

**ATTENTION: Elders Contact People Please Make Copies of the EV Each Month For Your Elders, Chief & Council and Boards of Directors if possible.**

**EV'S 153rd Issue!**



**BC ELDERS COMMUNICATION CENTER SOCIETY**

**ELDERS VOICE**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL ELDERS BORN IN AUGUST!**

**A HUGE Congratulations to the Host of the 37th Annual BC Elders Gathering held in Prince George July 2013. You did a great job! All of your efforts for the elders are appreciated in every First Nations community in the province!**

**DATES of the 38th Annual Elders Gathering**  
The dates for next years event have been announced as July 7, 8, and 9th 2014 and will be held at the Trade And Convention Centre in Penticton.  
Watch the EV for further press releases on the Gathering from the new host.  
All groups are encouraged to book your elder's rooms a.s.a.p.

**FEES ARE DOWN THIS YEAR, PLEASE READ OVER THE LIST ON PAGE 3 OF OFFICES/ GROUPS WHO HAVE HELPED SO FAR THIS YEAR AND TRY AGAIN TO SEE IF YOUR GROUP/OFFICE COULD HELP WITH THE 14TH YEAR OF THIS ELDERS OFFICE OPERATING FOR OUR PROVINCIAL ELDERS.**

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## Easy Bakers Corner – Apple Jack Cookies [www.northpole.com](http://www.northpole.com)

Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease cookie sheets.

In a mixing bowl, cream together 1 cup of brown sugar and 1/2 cup of shortening. Beat in 1 egg.

Sift together 1 1/2 cups of all-purpose flour, 1/2 tsp. of salt, 1 tsp. of nutmeg and add to creamed mixture. Beat until well blended.

Stir in 1 cup chopped, unpeeled apples.

Drop in the shape of a ball on cookie sheet.

Bake for 12-15 minutes. Enjoy!

### PROVERBS:

“To speak kindly does not hurt the tongue.”

“Confucius say too much.”

“When money speaks, the truth keeps silent.”

“The worst ache is the present ache.”

## What Can you please share?

The following is a short list of Elders suggestions of what might be shared: Your local Newsletters/Upcoming Local Events/Prayers/Poems/Quotes/Comments/Storytelling/Drawings/Articles of Interest/Native Songs Lyrics/Wellness Seminars/Obituaries, etc. Submissions are best forwarded to me via email by the 15th of the preceding month. If you are interested in providing articles, please do so, I look forward to hearing from anyone who wants to contribute to the content of your newsletter.

Gilakasla, Donna Stirling

## ‘PRESERVING THE PAST’

The *First Ever* Elder’s Website “Preserving the Past” is now online (as of Sept. 2002). Registration forms, booth forms, maps of the host territory, accommodation information, etc. concerning the Annual Elders Gatherings are available each year on the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s website [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) as soon as they are made available from each new host community.

As of Aug. 1st. 2011 issues of your Elders Voice Newsletter will be emailed out to all contacts as well as posted on the website [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) the 1st of each month. Although we mailed out the issues for almost 11 years (128 issues) we can no longer afford the cost to do so. Please email [bcelders@telus.com](mailto:bcelders@telus.com) to be added to the email list. Thank you

### Disclaimer:

Health articles, etc. are provided as a courtesy and neither the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s Board/ Members or anyone working on its behalf mean this information to be used to replace your doctor’s and other professional’s advice. You should contact your family physician or health care worker for all health care matters. Information is provided in the Elders Voice for your reference only. And opinions contained in this publication are not those of Donna Stirling, Coordinator unless her name appears below the material.

# BCECCS 13th Year GRATITUDE LIST

Support Fee from Dec. 1st 2011 – Nov. 30th 2012

(In the past the fee has always been \$250 yearly, but in these economic times it has become necessary to ask groups to consider assisting more, if possible, to make up for groups who cannot help.)  
Your support is much appreciated!

## LEVELS OF SUPPORT

\$1000 – Salmon

\$750 – Frog

\$500 – Sisiutl

\$250 - Hummingbird

### SALMON LEVEL - \$1000

1. Tahltan Band Council
2. West Moberly First Nation

### FROG LEVEL - \$750

1. Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation

### SISIUTL LEVEL - \$500

1. Osoyoos Indian Band
2. Nicomen Indian Band
3. Vancouver Native Health Society
4. Tale'awtxw Aboriginal Capital Corporation
5. Tk'emlups Te Secwepemc

### HUMMINGBIRD LEVEL - \$250

1. Akisqnuk First Nation
2. Weiwaikum Nation
3. Laich-Kwil-Tach Treaty Society
4. Klulx Klulx Hu-up (Westbank FN)
5. Tsleil-Waututh Nation
6. St. Mary's Indian Band
7. Stevens & Company Law
8. Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation
9. McLeod Lake Tse'khene Elders Society
10. Xaxli'p Indian Band
11. Seton Lake Indian Band
12. Eniyud Health Services
13. K'omoks First Nation
14. Pacheedaht First Nation
15. Tobacco Plains Indian Band
16. Lhtako Dene Nation
17. BC Assembly of First Nations
18. Carnegie Community Centre

19. Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band
20. Ts'kw'aylaxw Elders
21. Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
22. Bridge River Indian Band
23. Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
24. Tl'esqox Health Centre
25. Gitselasu Elders
26. Ka:'Yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' Nation
27. Quatsino Band
28. Doig River First Nation
29. Mamalilikulla Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em Band
30. Chawathil First Nation
31. Skidegate Band Council
32. Ts'lkt Elders - Bella Coola Elders
33. Lytton First Nation
34. Lower Kootenay Band
35. Pauquachin Band Health Society

### Donation

First Nations Tax Commission

# Enjoying the elders gathering

By Teresa Mallam - Prince George Free Press

Published: July 11, 2013 11:00 AM

**Lheidli T'enneh Nation proved itself to be the “host with the most” this week.**

The 37th Annual BC Elders Gathering was a huge undertaking and local organizers did us proud in Prince George.

