heart
- C** TRC Research Area
- D** Legacy of Hope Display
- E** Vendors

- Silversmith Craft
- Wolf Pack Apparel
- House of Ravens
- Salmonberry Northwest Coast Art
- Native & Creative
- Spirit Dancer
- Little Bear Trading
- Kanatan Aski
- Alpaca & Natural Fibers
- A Bead at a Time
- Laughing Crow Designs
- Cree Spirit Crafts
- Carol Henson-Nancy Dawson
- House of Win-Chee
- Joan I Glendale
- Traditional Salves
- Mukwa Tipis
- Etchiboy
- Creations by Flo
- Stewart Creations
- HummingBird Event Productions
- 3 Sisterz Accessoriez
- Visual Medicine
- Infinity Studio Designs
- Dtugwe Art
- Cheryl Bear Music
- Mary Jane McDonough
- Threads of Heritage
- Dorothy Grant Ltd.

### Education Displays

- Indian Residential Schools Adjudication Secretariat
- National Research and Analysis, AANDC
- Government of Canada
- Library and Archives Canada
- Reconciliation Canada
- Dr. Amy Bombay and the Aboriginal Healing Foundation
- KAIROS Canada
- Witness Blanket
- Theytus Books
- Alberni Indian Residential School Paintings
- UNYBC
- Inspirit Foundation
- Vancouver Aboriginal Community Policing Centre Society
- Health Canada Communications
- Battered Women's Support Services
- Aboriginal Healing Centre Network

**HOURS: September 18-20 | 9am-5pm**  
**September 21 | 9am-3pm**

# THE Missing Children PROJECT



PHOTO: Funeral procession, Kenora, Ontario 1941. / Archives de la Société historique de Saint-Boniface, Collection générale de la SHSB, SHSB 1274

Working with Survivors and Aboriginal organizations, the TRC's Missing Children Project is documenting the deaths and the burial places of children who died while attending a residential school. To date, the TRC has identified the names of, or information about, more than 3000 children who died of disease or accident.

**Visit the Missing Children booth in the Learning Place.**



PHOTO: Transporting students to or from Christie Roman Catholic school on Meares Island. British Columbia Archives / aa-00928

## THE LEARNING PLACE

### DISPLAYS

Through posters, photographs and videos, you can explore the history of residential schools in Canada, with a particular focus on the experience from British Columbia. The TRC Research team, Archivists from the Anglican, United, Presbyterian and Catholic churches, and Library and Archives Canada will be on site to share information and collections.

### CHURCHES LISTENING TO SURVIVORS AREA

This is a supportive place where Survivors and their family members can share their experience with church representatives (Anglican, Presbyterian, Catholic and United Church) and receive a personal apology.

### 100 YEARS OF LOSS DISPLAY

Developed by the Legacy of Hope Foundation, this display is aimed at raising awareness about the history and legacy of residential schools. More specifically, it's designed to sensitize and educate young Canadians including Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal, and new Canadians, challenged stereotypes, and contribute to shifting opinions that foster inquiry, dialogue and action.

### VENDORS

Arts & Craft Vendors will have items for sale.

**DATES:** September 18-20, 9am to 5 pm    **LOCATION:** Agrodome  
September 21, 9am to 3pm

### EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS

See page 23 for a complete list.

**DATES:** September 18-20, 9am to 5pm    **LOCATION:** Agrodome  
September 21, 9am to 3pm

## Wednesday, September 18

### **SURVIVORS' WALK AND PROCESSION**

Join a procession of Survivors, their families and community members, and others for a historic procession from the Sacred Fire site on the PNE grounds to the Coliseum.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **8am**

LOCATION: **Sacred Fire site, PNE**

### **WELCOME TO THE TERRITORY, OPENING CEREMONIES and INDUCTION OF HONORARY WITNESSES**

Join First Nations leaders and other representatives who will welcome Survivors and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada to Vancouver for the BC National Event. This will be followed by the induction of five Honorary Witnesses – prominent public figures who will bear witness to the truths of the residential school Survivors and share with others what they have heard and learned.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **9am**

LOCATION: **Coliseum**

### **RECONCILIATION DIALOGUE. BE THE CHANGE: Young People Healing the Past and Building the Future**

Join this cross-cultural dialogue among young panelists who are facing the intergenerational impacts of human rights violations such as the residential schools, Holocaust, Japanese internment and Chinese head tax – and turning reconciliation into action. Co-hosted by the Inspirit Foundation and the TRC.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **11am**

LOCATION: **Coliseum**

### **HOW TO SHARE YOUR TRUTH INFORMATION SESSION**

Your statement can help Canadians understand the legacy of Residential Schools. Those who were affected by the schools are given a voice through the statement gathering process.

