



EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

PROGRAM QUESTION	What is Reconciliation?
TIMELINE	90-180 minutes
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand how Residential Schools and present-day Eurocentric curricula have impacted First Nations, Inuit and Métis lives and opportunities to succeed • To explore the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action in relation to Education • To take an active part in implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action 	
CONTENT	
<p>The National Truth and Reconciliation Commission issued 94 calls to action in its 2015 report. Close to 20 of them are related to education: improving access to quality education within Indigenous communities, as well as improving knowledge and understanding of Indigenous history and culture throughout Canada through school curricula and broader public educational channels. Better education is the cornerstone for a stronger path forward for everyone: fueling understanding and awareness; and providing greater opportunities for economic wellbeing. Indigenous people are the fast growing population in Canada. Investing in their future economic outcomes will strengthen prosperity and sustainability for all of Canada.</p> <p>This unit will discuss the barriers many young Indigenous people have and continue to face to further their education along with some of the Indigenous-led education and training initiatives that are addressing these challenges.</p>	



ACTIVITY		
ACTIVITY	Analyze your Textbook	
TIMELINE	90-180 minutes	
MATERIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconciliation Conversations: Education and Economic Opportunity Google Slides 	
1 Explore the Google Slides together, taking time to watch the videos provided and to consider the discussion questions throughout.	2 Investigate Choose a history or social studies textbook. Investigate with your decolonial lens!	3 Rewrite or add any sections you feel would be more appropriate.
Prompts: Whose perspective is it written from? Who stands to benefit from it? What is missing? Are there pictures? Of whom? How are they depicted? What is the tone of the language? What is the reasoning for choosing certain words over others?		



RESOURCES / NOTES

7 Generations: <http://www.7generations.org/>

4 Rs Youth Movement - Resources : <https://4rsyouth.ca/resources/>

4 Seasons of Reconciliation - Reconciliation Education: <https://www.reconciliationeducation.ca/>

Assembly of 7 Generations: <https://www.a7g.ca/>

Assembly of First Nations - Education: <https://www.afn.ca/policy-sectors/education/>

Assembly of First Nations - Economic: <https://www.afn.ca/policy-sectors/economic/>

Blaisdell, B. (2016). Schools as racial spaces: understanding and resisting structural racism. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, 29:2, 248-272.

CBC Docs - Angry Inuk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=85Ns94DWAQ8&t=5s>

Colleges & Institutes Canada - Indigenous Education Protocol:
<https://www.collegesinstitutes.ca/policyfocus/indigenous-learners/protocol/>

First Nations Education Initiative Incorporated: <http://fneii.ca/resources/>

Historica Canada - Indigenous Perspectives Education Guide:
<https://fb.historicacanada.ca/education/english/indigenous-perspectives/>

Indspire: <https://indspire.ca/>

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami - National Strategy on Inuit Education:: <https://www.itk.ca/amaujaq/>

Learn Alberta – Guiding Voices: <http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/fnmigv/index.html>

Learn Alberta – Walking Together: <http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/aswt/index.html#/home>

Martin Family Initiative - Educational Resources: <https://www.themfi.ca/ppw-educational-resources/ppw-resources>

Métis Nation of Ontario – Métis Education Kits: <http://www.metisnation.org/programs-and-services/education-training/education-information/education-kits/>

National Centre for Collaboration in Indigenous Education : <https://www.nccie.ca/>

National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation: <https://nctr.ca/map.php>

Spirit Bear's Guide to the TRC Calls to Action:
https://fncaringociety.com/sites/default/files/child_friendly_calls_to_action_web.pdf

Truth and Reconciliation Commission - Calls to Action: http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf



Write a Letter

Step 1) Write a letter to someone urging them to use their power to implement a Call to Action. You could write to a local business, your school principal, your MP, your Minister of Education, the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, the Minister of Indigenous Services, the Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, or any other important figure!

Step 2) Take a screenshot and post to Experiences Canada's Reconciliation Conversations [Facebook group](#)!

Tip: personalize your letter, and provide statistics and references to support the need for your specific request.

To find your MP: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/members/en>

List of Ministers: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/members/en/ministries>

Template:

Dear _____,

I urge you to support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Call to Action to _____. You can do this by _____. This will ensure that _____.

This call to action is crucial to Canada's goals of supporting human rights, advancing reconciliation, and closing the quality-of-life gap. These are non-partisan issues that should be supported by every educator, business, Senator, parliamentarian, and every Canadian.

I believe that implementing this call to action is good for all Canadians. It will help unlock the full potential of First Nations, Métis and Inuit – to build economies, to educate children, and to strengthen governments.

Thank you in advance for carefully considering how you can take personal responsibility for the implementation of this call to action. It is an important issue, and would I like to see it fully implemented to ensure a prosperous future for everyone on Turtle Island.

Sincerely,

More templates for inspiration:

<https://www.afn.ca/legislative-advocacy/>

<https://www.kairosCanada.org/what-we-do/indigenous-rights/winds-change-send-electronic-letter-mpp-mla-saskatchewan>