Master of Ceremonies Leo Hebert did a good job of introducing the numerous First Nations groups, shaking the hands of their representatives and welcoming them to Prince George. He also kept us entertained.

“Welcome to your lands,” he quipped Tuesday, adding, “I’ve always wanted to say that,” as the Lheidli T'enneh group entered the room during the All Nations Grand Entry. Besides their drums and flags, representatives from each of the First Nations groups also brought with them – as requested by their hosts – a rock from their community as a gift for a monument to be built to commemorate the 2015 Winter Games. What a wonderful idea.

Covering the opening ceremonies of the Gathering for the *Free Press* gave me a chance to talk with First Nations people sitting in the stands – which sounds like an oxymoron but anyway. The public was invited to the event which is held every year in a community that has successfully “outbid” others for the travelling Totem pole and the honour of hosting next year’s Gathering.

It is up to each group or nation to prove it is worthy by pointing out any tourist or other attractions which make it a good location. We all know Prince George is a great destination – just ask those who spearheaded the drive to bring the 2015 Winter Games here. Having the gathering held locally meant that others could learn about our city and we could learn more about First Nations culture and tradition.

Waiting for the Grand Entry, I noticed a man with a beautiful, intricately carved walking stick. Joseph Gosnell told me that his nephew, George Gosnell Jr. handcrafted it as a gift. Bearing the Beaver clan family crest, an eagle with a beaver, the wooden stick has an abalone shell inlay.

Like most people interested in arts and crafts, I found the hand-beaded garments and colourful regalia fascinating. I thought about the hours and hours of work that went into making each item and the tradition and cultural significance they hold.

The same can be said for planning and making successful the 37th annual BC Elders Gathering in Prince George. Learning about another culture is, to me, something like beading – each new bead means progress.

[www.PGFreePress.com](http://www.PGFreePress.com)

# **Penticton Indian Band to host major gathering**

By Steve Kidd - Penticton Western News

Published: July 12, 2013 1:00 PM

At the 37th annual elder's gathering in Prince George last week, the Penticton Indian Band was selected to host the 2014 version of the event.

"We worked really hard to pursue that. It was a team effort from our elders and myself," said PIB Chief Jonathan Kruger, adding that the ceremony handing over responsibility was an amazing experience.

"We hosted an elder's gathering back in 1997, where Joey Pierre and Caroline Pierre were the king and queen. And now we have a new king and queen, that's Emory Gabriel and Vera Gabriel," he said. "There is so much work that has to be done. Right now they are celebrating and when they get back the work starts. Already we are getting sponsors together. This is such a big event that we might have to get a coordinator to help us."

Kruger estimates there were about 3,000 elders from around B.C. and other parts of Canada at the Prince George gathering, but expects there will be more in Penticton.

"Because Penticton is so beautiful, I am estimating probably 4,000," said Kruger. "We got a huge standing ovation and they were all so happy. We already booked the Trade and Convention centre for July 7,8 and 9."

Kruger expects the elders will come together with the PIB youth, administration and the other bands of the Okanagan Nation Alliance will come together to make the 2014 gathering a grand event.

"We want to knock everyone's socks off," said Kruger.

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## **Fund-raiser**

**to join the Tears4Justice walk across Canada to raise awareness  
of Missing & Murdered Women**

Michele Pineault, Carrie Phillip and Lorelei Williams are family members of  
Missing and Murdered women  
and would like to join the walk from Edmonton to Kamloops August 15 - 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Fundraiser is on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**PLACE: VACPC – 875 East Hastings St. INFO: 604-678-3791**

**TIME: Noon to 4 pm**

**50/50 Draw, Raffle, Silent auction, etc.**

**For more information please feel free to contact**

**Michele Pineault: 604 446 4109 or**

**Lorelei Williams: 778 709 6498**

**Donations of crafts, silent auction items etc. are greatly appreciated !!**

## **Aboriginal Nutrition Experiments: Hungry Kids, Adults Were Test Subjects, Paper Reveals**

Bob Weber, The Canadian Press CP Jul 16, 2013

Recently published historical research says hungry aboriginal children and adults were once used as unwitting subjects in nutritional experiments by Canadian government bureaucrats.

"This was the hardest thing I've ever written," said Ian Mosby, who has revealed new details about one of the least-known but perhaps most disturbing aspects of government policy toward aboriginals immediately after the Second World War.

Mosby — whose work at the University of Guelph focuses on the history of food in Canada — was researching the development of health policy when he ran across something strange.

"I started to find vague references to studies conducted on 'Indians' that piqued my interest and seemed potentially problematic, to say the least," he said. "I went on a search to find out what was going on."

Government documents eventually revealed a long-standing, government-run experiment that came to span the entire country and involved at least 1,300 aboriginals, most of them children.

