



National Centre for
Truth and Reconciliation

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

2021 RECONCILIATION WEEK - EVENT SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 1, 2021

*“oki asotamákwihona namowihkac
tá-kí-wanikiskisiyak.
ki-cawasimisiwak pohko
tá-kiskisimówakicik.”*

*“The treaties must
not be forgotten.
We must remind
our children of this.”*

- Edward Okanee, Thunderchild First Nation



RECONCILIATION WEEK is a 5-day national event that will continue the conversation involving the truths of the First Nations Treaties, the Métis and Inuit land claims, and the Residential Schools system. This event will provide historical workshops, video content, and activities for students, supported by artistic and cultural performances by First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artists.

The event engages hundreds of thousands of youth across the country, as well as their parents, families, and teachers. All participants will have an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the reconciliation issues between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples. The outcomes include:

1. knowledge of Canada’s history from the Indigenous perspective
2. learning the context of the treaties, in particular, Treaties 1, 2, and 11
3. comprehension of the impact of the residential school experience
4. knowledge of the different nations of Indigenous Peoples across Canada
5. understanding the significance of Indigenous culture, languages, traditions, and performances
6. awareness of current-day issues faced by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples
7. honouring the ongoing strength of Indigenous Peoples
8. renewed inspiration to seek change in Canada



PROGRAMMING

The 5-day program will be held September 27 - October 1, 2021. Each day, teachers will share videos with their Grade 5-12 students. These videos, created by Indigenous storytellers, will show traditional ceremonies and artistic performances, as well as conversations with Elders and knowledge keepers, Survivors, and intergenerational Survivors of Residential Schools. Also included is a moving tribute to the Missing Children that never returned home from the residential schools.

On September 30, a special program will be held to commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

The NCTR will coordinate a diverse and inspiring program of activities, events, and a 45-minute video presentation.

A broad range of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and non-Indigenous speakers will provide messages of determination, hope and strength. On this day, there will be online engagement with different schools across Canada.



The 2021 program is structured to increase awareness, knowledge, and understanding amongst young people. The hope is they will share this information with their extended families, who will open discussions and additional learning opportunities.



AUDIENCE

The education event will be targeted at school-aged children grades five to twelve in all ten provinces and three territories, along with their teachers, including First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities; new Canadians, Residential School Survivors, and Intergenerational Residential School Survivors.

The event will be pre-recorded and webcast, allowing for schools and classrooms' participation across the country and the significant involvement of Indigenous, non-Indigenous, and newcomer students. Educators can select the events they wish to live stream for their students and download free educational resources.



EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Our nationally available participation guide, *Every Child Matters: Reconciliation Through Education*, will be revised to reflect this year’s program and distributed across the country. Each chapter will teach children about Residential Schools, Treaties, and the historical and current relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. The guide suggests local activities and will enhance the learning opportunities.

The guide will be available in both English and French. We expect to distribute over 200,000 copies in 2021.



LANGUAGES

The national webcast and media distribution will have a bilingual host, appropriate representation from Quebec, and a French school check-in. There will be several Indigenous languages spoken by Indigenous leaders, elders, and survivors. We will have bilingual print and digital materials available.

LEGACY EVENT

As an annual legacy event, we have a proven track record. The 2020 event saw:

<p>500,000+ participants, including students, teachers, and general public online attendees</p>	<p>3,000+ participating schools, including Indigenous communities</p>	<p>2,000 publication downloads</p>	<p>One million+ vignette views</p>	<p>100 Canadian and international news stories</p>
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VENUE

With the continuation of the COVID-19 global pandemic, we plan to deliver an online-only event. If restrictions significantly change, we can easily adjust to a hybrid live and online event. We intend to secure a studio venue for production purposes to use as the hub for creating video content or live performances.



PARTNERS

The NCTR's extensive network of relationships, community connections, and partnerships is an essential part of the programming success. Our partner organizations include:

- APTN Broadcasting
- Canada's History
- Canadian Indigenous Schools
- CBC Television
- Council of Ministers of Education, Canada
- Department of Canadian Heritage
- Governing Circle and Survivors Circle
- Imagine A Canada Honourees
- Royal Canadian Geographic Society
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) Honourary Witnesses
- Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC)

- Provinces and Provincial Departments of Education
- Residential School Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors
- The Winnipeg Foundation
- Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM)
- National Film Board
- Wapikoni Mobile
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- University of Manitoba
- University of Winnipeg
- Orange Shirt Society



MEDIA

APTN Broadcasting will be returning as the media program content and host broadcaster. CBC will also return as a broadcast supporter.



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

September 27 - October 1, 2021

DAY 1 - COMMEMORATING TREATIES 1, 2 AND 11

ACTIVITY	THEME	GRADE	PARTNER
Elder Teachings	Indigenous Treaties	5-12	TRCM
Storytelling	Indigenous Treaties	5-12	WAPIKONI
Speaker	Intergenerational IRS Survivor	5-12	Partner TBD
Documentary	Indigenous Treaties, Land Claims	5-12	Partner

DAY 2 - LANGUAGES AND CULTURE

ACTIVITY	THEME	GRADE	PARTNER
Elder Teachings	Languages	5-12	Canada's History
Storytelling	Culture	5-12	WAPIKONI
Speaker	Intergenerational IRS Survivor	5-12	Partner TBD
Documentary	Artists and performers	5-12	Partner

DAY 3 - RECONCILIATION

ACTIVITY	THEME	GRADE	PARTNER
Elder Teachings	Residential Schools	5-12	Canada's History
Storytelling	Residential Schools	5-12	WAPIKONI
Speaker	Intergenerational IRS Survivor	5-12	Partner TBD
Documentary	Residential Schools	5-12	Partner

DAY 4 - ORANGE SHIRT DAY

ACTIVITY	THEME	GRADE	PARTNER
Elder Teachings	Reconciliation	5-12	NFB
Storytelling	Reconciliation	5-12	WAPIKONI
Speaker	Intergenerational IRS Survivor	5-12	Partner TBD
Documentary	Reconciliation and Me	5-12	APTN

DAY 5 - CALLS TO ACTION

ACTIVITY	THEME	GRADE	PARTNER
Elder Teachings	Reconciliation	5-12	Canada's History
Storytelling	Reconciliation	5-12	WAPIKONI
Speaker	Intergenerational IRS Survivor	5-12	Partner TBD
Documentary	Reconciliation	5-12	Partner
Closing Remarks	Action Items	5-12	NCTR