This workshop will provide information on how you can share your experience through private statement gathering, a sharing circle or a Commissioners' sharing panel. The role of Health Supports will also be discussed.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **11am-noon & 1pm-2pm**

LOCATION: **Forum – Circle Area**

### **CREATING & SHARING DIGITAL STORIES**

Digital storytelling is the art of combining oral tradition with digital technology. These digital stories by women and men reveal the emotional detachment of intergenerational survivors from their parents, their reconnection with them, and their movement towards spiritual healing for families and communities.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **1pm**

LOCATION: **Forum – Program Area**

### **SURVIVORS IN SOLIDARITY**

Robert Waisman survived the horrors of the Buchenwald concentration camp to become a successful businessman, a community leader and a committed educator. In this special presentation, he shares personal and powerful lessons about the perils of hate, racism and indifference.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **1:30pm**

LOCATION: **Forum – Panel Area**

### **FROM THE HEART: ENTER INTO THE JOURNEY FOR RECONCILIATION**

This BC-based community arts project offers non-Indigenous Canadians a creative way to take personal responsibility in the work of truth-telling and reconciliation. Director Will Weigler discusses the project's pilot and upcoming productions.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **3pm**

LOCATION: **Forum – Program Area**

### **CALL TO GATHER**

Come together for a summary of the day's activities, Expressions of Reconciliation, and any announcements about activities to come. The day's Honorary Witnesses will reflect on their experiences.

DATE: **September 18**  
 BEGINS: **4pm**

LOCATION: **Coliseum**

## Thursday, September 19

### IT MATTERS TO ME: A TOWN HALL ON RECONCILIATION

Take part in a moderated dialogue about reconciliation and why it matters to each of us. Special guests will begin the discussion. After that, the mic is open and you're invited to have your say.

DATES: **September 19** LOCATION: **Forum — Panel Area**  
BEGINS: **1pm**

### CALL TO GATHER

Come together for a summary of the day's activities, Expressions of Reconciliation, and any announcements about activities to come. The day's Honorary Witnesses will reflect on their experiences.

DATES: **September 19** LOCATION: **Coliseum**  
BEGINS: **4pm**

### FREE CONCERT

**FEATURING:** Award-winning songwriter & entertainer **George Leach** with special guests **Inez Jasper, Zaccheus, Uzume Taiko, Leanne Goose, bitterly divine, Gary Fjellgaard, Royal Academy of Bhangra, and Shot of Scotch.**

DATES: **September 19** LOCATION: **Coliseum**  
BEGINS: **7am**

## RECONCILIATION LUNCH

Church sponsors have come together to provide a complimentary lunch for Survivors. All Survivors who register for the TRC National Event will receive a complimentary voucher. Simply provide your voucher to any of the concession stands on the PNE grounds. Then join us at the Food Tent. If you're not a Survivor but would like to attend, please bring your lunch to the Food Tent.

DATES: **September 18-21** LOCATION: **Food Tent**  
BEGINS: **11:30am - 1:30pm**



Join us for the **BC SPORTS HALL OF FAME GAME** featuring a salute to **First Nations Hockey**

**FRI, SEP. 20TH**  
**7:30PM**

**PACIFIC COLISEUM**



**VANCOUVER GIANTS**



**VICTORIA ROYALS**

Tickets are available at a special TRC price of **ONLY \$13 EACH** (GST included) & can be purchased during TRC registration only September 18-20th.

\* The 'lazy cross' depicted on the jersey is the brand of the historic Alkali Lake Ranch where most hockey players on the Braves team worked.



**The Giants will wear these TRIBUTE JERSEYS!**

**VancouverGiants.com**

## Friday, September 20

### INDUCTION OF HONORARY WITNESSES

A highlight of TRC National Events is the induction of Honorary Witnesses, prominent public figures who undertake to bear witness to the truths of the residential school Survivors and share what they have heard and learned with others.

DATE: **September 20**  
 BEGINS: **9am**

LOCATION: **Forum – Panel Area**

### WHY MEMORY MATTERS: Recognition as a Key to the Future

Reconciliation is not about forgetting, but about more active ways of remembering. Future relationships will not be fully functional if we do not share an understanding of the causes of our current reality. In this session, we consider why so few people have known about Indian Residential School history, and what having a shared understanding enables us to do.