It began with a 1942 visit by government researchers to a number of remote reserve communities in northern Manitoba, including places such as The Pas and Norway House.

They found people who were hungry, beggared by a combination of the collapsing fur trade and declining government support. They also found a demoralized population marked by, in the words of the researchers, "shiftlessness, indolence, improvidence and inertia."

The researchers suggested those problems — "so long regarded as inherent or hereditary traits in the Indian race" — were in fact the results of malnutrition.

Instead of recommending an increase in support, the researchers decided that isolated, dependent, hungry people would be ideal subjects for tests on the effects of different diets.

"This is a period of scientific uncertainty around nutrition," said Mosby. "Vitamins and minerals had really only been discovered during the interwar period."

"In the 1940s, there were a lot of questions about what are human requirements for vitamins. Malnourished aboriginal people became viewed as possible means of testing these theories."

The first experiment began in 1942 on 300 Norway House Cree. Of that group, 125 were selected to receive vitamin supplements which were withheld from the rest.

At the time, researchers calculated the local people were living on less than 1,500 calories a day. Normal, healthy adults generally require at least 2,000.

**"The research team was well aware that these vitamin supplements only addressed a small part of the problem," Mosby writes. "The experiment seems to have been driven, at least in part, by the nutrition experts' desire to test their theories on a ready-made 'laboratory' populated with already malnourished human experimental subjects."**

**The research spread. In 1947, plans were developed for research on about 1,000 hungry aboriginal children in six residential schools in Port Alberni, B.C., Kenora, Ont., Schubencadie, N.S., and Lethbridge, Alta.**

**One school deliberately held milk rations for two years to less than half the recommended amount to get a 'baseline' reading for when the allowance was increased. At another, children were divided into one group that received vitamin, iron and iodine supplements and one that didn't.**

**One school depressed levels of vitamin B1 to create another baseline before levels were boosted. A special enriched flour that couldn't legally be sold elsewhere in Canada under food adulteration laws was used on children at another school.**

**And, so that all the results could be properly measured, one school was allowed none of those supplements.**

**Many dental services were withdrawn from participating schools during that time. Gum health was an important measuring tool for scientists and they didn't want treatments on children's teeth distorting results.**

**The experiments, repugnant today, would probably have been considered ethically dubious even at the time, said Mosby.**

**"I think they really did think they were helping people. Whether they thought they were helping the people that were actually involved in the studies, that's a different question."**

**He noted that rules for research on humans were just being formulated and adopted by the scientific community.**

**A spokeswoman for Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt said the current federal government is shocked by the findings.**

**"If this story is true, this is abhorrent and completely unacceptable," Andrea Richer said in an email. "When Prime Minister (Stephen) Harper made a historic apology to former students of Indian Residential Schools in 2008 on behalf of all Canadians, he recognized that this period had caused great harm and had no place in Canada."**

**Little has been written about the nutritional experiments. A May 2000 article in the Anglican Journal about some of them was the only reference Mosby could find.**

"I assumed that somebody would have written about an experiment conducted on aboriginal people during this period, and kept being surprised when I found more details and the scale of it. I was really, really surprised.

"It's an emotionally difficult topic to study."

Not much was learned from those hungry little bodies. A few papers were published — "they were not very helpful," Mosby said — and he couldn't find evidence that the Norway House research program was completed.

"They knew from the beginning that the real problem and the cause of malnutrition was underfunding. That was established before the studies even started and when the studies were completed that was still the problem."

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Canadians from many cultural communities call on Feds to #HonourTheApology to Residential School Survivors**

**ACROSS CANADA (Venues below) - Today, Canadians, newcomers, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples from all walks of life and religious denominations will reflect upon the impacts of Canada's residential schools in a national moment of silence, prayer, and commemoration. They are calling on the federal government to release all documents pertaining to the residential schools in Canada to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission IMMEDIATELY, commission a national inquiry into the bio-medical experiments on First Nations communities, and to work toward the end of continued violence toward Indigenous peoples in Canada.**

**In response to University of Guelph historian Ian Mosby published research that First Nations communities – and specifically thousands of children in residential schools – were unknowing subjects in bio-medical experiments in malnourishment and hunger by federal government officials between 1942-52, we call on the federal government to honour its 2008 apology and - as promised – shoulder the responsibility of telling the complete story of what happened in the Residential School system.**

**We are calling on all people of all faiths and backgrounds to attend and participate. Leaders from the Islamic, Christian, Multi-denominational, Japanese, and other cultural communities will join us. All are welcome.**

**We are also asking those who are in good health (and able to do so) to fast in honour of survivors of these experiments.**

**We also encourage all to write to their Members of Parliament about this issue. All Canadians can find their MP using this link: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/Parlinfo/Compilations/HouseofCommons/MemberByPostalCode.aspx?Menu=HOC>**

