RECONCILIATION
CANADA

“Let’s find a way to belong to this time and place together. Our future, and the well-being of all our children, rests with the kind of relationships we build today.”

Chief Dr. Robert Joseph
Gwawaenuk First Nation

A COLLABORATION BETWEEN:
The Indian Residential School Survivors Society (IRSSS)
Tides Canada

WITH THE SUPPORT OF:
First Nations Summit
Union of BC Indian Chiefs
BC Assembly of First Nations
Metro Vancouver Urban Aboriginal Executive Council
BC Ecumenical Advocates
Anglican Church of Canada
Presbyterian Church in Canada
United Church of Canada
Roman Catholic Church Diocese

VISION

To promote reconciliation by engaging Canadians in dialogue that revitalizes the relationships between Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians.

Q: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

A: “Two-thirds of Canadians believe (and four in ten strongly believe) that individual Canadians with no experience in Indian residential schools have a role to play in reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.”

2008 National Benchmark Survey

Q: HOW DO WE GET THERE TOGETHER?

A: RECONCILIATION CANADA INITIATIVES

Reconciliation Canada is a group of initiatives that;

• Deliver a safe learning opportunity for a diversity of faith, cultures and organizations to gain an understanding of one another’s shared history beginning with the stories of Aboriginal people and the Indian residential school system.

• Engage people from every level of society in open and honest dialogue about reconciliation and the unique contributions our diverse histories and experiences offer in building resilient communities.

• Catalyze a new way forward in the relationships between Aboriginal peoples and Canadians that facilitates a better, stronger Canada for all.

FIRST WE BEGIN WITH…YESTERDAY

On September 19-21, 2013, Vancouver is the host city for Canada's National Truth and Reconciliation Commission (“TRC”) event. This three day event will engage the Canadian public and provide education about the history of the residential schools system, the experience of former students and their families and the ongoing legacies of the institutions within communities.

HOPE.
TODAY
“The cumulative impact of residential schools is a legacy of unresolved trauma passed from generation to generation and has had a profound effect on the relationship between Aboriginal peoples and other Canadians.”
Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

TOMORROW...A BETTER, STRONGER CANADA
Collective efforts from all peoples are necessary to revitalize the relationship between Aboriginal peoples and Canadian society – reconciliation is the goal. It is a goal that will take the commitment of multiple generations but when it is achieved, when we have reconciliation - it will make for a better, stronger Canada.”
Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Reconciliation Week
October 1-7, 2012
The City of Vancouver has proclaimed the week of October 1, 2012 as Reconciliation Week. This proclamation serves as the public relations kick-off for Reconciliation Canada Initiatives.

Reconciliation Dialogue Circles
September 2012 – September 2013
This year long initiative connects a diversity of cultural, faith-based and multi-generational groups in BC to gain a better understanding of one another’s shared histories through educational programs, facilitated learning circles and support of reconciliation activities.

Reconciliation Walk Training
January 2013 – September 2013
Reconciliation Walk Training will be available for all Survivors. This training initiative provides an opportunity for Survivors to build the support and capacity necessary to participate in all of the Reconciliation Canada activities.

Canoe Gathering
Tuesday, September 17, 2013
The Canoe Gathering opens the TRC event and includes traditional ceremonies welcoming participants of all Nations to Coast Salish territories.

BC Place Gala Event
Saturday, September 21, 2013
This gala event is a call to action by keynote speakers and performers.

Walk for Reconciliation
Sunday, September 22, 2013
This Initiative is a mass walk through Vancouver for all peoples of Canada to demonstrate their commitment to reconciliation.

YOUR SUPPORT

We need your help to make this a success! We are requesting introductions to volunteers, community and corporate leaders, in-kind donations and funding/sponsorship.

Your help is essential to making this vision a reality.

Yesterday...Today...Tomorrow