DATE: **September 20**  
 BEGINS: **9am**

LOCATION: **Forum – Program Area**

### HONORARY WITNESS TALKING CIRCLE

The TRC's mandate calls for "ongoing reconciliation" involving survivors, governments, churches and "the people of Canada". Many prominent citizens are taking up the challenge as TRC "Honorary Witnesses". They join Survivors and others to exchange personal experiences of facing and sharing residential school truths. What ideas and actions can help move us forward in reconciliation?

DATE: **September 20**  
 BEGINS: **9:30am**

LOCATION: **Forum – Panel Area**

### RECONCILIATION AND THE ARTS

Some of the most eloquent voices responding to the legacies of residential school have been those of Aboriginal artists. Through literature, film, theatre, paintings, sculpture, dance, music, and more, they have offered powerful testimony of oppression and resistance. This panel explores how such creative expression can deepen our understanding of the challenges and possibilities of reconciliation.

DATE: **September 20**  
 BEGINS: **10am**

LOCATION: **Forum – Program Area**

### RECONCILING INDIGENOUS HEALING AND HEALTH EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

Seven health practitioners – Indigenous and non-Indigenous – discuss how local protocols guide the reconciliation of health education and communities. Their strategies integrate Aboriginal land-based healing practices and promote self-care with community knowledge holders, health practitioners and students/clients.

DATE: **September 20**  
 BEGINS: **1pm**

LOCATION: **Forum – Program Area**

### CALL TO GATHER

Come together for a summary of the day's activities, Expressions of Reconciliation, and any announcements about activities to come. The day's Honorary Witnesses will reflect on their experiences.

DATE: **September 20**  
 BEGINS: **4pm**

LOCATION: **Forum – Panel Area**

### TALENT NIGHT

Calling all performers — share your gifts! Bring your drum, song and your voice to the stage for an evening of laughter, sharing and inspiration. Register to take part at the Registration Tent.

DATE: **September 20**  
 BEGINS: **7pm**

LOCATION: **Forum – Panel Area**



PHOTO: Carpentry shop, Kamloops Indian Residential School, 1958-59. Basil Fox / Library and Archives Canada / PA-185-652

## Saturday, September 21

### INSTITUTIONS OF MEMORY

This summer, the TRC and University of Manitoba signed an agreement to establish a National Research Centre. In this session, representatives of the University of Manitoba, Algoma University, Nipissing University and University of British Columbia discuss among themselves and with audience members their aspirations, commitments and the future direction of research, education and public information on Indian Residential Schools.

DATE: **September 21** LOCATION: **Forum — Program Area**  
 BEGINS: **9am**

### HONOURING WOMEN'S WISDOM: PATHWAYS OF TRUTH, RESILIENCE AND RECONCILIATION

Aboriginal women are inspiring models of resilience who work to address legacy issues even as they revitalize matriarchal systems, cultural traditions and laws that ensured gender equity prior to colonization.

Panelists reflect on the reclaiming of women's wisdom and ways to help create a Canada that includes justice and equity for Aboriginal women and girls.

DATE: **September 21** LOCATION: **Forum – Program Area**  
 BEGINS: **1pm**

### CALL TO GATHER, REFLECTIONS BY HONORARY WITNESSES, AND SURVIVOR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The final Call to Gather features reflections by Honorary Witnesses, and a celebration to acknowledge all of the Survivors who were never able to celebrate their birthdays while attending residential school. The TRC and special guests would like to wish you all a Happy Birthday!

DATE: **September 21** LOCATION: **Forum – Panel Area**  
 BEGINS: **3:30pm**

## Additional Programming

### FILM SCREENINGS

A variety of films will be screened during the British Columbia National Event, including the feature-length *We Were Children* (September 20 at 4pm), newly released by Eagle Vision, Entertainment One, and the National Film Board. Complete list of films and screening times will be posted online and in the screening venue.

DATES: **September 19, 3pm** LOCATION: **Forum — Program Area**  
**September 20, 11:30am**  
**September 20, 4pm**  
**September 21, 11am**

### RECONCILIATION CANADA DIALOGUE WORKSHOPS

Share, discuss visions for a better future, and develop individual and collective Reconciliation Action Plans in this three-hour Reconciliation Canada workshop designed to engage Canadians in dialogue to revitalize relationships, increase understanding of our shared history, and explore reconciliation. Participants include Residential School Survivors, community leaders, multi-cultural and faith groups, and other interested community members.

DATES: **September 18, 1pm** LOCATION: **Reconciliation Canada**  
**September 20, 9am and 1pm** **Dialogue Tents**  
**September 21, 9am and 1pm**

### CHURCHES LISTENING CIRCLES

As well as the TRC Sharing Circles taking place in the Forum, Survivors have the opportunity to participate in Listening Circles run by the Churches and held in the Churches Listening to Survivors Area. Each Listening Circle will be facilitated by an Aboriginal church leader and include up to eight Survivors as well as leaders from the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and United Churches. Statements will be video-recorded and included with statements gathered by the TRC.