**National FB event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1394657634086596/>**

**List of Events:**

**Winnipeg - Oodena Circle, The Forks**

**Vancouver - Gastown**

**Ottawa - Victoria Island**

**Moose Cree First Nation**

**Calgary – Central Memorial Park**

**Toronto – Allan Gardens Conservatory**

**Peterborough – Confederation Square**

**Opaskwayak Cree Nation – Oscar Lathlin**

**Saskatoon – Vimy Memorial Bandshell**

**Edmonton – Beaver Hills Park**

**Thunder Bay - Vickers Park**

**Sudbury - Tom Davies Square**

**Windsor – Detroit River, Steps by Ambassador Bridge (Candlelight Vigil at 7:30 pm)**

**About the Apology:**

**On June 11, 2008, the Prime Minister of Canada offered an apology to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit survivors of the residential school system. Although under a court order, the federal government has been withholding millions of documents from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). These documents contain details surrounding the movement/disappearance of children, sickness or diseases, and the treatment students endured. Honouring the apology means releasing the documents so the TRC can fulfill its mandate and allow all Canadians to learn the truth about this painful era and move together toward reconciliation.**

**- 30-**

**Media Contacts:**

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**Niigaanwewidam Sinclair, Co-organizer (Manitoba), 204-999-5192, niigaanwewidam@umanitoba.ca**

**Andrea Landry, Co-organizer (Ontario), 226-787-7700, Andrea\_landry@hotmail.ca**

**Jodi Stonehouse, Co-organizer (Alberta), 780-902-0049, jodi@ualberta.ca**

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**PROVERBS**

**“Zen is like looking for the spectacles that are sitting on your nose.”**

**“Before the first step is taken the goal is reached.”**

**“Long absent soon forgotten.”**

**“The absent are always in the wrong.”**

**“Accidents will happen. If you accommodate others,  
you will be accommodating yourself.”**

**“The accomplice is as bad as the thief.”**

**Vancouver set to host Reconciliation Week in September**  
by Yolande Cole on Jul 25, 2013 at 7:48 pm from [www.straight.com/news](http://www.straight.com/news)

Organizers are hoping to draw tens of thousands to a national reconciliation event in Vancouver this fall, which is part of efforts aimed at creating a “national memory” around residential schools.

At a news conference at Vancouver City Hall today, Truth and Reconciliation Canada (TRC) chair Justice Murray Sinclair, Reconciliation Canada ambassador Chief Robert Joseph, and Mayor Gregor Robertson unveiled a series of activities that are set to take place as part of Reconciliation Week from September 16 to 22 in Vancouver.

The initiative is focused around the TRC's fifth national reconciliation event, which is intended to allow former residential school students to speak to the commission and to the public about their experiences.

“Imagine what it would be like if the government were to come to you today or tomorrow and tell you that they’re taking your children away from you...and placing them in an institution for the purpose of changing them into something that you did not want them to be—to take away their language, to take away their culture, to remove from them their manner of dress, to remove from them their understanding of their history,” said Sinclair.

“Imagine if the government did that to you, and what impact that would have upon you as a parent, but also try to imagine for a moment what impact it would have upon you as a child, if you happen to be one of those children.”

The national event, which will take place at the Pacific National Exhibition from September 18 to 21, will be accompanied by activities organized by Reconciliation Canada that will take place around the city.

On September 16, a reconciliation flame will be lit at Ambleside Park to mark the launch of the week-long activities, followed by an all-nations canoe gathering on September 17 from Kits Point to Science World, and a Walk for Reconciliation on September 22 that Reconciliation Canada hopes will draw up to 50,000 people. The week will culminate with a celebration on September 22.

“I just want to invite all Canadians, all Vancouverites, all British Columbians, to please come—we’re

inviting you to come to this reconciliation event in September,” said Joseph.

Sinclair said the national event, which he expects could be the largest the commission has held so far, will aim to involve all Vancouver residents, including the immigrant and newcomer population.

“That population is not connected to the history of oppression, the history of maltreatment and mistreatment that aboriginal people have experienced in this country, but they are connected very closely to the solutions,” he said.

Robertson noted the city has declared a “Year of Reconciliation” in Vancouver, from June 21, 2013 to June 20, 2014, and said he has challenged other mayors across the country to do the same.

“The devastating impact over 150-odd years of residential schools has taken its toll, and continues to be a huge challenge in cities like Vancouver, and there’s a lot of work to do to get beyond that,” he said.

More than 150,000 First Nations, Métis and Inuit children attended government-funded, church-run residential schools, where many were exposed to physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. The schools were operated from the early 1870s until the final one closed in 1996.

“This is not and should not be seen as an aboriginal problem,” said Sinclair. “This is a Canadian problem that we must face. We must change the way that we talk to and about each other going forward, and that is the ambition of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and one of the purposes of what we hope to achieve during the national event.”

Today’s press conference took place the same day as a series of grassroots protests across the country. The “Honour the Apology” demonstrations were prompted by new research that revealed at least 1,300 aboriginal people, including some residential school students, were subject to government-run nutrition experiments in the 1940s.

Organizers of the demonstrations urged the federal government to release all documents related to residential schools to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and for a national inquiry into the experiments.

## **UBCIC Wholly Endorses Yinka Dene Cease-and-Desist Letter to Enbridge**

### **News Release. July 5, 2013**

(Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver, B.C. – July 5, 2013) Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs stated “I am proud to report the UBCIC has passed resolutions supporting the member Nations of the Yinka Dene Alliance in their steadfast opposition to the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline Project. Consequently, the UBCIC publicly endorses their letter to Enbridge to cease-and-desist their efforts to build drilling sites, the posting of signs warning Enbridge of trespassing and their preparation of enforcing their laws in their respective territories.”

