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# TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: MY ACTION PLAN

## EXPLORE

Explore these guiding documents:

- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (15 pages): [https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfi/documents/DRIPS\\_en.pdf](https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfi/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf)
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action (20 pages): [http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls\\_to\\_Action\\_English2.pdf](http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf)
- National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls calls to justice (48 pages): <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Calls-Web-Version-EN.docx>

## DISCOVER

Discover whose territory you're on, and practice acknowledging it:

- Check out [www.whose.land](http://www.whose.land) to find out whose territory you're on (it uses GPS technology), and see video samples of land acknowledgements
- Find out how to pronounce the Nation's name correctly – don't be afraid to call the Nation's office to ask. Practice saying it out loud many times
- Acknowledging territory is an important first step, but does not replace *meaningful action* that pursues truth-telling and reconciliation: [http://www.megaphonemagazine.com/unceded\\_territory](http://www.megaphonemagazine.com/unceded_territory)
- For more guidance, check out: <https://www.amnesty.ca/blog/activism-skills-land-and-territory-acknowledgement> and <https://www.caut.ca/content/guide-acknowledging-first-peoples-traditional-territory>

## SPEAK WELL

- Words are powerful. Use yours respectfully. To start, check out UBC's Indigenous Peoples Language Guidelines: [http://assets.brand.ubc.ca/downloads/ubc\\_indigenous\\_peoples\\_language\\_guide.pdf](http://assets.brand.ubc.ca/downloads/ubc_indigenous_peoples_language_guide.pdf)

## SURF BLOGS

- Chelsea Vowel: <https://apihtawikosisan.com/aboriginal-issue-primers/>
- Indigenous Corporate Training: [www.ictinc.ca/blog](http://www.ictinc.ca/blog)
- UBC Indigenous Foundations: <https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/>

## Research Topics

Research topics that are related to Indigenous peoples or Canadian histories. A sample list of topics is provided below, or a great place to start reading is: <https://apihtawikosisan.com/aboriginal-issue-primers/> or <https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/home/>

- » terra nullius
- » residential schools (podcast: <https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/residential-schools/id1499122039> )
- » impact of colonization: <https://www.facinghistory.org/stolen-lives-indigenous-peoples-canada-and-indian-residential-schools/historical-background/colonization>
  - » legacy of the Indian Act
  - » Indian Status – displacement of women
  - » outlawing Indigenous traditional governments
  - » the "Potlatch Ban"
- » Doctrine of Discovery
- » 60s Scoop
- » the Pass System
- » impact of churches, RCMP, Indian Agents and "child welfare" agents
- » 4,000+ murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls
- » treaties
- » stereotypes + media representation of Indigenous peoples
- » UNDRIP legislation

## WATCH

### Watch films by Indigenous filmmakers:

- The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open (Directors: Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers and Kathleen Hepburn, 2019), available on iTunes
- The Pass System (Director: Alex Williams, 2016) [www.thepasssystem.ca](http://www.thepasssystem.ca)
- Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance (Director: Alanis Obomsawin, 1993). Full film available online: [www.nfb.ca/film/kanehsatake\\_270\\_years\\_of\\_resistance](http://www.nfb.ca/film/kanehsatake_270_years_of_resistance)
- Finding Dawn (Director: Christine Welsh, 2006). Full film available online: [https://www.nfb.ca/film/finding\\_dawn/](https://www.nfb.ca/film/finding_dawn/)
- Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner (Director: Zacharias Kunuk, 2001), available on iTunes
- The Journals of Knud Rasmussen (Directors: Zacharias Kunuk and Norman Cohn, 2006), available on iTunes
- Before Tomorrow (Directors: Madeline Ivalu and Marie-Hélène Cousineau, 2008), available on iTunes

## TRAIN

### Check out training opportunities:

- Rainwatch Advising: <http://rainwatch.ca/training>
- Indigenous Corporate Training: <https://www.ictinc.ca/>
- The Raven Institute: <http://raveninstitute.ca/>
- Indigenous Perspectives Society: <https://ipsociety.ca/>

## READ

### Read books by Indigenous authors:

- *"Real" Indians and Others: Mixed-blood Urban Native Peoples and Indigenous Nationhood* (Bonita Lawrence)
- *21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act* (Bob Joseph)
- *Indigenous Writes: A Guide to First Nations, Métis and Inuit Issues in Canada* (Chelsea Vowel)
- *Making Native Space: Colonialism, Resistance, and Reserves in British Columbia* (Cole Harris)
- *First Nations 101* (Lynda Gray)
- *Green Grass Running Water and Inconvenient Indian* (both by Thomas King)
- *The Marrow Thieves* (Cherie Dimaline)
- *Monkey Beach and Son of a Trickster* (both by Eden Robinson)

## ALLY

### Become an ally. These allyship resources are suggested in the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls:

- Amnesty International. "10 Ways to Be a Genuine Ally to Indigenous Communities." <https://www.amnesty.org.au/10-ways-to-be-an-ally-to-indigenous-communities/>
- Dr. Lynn Gehl. "Ally Bill of Responsibilities." [http://www.lynngehl.com/uploads/5/0/0/4/5004954/ally\\_bill\\_of\\_responsibilities\\_poster.pdf](http://www.lynngehl.com/uploads/5/0/0/4/5004954/ally_bill_of_responsibilities_poster.pdf)
- Indigenous Perspectives Society. "How to be an Ally to Indigenous Peoples." <https://ipsociety.ca/2017/04/>
- Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network. "Indigenous Ally Toolkit." [http://reseauumtlnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Ally\\_March.pdf](http://reseauumtlnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Ally_March.pdf)

## PARTICIPATE

### Participate in events that celebrate Indigenous peoples and promote social change, such as:

- Vancouver's annual march for missing and murdered Indigenous women (Feb. 14)
- Moose Hide Campaign Day (typically in Feb.): [www.mooshidecampaign.ca](http://www.mooshidecampaign.ca)
- Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21)
- Orange Shirt Day (Sept. 30): [www.orangeshirtday.org](http://www.orangeshirtday.org)
- Reconciliation Canada events: [www.reconciliationcanada.ca](http://www.reconciliationcanada.ca)

## CHECK YOUR PRIVILEGE

### Learn about intersectional privilege:

- Privilege 101: <https://everydayfeminism.com/2014/09/what-is-privilege/>
- Explaining White Privilege to a Broke White Person: [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/explaining-white-privilege-to-a-broke-white-person\\_b\\_5269255](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/explaining-white-privilege-to-a-broke-white-person_b_5269255)
- We Built A Life From Nothing: colonialism and the myth of meritocracy: <https://www.policyalternatives.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/National%20Office/2017/12/McLean.pdf>
- Oppression and Privilege Self-Assessment Tool: [http://www.cpedv.org/sites/main/files/oppresion\\_and\\_privilege\\_self\\_assessment.pdf](http://www.cpedv.org/sites/main/files/oppresion_and_privilege_self_assessment.pdf)