DATES: **September 19, 20 and 21** LOCATION: **Churches Listening**  
 BEGINS: **1:15pm** **to Survivors Area**

### EXPRESSIONS OF RECONCILIATION

Individuals, organizations and representatives of the parties to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement will make statements, presentations, or apologies directly to Survivors.

DATES AND LOCATION: **September 18-21; See Schedule at a Glance for details**

## Important Information About Services

### SL SURVIVOR LOUNGE

This is a space where Survivors are welcome to rest and relax. It is open all day.

DATES: **September 18-21**

LOCATION: **Hastings Room**

HOURS: **9am-5pm**

### CS CULTURAL SUPPORT AREA FOR SURVIVORS

This is a designated area for event participants to access Elders who can provide cultural support services.

DATES: **September 18-21**

LOCATION: **Health Canada Cultural Support Tents**

HOURS: **9am – 5pm**

### HS HEALTH SUPPORT ON SITE

Health Canada Health Support Workers are available on site. Wearing **red vests** and **green vests**, they are here to provide immediate support through individual or family counseling, cultural supports such as Elders, or Aboriginal health support workers who will listen and provide information.

### + FIRST AID AND PARAMEDICS

HOURS: **September 18 - 2pm to 6pm**  
**September 19 and 20 - 8am to 9:30pm**  
**September 21 – 8am to 6pm**

LOCATION: **SW corner, Concourse level, Coliseum**

### i INFORMATION BOOTHS

TRC Staff and Volunteers will be on site to assist you with any questions you may have. Also located here is transportation information and the Lost and Found.

HOURS: **9am – 5pm**

LOCATION: **Gate 1, Gate 4, and at Registration Tent**

### i INTERPRETATION SERVICES

All activities that take place in the Forum — Panel Area will offer interpretation services in the following languages: Secwépmc; Lil'wat; Halq'emýelem; French and English. Professional Sign Language Interpreters will also be on site.

LOCATION: **Forum — Panel Area**



## The shape of the TRC logo

— a circle — reflects the Circle of Life.

In the Circle, we join together to share truth.

The flames sustain life in the Circle and provide safety and sustenance. Most importantly, the flames shed light on what needs to be shared in the Circle — the experiences of those affected by Indian Residential Schools.

The seven flames that make up the circle represent the seven sacred teachings: love, respect, courage, honesty, wisdom, humility and truth. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission draws on each of those teachings in the work of truth-gathering, truth-telling, reconciliation, and each TRC National Event is dedicated to one of them. **The British Columbia National Event is dedicated to the sacred teaching of honesty.**

**To get more information  
about available health supports  
call toll free:**

**Health Canada British Columbia Region**

Regional help line: **(604) 658-2835**

**The 24-HOUR NATIONAL CRISIS LINE**

is also available to provide  
immediate emotional assistance:

**1-866-925-4419**

Teletypewriter: 1-800-267-1245 (Health Canada)



*“I call on all Canadians  
– elders and youth, Aboriginal or not  
– to commit to reconciliation  
and breaking down the wall of  
indifference. This is not just a dream,  
it is a collective responsibility.”*

-Rt. Hon. Michaëlle Jean, former Governor General of Canada,  
is the TRC's first Honorary Witness.

## **Honorary Witnesses are called upon to be the keepers of history when an event of historic significance occurs.**

Bearing witness to the thought provoking stories of residential school Survivors helps to validate the survivor experience.

Honorary Witnesses are then asked to store and care for the history they have witnessed and most importantly, to share it with their own community when they return home.

## **Welcome to new TRC Honorary Witnesses:**

TO BE ANNOUNCED

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to all Survivors who traveled from near and far to share their truth and to everyone who has come to witness this important occasion.

On behalf of the Survivors and the TRC, we would like to thank all those who supported and contributed to the success of the National Event.



Aboriginal Affairs and  
Northern Development Canada

Affaires autochtones et  
Développement du Nord Canada



**The United  
Church of Canada**

**The Anglican  
Church of Canada**

**OMI Lacombe  
Canada**

**Sisters of  
the Child Jesus**

**The Presbyterian  
Church in Canada**

**Wyman  
United Church**

**KAIROS  
Canada**

We would also like to express our appreciation to the volunteers that contributed to the success of the TRC National Event.

For a complete listing of the organizations that contributed visit [trc.ca](http://trc.ca)