Grand Chief Phillip concluded "We join the Yinka Dene Alliance's call and encourage Premier Christy Clark's Government to fully engage First Nations along the proposed routes of Enbridge's Northern Gateway Pipeline Project, Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion and along the coast in government-to-government discussions. Key to those discussions is clarification of what is the BC Government's definition and threshold for heavy oil proponents of the legal obligations and requirements regarding Aboriginal and treaty rights, opportunities provided to First Nations and lastly information and resources necessary to participate in and benefit from a heavy-oil project?"

For further comment: Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Union of BC Indian Chiefs  
Phone: (250) 490-5314

## **Public Service Announcement: TICK TALK**

**July 10, 2013**

Now that summer is here, many of us will be heading into the great outdoors to enjoy hiking, camping and other recreational activities. If you're spending time in tall grass, brush or wooded areas, you may be exposed to insect or tick bites. Ticks are tiny arachnids that feed on the blood of humans and animals and in very rare cases, can transmit disease-causing bacteria. While less than 1% of ticks in BC carry the bacteria that can cause Lyme disease, the condition can be serious for those infected.

“There are a number of precautions you can take to protect yourself against tick bites,” says Dr. Dee Hoyano, Medical Health Officer for the Vancouver Island Health Authority. “First, make sure you're covered-up; wear light-coloured clothing including a long-sleeved shirt that you can tuck into your pants and then tuck your pants into your boots or socks.”

Other steps you can take to protect yourself against tick and insect bites:

- Walk on cleared trails wherever possible.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET on all uncovered skin and reapply as directed.
- Carefully check clothing, scalp (whether wearing a hat or not) and any exposed skin when leaving an area where ticks might live.
- Regularly check pets for ticks.

“Lyme disease is uncommon on Vancouver Island,” adds Dr. Hoyano. “The disease can be serious however, so it's worth taking steps to avoid being bitten.”

Ticks are easiest to spot when they are actually sucking blood. The feeding tick's mouth will be under the skin, but the rest of it (which is blue-grey in colour) will be visible. A tick should be removed carefully, without crushing it.

### **To find out more about ticks or what to do if you find one:**

Healthlink BC: <http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthfiles/hfile01.stm>

BCCDC Lyme Disease information: [http://www.bccdc.ca/dis-cond/a-z/\\_l/LymeDisease/default.htm](http://www.bccdc.ca/dis-cond/a-z/_l/LymeDisease/default.htm)

## "Blueprint" for National First Nations Education Act Fails to Address BC First Nations' Concerns

(Coast Salish Territories / Vancouver, July 17, 2013) The political leadership of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs, First Nations Summit and the BC Assembly of First Nations are extremely disappointed by the "Blueprint" for Canada's proposed national First Nations Education Act, released discretely by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) on July 12, 2013. The Blueprint sets out the federal government's approach to developing legislation which does not accommodate nor respect the important work already well under way in BC that are having positive education outcomes for our children.

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs stated "The Harper Government's 'consultation' process remains inadequate, insufficient and ineffective. While the Government purports to have heard First Nations' issues and concerns, the Blueprint fails to substantively address those issues and concerns. In particular, the Blueprint lacks a clear commitment to sustained and adequate funding, including for language and culture, that meets the needs First Nations."

Grand Chief Edward John, Political Executive Member, First Nations Summit, remarked "First Nations in British Columbia strongly support the BC First Nations Education system. It is premised on First Nations control of First Nations education, that our people need to be fully involved in the education of our children." He continued, "For any federal government initiative in First Nations education to have any chance of success, it must ensure First Nations are full and effective partners in the preparation and drafting of legislative, regulatory and administrative measures. In the past where governments decided what is in our best interests in education we got Indian residential schools. We cannot have that approach anymore."

BCAFN Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould added, "In BC we have developed our own solutions that are working. The BC First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESEC) and BC First Nations Schools Association (FNSA) have been working tirelessly and diligently to present the issues, concerns and views of BC First Nations over the past several months. Unfortunately, we do not see any of those concerns responded to in the Blueprint. FNESEC and the FNSA have consistently presented proactive recommendations which, to date, have been ignored."

The Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs, First Nations Summit and the BC Assembly of First Nations remind the Government of Canada of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Article 19:

**States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.**

For further comment please contact:

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President  
Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs 250-490-5314

Grand Chief Edward John, Executive Member  
First Nations Summit 778-772-8218

Courtney Daws, Director of Operations  
BC Assembly of First Nations 778-772-8681

## Condemnation of Human Biomedical Experimentation in Aboriginal Communities and Residential Schools

(Whitehorse, YK – July 18, 2013) The BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs, together with BC Chiefs present at the Assembly of First Nations 34th Annual General Assembly in Whitehorse, Yukon, are deeply upset by the horrifically distressing research that has surfaced recently regarding historic human biomedical experimentation on malnourished Aboriginal communities and children attending Indian residential schools in Canada.

A recent research paper by Ian Mosley titled, “Administering Colonial Science: Nutrition Research and Human Biomedical Experimentation in Aboriginal Communities and Residential Schools, 1942–1952,” has been the subject of considerable media attention over the past few days. In his recently published research findings, Mosby, with the Department of History at the University of Guelph, details a series of nutritional studies of Aboriginal communities and residential schools between the years of 1942 and 1952, conducted by nutrition experts, in cooperation with the Canadian government.

