

First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness


Reconciliation and Indigenous Health

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First Nations Health Authority
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Reconciliation and Health

- "What is it about the ways that we have organized our lives and our communities and our resources in this country that has made one group of people so disproportionately unwell."
- "Any good diagnosis begins with a family history, so lets go back to Canada's family history. Lets go back to the first head of our household."
- "Indian children should be withdrawn as much as possible from parental influence and the only way to do that would be to put them in central training and industrial schools where they will acquire the habits and modes of thought of white men." John A. McDonald, 1883 Canadian House of Commons



Dr. Marie Wilson, Commissioner, Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Canadian Medical Association Annual General Meeting, August 20th, 2016

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The legacy of Indian residential schools



"Looking Unto Jesus." A class in penmanship at the Red Deer Indian Industrial School, Red Deer, Alberta, ca. 1914 or 1919. United Church of Canada, Archives, 93.049P/850N.

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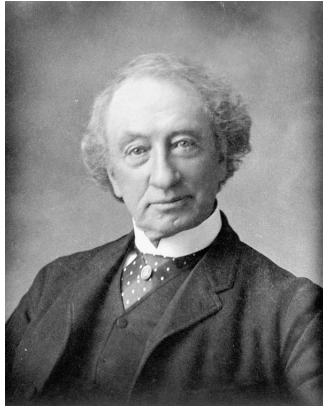


"No relationship is more important to me and to Canada than the one with Indigenous Peoples. It is time for a renewed, nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous Peoples, based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation, and partnership."

- Trudeau to cabinet. Extract included in all 30 ministerial mandate letters

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An Opportunity



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Reconciliation and Health

“When reconciliation is talked about, we often talk about sharing history. We talk about sharing recommendations and stories from the commission, and those are all very powerful things.

But when you look at what reconciliation is, it’s the changing of two different groups, often on opposite sides to become something better. It’s not just about empowerment of First Nations and First Nations patients; it’s about empowerment of you. To be better allies and to find your place in the Canadian fabric that doesn’t exclude indigenous peoples.”



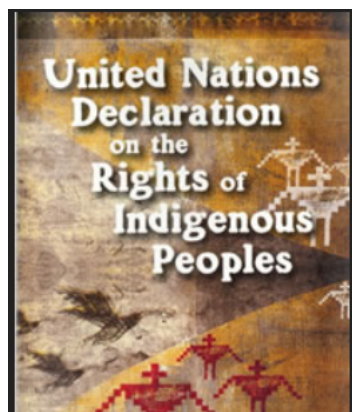
Dr. Alike LaFontaine, President, Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada. Canadian Medical Association Annual General Meeting, August 20th, 2016

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Decolonization

- **Decolonization** is the undoing of **colonialism** where a nation establishes and maintains its domination over dependent territories.
- The Oxford English Dictionary defines decolonization as "the withdrawal from its colonies of a colonial power; the acquisition of political or economic independence by such colonies.
- Decolonization requires both systemic and individual efforts.

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Article 3: "right to **self-determination**"

Article 23: "right to be **actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them**"

Article 24: "right to their **traditional medicines** and to maintain their health practices... [and] the right to **access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services**...[and] an equal right to the enjoyment of the **highest attainable standard** of physical and **mental health**. States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right

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Carolyn Bennett, Minister Indigenous and Northern Affairs

I'm here to announce, on behalf of Canada, that we are now a full supporter of the Declaration without qualification. We intend nothing less than to adopt and implement the declaration in accordance with the Canadian Constitution.
- May 11, 2016

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TRC and Healthcare recommendations

- Acknowledge Canada's role in the poor health of Indigenous people
- Address jurisdictional challenges
- Train more Indigenous health professionals
- Increase cultural safety in health services
 - Mandatory skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism for physicians and nurses
- Resource healing centres and recognize Indigenous healing practices
- Report on progress (specific health indicators)

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Minister Philpot on Indigenous Health

We are committed to renewing our nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous People—and my department's ongoing work to improve health services for First Nations is fundamental to achieving this goal. We will also support the implementation of many of the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in cooperation with others across government.

- 2020 Healthcare Summit, December 1, 2015.

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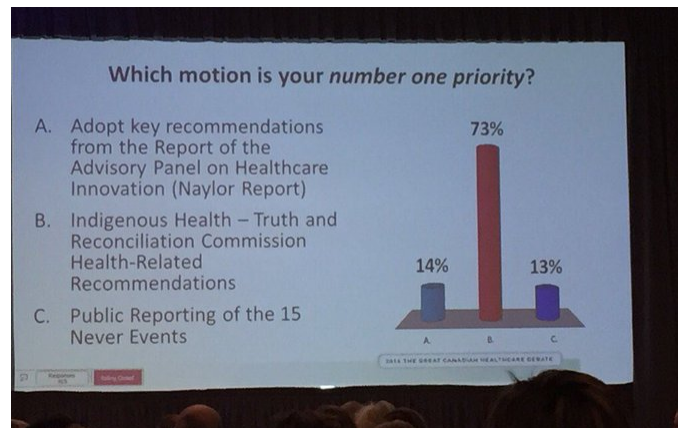


Minister Philpot on Indigenous Health

"Jurisdiction challenges are no longer an acceptable excuse, just as geography is no longer an acceptable excuse. We're beyond arguing as to whose responsibility it is."

- Power and Politics with Rosemary Barton, April 4, 2016

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The 2016 Great Canadian Healthcare Debate tabled three topics as the most significant and transformative healthcare issues of our time. 73% of delegates voted for the adoption of the TRC recommendations.

Canadian Health Leaders Conference, June 7, 2016

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Statement of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers of Health – January 2016

“We, as Health Ministers, will work together and within our jurisdictions with Indigenous leaders to determine areas of shared priority, and to improve the co-ordination, continuity and appropriateness of health services for Indigenous peoples as part of a population health approach to improving Indigenous peoples’ health in Canada.



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