“Our citizens and our communities are still coming to terms with the residential schools legacy and the Mosby research is another painful reminder of these experiences and the ways our people suffered at the hands of the government; in this case being subjected to human experimentation we never consented to,” stated BC Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould. She added, “Yesterday morning, Chiefs and leaders from across BC came together at the Assembly of First Nations Annual General Assembly and unanimously condemned the past actions of the Crown in condoning human biomedical experimentation on our peoples and in particular our children who attended Indian residential schools. The Report is further evidence for the ongoing need for healing and the important role of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission as well as the necessity to support our Nations’ work in moving beyond our debilitating colonial period,” she finished.

The research reveals disturbing details of a human biomedical experimentation of national scope, involving at least 1,300 Aboriginal children. According to the research, government tests began in 1942 in a number of remote Aboriginal communities in northern Manitoba. Following this, the initiative spread across the country. In 1947, further research was conducted on at least 1,000 malnourished Aboriginal children in at least six residential schools in Port Alberni, British Columbia, Kenora, Ontario, Schubencadie, Nova Scotia and Lethbridge, Alberta.

Grand Chief Ed John, of the First Nations Summit Task Group, stated, “The experiments described in Mosby’s research are ‘evidence of a larger institutionalized and dehumanizing colonialist racial ideology which has plagued Canada’s policies towards Aboriginal peoples.’ Canada must account for these experiments. This recognition is important to the ongoing work of reconciliation between our people and Canada.”

“Extreme hunger and deliberate food denial punishments are shared experiences for many residential school survivors and this research and the media flurry around this work has opened up painful memories and hurt for many of our people,” stated Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. “We are compelled to take every single opportunity to tell the truth – it is critically important that our people and indeed all Canadians understand this shamefully disturbing history resonates today just as it did when these disturbing incidents took place. For the sake of our families, the truth must be told to reach a sense of closure and lasting reconciliation.”

“Although the 2008 Indian residential school apology exists as a broad acknowledgement of historic wrongs, this recent research fuels the frustration among our Nuu-chah-nulth people with the lack of action and lack of commitment on the part of Canada to work in real partnership with our peoples and governments,” said Clifford Atleo, President of Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council. “There is an outstanding requirement for all governments and all Canadians to commit to reconciliation,” he concluded.

The Alberni Residential School in BC, located on Tseshaht First Nation lands, was one of the residential schools cited in Mosby’s research. “Tseshaht and other Aboriginal children became guinea pigs for the Federal Government,” said Chief Councillor Hugh Braker, Tseshaht First Nation. “Our children were helpless victims for the government’s biomedical experiments and this shocking treatment cannot be swept under the rug or ignored. We need to understand exactly what happened, who knew about it, who authorized it and what the effects were.”

The BC Chiefs’ Caucus present at the Assembly of First Nations 34th Annual General Assembly resolved, yesterday, to bring forward a related emergency resolution for consideration of the Chiefs in Assembly. This resolution has been drafted and will come to the floor today, July 18, 2013.

For more information and further comment:

Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould, BC Assembly of First Nations (778) 772-8681

Grand Chief Ed John, First Nations Summit (778) 772-8218

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Union of BC Indian Chiefs (250) 490-5314

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## **The Great Outdoors - HAY FEVER - [www.medbroadcast.com](http://www.medbroadcast.com)**

You may have heard the term "hay fever," but seasonal allergies, also known as *seasonal allergic rhinitis*, are triggered by several different types of pollen, but not by hay. When trees and grasses begin growing in the spring and early summer, they release light, powdery pollen that floats in the wind. If you're allergic to this pollen, it can result in sniffing, sneezing, wheezing, a runny nose, and itchy and watery eyes.

**Allergy triggers, or allergens, vary depending on the time of year.** In late summer and early fall, weed pollen (especially from ragweed) and fungal spores are the main culprits. As well, the specific allergens in the environment will vary with the geographical area.

**So if you're an allergy sufferer, how can you enjoy the outdoors without experiencing unpleasant symptoms?** Here are a few tips:

- Keep windows closed so pollens can't drift in. Air conditioning will keep you more comfortable in hot, humid weather. But don't forget that air conditioners also create the best conditions (damp and dark) for moulds to grow in your home. Do some spring cleaning, and do it regularly.
- If possible, stay inside when pollen counts are high (watch for these in weather reports) and on windy days when pollen and spores can get blown around. Avoid being outdoors in the early morning hours (between 5 am and 10 am), when pollen counts are usually highest.
- If you've been outside all day, remove all your clothing and put it aside to be laundered, and take a shower after coming home. This will prevent you from taking all that pollen to bed with you.
- Don't hang your laundry outside to dry - it can trap pollen and mould, bringing them inside. Use your dryer instead.

If these measures don't work, talk to your health care provider about what you can do if you're suffering from allergies. There are eye drops, nasal sprays, and oral antihistamines that can be helpful in treating your specific allergy.

## **Vancouver Island Health Authority**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 22, 2013**

### **Public Service Announcement Get Grilling!**

Many people on Vancouver Island use their BBQ all year round, but grilling season really heats up in the summer. BBQs can cause fires and burns, and improper food handling can spread disease, whether using gas or charcoal, follow these tips to make sure you are grilling safely.

You can also watch Dr. Bev Oda from our Medical Health Office discussing these tips in a video.

#### **Equipment**

- Burns from the BBQ are the most common injury. Keep children and pets well away from the BBQ.
- Before lighting the BBQ:
  - o Follow the manufacturer's instructions
  - o Inspect the BBQ for cracks in hoses, wear, major rusting, loose connections or leaks.
  - o Burners and openings should be clear of rust, debris, droppings and insects.
- Use your BBQ in a well-ventilated area; away from windows, air intakes and other flammables.
- Be especially careful with BBQs on the balcony – keep away from wooden structures and make sure flames don't reach flammable material.
- Always light the BBQ with the lid open.
- Be prepared to put out fires. Water should be available. Grease fires need to be extinguished by an appropriate fire extinguisher or by keeping the lid closed.
- After the BBQ is over:
  - o Clean grill with a wire brush; wipe off the grill to make sure no wire bits remain.
  - o Charcoal briquettes can smolder for up to 48 hours after use.
  - o Don't cover the BBQ until the unit is fully cooled.

#### **Food Safety Tips**

- Wash hands often in warm, soapy water before preparing foods and after handling raw meats (including poultry and seafood).
- Preferably use separate cutting boards, but at least sanitize cutting boards between cutting meat and cutting raw vegetables.
- Don't put cooked meat on the same plate the raw meat came out on.
- Don't prepare food if you are ill.
- Cook food to a high enough temperature to kill harmful bacteria.
  - o Have a meat thermometer and use it.
  - Cook steaks, fish fillets and eggs to a minimum of 63°C (145°F).
  - Cook hamburger, pork, ground fish and other prepared beef products to 71°C (160°F).
  - Cook poultry, field dressed wild game and stuffed meats to 74°C (165°F).
- Refrigerate perishable foods promptly (at below 4 °C).
- Prepare and store raw meats and ready-to-eat foods separately to avoid cross-contamination.
- Keep salads, dressings and other chilled foods cooled.

If alcohol is served at the BBQ, be sure it is enjoyed in moderation and that friends and family don't drink and drive.

# Advocacy Groups Object to Stalling by B.C. Since Conclusion of Missing Women Commission of Inquiry

News Release

July 10, 2013

(Coast Salish Territory/ Vancouver, B.C.- July 10, 2013) The attached letter is from an informal coalition of 20 community and advocacy groups in response to the recent announcement by former Attorney General Shirley Bond that civil litigation by children of Robert Pickton's victims may "constrain" its work in responding to the recommendations of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, and to the recent resignation of Honourable Steven Point as advocate for the recommendations. The coalition is seeking engagement with newly appointed Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Honourable Suzanne Anton.

By way of background, on April 2, 2012, fourteen groups sent an open letter to Commissioner Oppal advising that they would not be participating in the Policy Forums or Study Commissions aspects of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry. Many of these groups, plus other supporters, have been meeting as an informal coalition since then to discuss how to move forward in supporting the children and families, and in pursuing justice for the missing and murdered girls and women.

For more information, please contact:

Aboriginal Front Door Society, Mona Woodward, (604) 697-5662

Atira Women's Resource Society, Janice Abbott, (604) 331-1420

B.C. Civil Liberties Association, Micheal Vonn, (604) 250-6815

Battered Women's Support Services, Angela Marie MacDougall, (604) 808-0507

Butterflies in Spirit, Lorelei Williams, (778) 709-6498

Carrier Sekani Tribal Council, Tribal Chair Terry Teegee, (250) 640-3256

Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, Alice Kendall, (604) 681-8480 ext. 233

Ending Violence Association British Columbia, Beverly Jacobs, (604) 633-2506 ext. 16

February 14th Women's Memorial March Committee, Lisa Yellow-Quill, (604) 618-1061

Lookout Emergency Aid Society, Karen O'Shannacery, (604) 255-0340 ext. 12

PACE: Providing Alternatives Counselling & Education Society, Ellen Wiebe, ellenwiebe@gmail.com

PHS Community Services Society, Patrick Smith, (604) 779-6837

Pivot Legal Society, Doug King, (778) 898-6349

Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs, Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, (250) 490-5314

Union Gospel Mission, Genesa Greening, (604) 506-0845

West Coast LEAF, Laura Track, (604) 684-8772, ext.214

WISH Drop-in Centre Society, Kate Gibson, (604) 720-5517

Honourable Suzanne Anton

Minister of Justice and Attorney General

PO BOX 9044 STN PROV GOVT

Victoria BC, V8W 9E2

Via facsimile: 250 387-6411

July 10, 2013

Dear Attorney General:

## **Open Letter: Community and Advocacy Groups Strongly Object to Stalling by Province since Conclusion of Missing Women Commission of Inquiry and Set out Requirements for Participation**

Congratulations on your appointment to Minister of Justice and Attorney General, we anticipate a strong working relationship with you to advance the critical file of missing and murdered women. We are a coalition of community and advocacy groups who were shut out of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (the "Inquiry"). We understand that your June 10 "Mandate Letter" from the Premier states that one of your priorities is to "consider implementation of the recommendations of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry." However, prior to your appointment and shortly after the election, your predecessor announced that civil litigation by children of Robert Pickton's victims may constrain the government's work in responding to the recommendations of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, and that Xwě lī qwě l tē l (the Honourable Steven Point) resigned as advocate for their implementation. We are frustrated and offended by the suggestion that civil litigation by families will constrain the government's response or stall the work that needs to be done to deal with the ongoing tragedy of violence against women, particularly Indigenous women. If the government truly wishes to make changes in good faith and in the spirit of reconciliation, it should not constrain its actions out of fear that those actions may have an impact on litigation. Such a tactic is not a legal requirement – contrary to the inference that your predecessor appears to have made in her statement that litigation must take precedence over any other process. Rather, it is a defensive move that has already shaken the hope that there might be constructive action taken by the government to protect vulnerable women.

As you know, the undersigned groups were not funded to participate in the Inquiry, and did not participate in the Policy Forums or Study Commission aspects of the Inquiry. We refused to lend the credibility of our respective organizations' names and expertise to the Inquiry, which could only be described as a deeply flawed and illegitimate process. For decades, family members of missing women, grassroots women's organizations in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver (DTES), community groups and Indigenous and public leaders, have incessantly called for a full public inquiry into the missing women of the DTES and the Highway of Tears. We were forced to withdraw due to denial of a just process, uneven funding for applicants granted standing, discrimination against women and Indigenous groups, and violations of international human rights standards. We were deeply troubled by the extremely narrow and restrictive terms of reference and the imposed tight timelines, and continued to demand that all applicants who were given standing be provincially funded, as recommended by Commissioner Oppal. The Commission lost all credibility among Indigenous, sex work, human rights and women's organizations that work with and are comprised of the very women most affected by the issues this Inquiry was charged with investigating.

The litigation does not prevent the government from continuing essential work with impacted families and communities to create tangible solutions to the tragedy of violence against women that continues to unfold. Former Attorney General Shirley Bond's statement that the work may be "constrained" unfairly places the blame for the government's own inaction on the families involved in the litigation, who are seeking justice for the deaths of their loved ones. The families of the missing and murdered women must absolutely not be made into scapegoats for the government's lack of progress.

Since the conclusion of the deeply flawed Inquiry, and the release of a 1500-page report by Commissioner Wally Oppal in December, 2012, the Province has been extremely slow in taking action implementing recommendations from the report, despite the glaring urgency for real and substantial change to be made on the ground in order to prevent further violence and to pursue justice for the missing and murdered women. We acknowledge that the immediate undertaking of the government to open the WISH Drop-In Centre over night with annualized funding of \$750,000 was a critical and positive step; however, we cannot understand why, given the forced vulnerability to violence on the Highway of Tears, that the second immediate measure recommended by Commissioner Oppal to develop and implement an enhanced public transit system to provide a safer travel option connecting the Northern capital and Northern communities, particularly along Highway 16

(the Highway of Tears), was not implemented.

Members of the Coalition met with the Honourable Steven Point twice to discuss his role as “champion” to provide advice to the government as it implements the recommendations, and as Chair of a new Minister’s Advisory Committee on the Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women. Mr. Point indicated to us that he would be stepping down after getting the process up and running, with the recommendation that a woman should chair the committee. He did not state that this was related to any litigation, even though the coalition met with him on the morning of May 14, just days before his resignation was announced. We feel extremely betrayed by this sudden shift, which was made without any consultation or engagement with the families or with impacted community and advocacy groups. Despite our skepticism about the Commission and our previous exclusion, summarized above, we participated in these meetings with Mr. Point in good faith, with a number of our members considering how to engage constructively in that process. The government’s announcement has, once again, damaged the relationship between BC, the families of the victims (who spoke for themselves about their disappointment after the announcement), and stakeholder groups.

***Recommendations Not Implemented:*** Upon review of the 63 formal recommendations in Commissioner Opal’s report, which was released approximately six months ago, we are extremely concerned that the Province has begun work on only two of the recommendations, now apparently stalled out with the resignation of Mr. Point:

12.1 That Provincial Government appoint an independent advisor to serve as champion for the implementation of the Commission’s recommendations. This appointment should take effect within 12 weeks of release of the report.

12.2 That the independent advisor work collaboratively with representatives of Aboriginal communities, the DTES, and the victims’ families in the implementation process.

Given that Mr. Point was appointed in December 2012, we strongly object to the fact that none of the other recommendations have begun to be considered or implemented, and we are offended with the absence of justice for our missing and murdered women. Approximately six months after the release of the MWCI final report and recommendations, we ask whether the government thoroughly reviewed the report as committed on December 17.

We call on the newly re-elected government – as a whole – to prioritize the issue of missing and murdered women, and to work with the families and community organizations to make real change. We know that the Premier has spoken of a strong commitment to government serving the needs of families. We expect the Premier and the government to understand that it is impossible to focus on creating jobs and building a strong economy without equally attending to the pursuit of justice for the most marginalized people and families in the Province.

***Necessary Conditions to Implement Recommendations:*** The Inquiry process was flawed from the beginning, and we were extremely concerned with, among other shortcomings: limitations of the terms of reference; no lawyers for organizations and community members who represent crucial perspectives; lack of witness protection; delayed, incomplete disclosure; impossible timelines; and limited witnesses. The failed Inquiry, far from assisting Indigenous women and women from the Downtown Eastside, ironically reinforced their marginalization. Gender and sexual violence against girls and women continues in Downtown Eastside Vancouver unabated. The Missing Women’s Commission of Inquiry missed an opportunity to respond to this critical social issue through recommending funding for a range of gender and sexual violence support services and gender and sexual violence prevention activities. We advise that if the Province of British

Columbia is going to be successful in implementing the recommendations of the Inquiry:

- The Province must work collaboratively and directly with families and impacted community groups to implement recommendations and genuinely take action to make real change on the ground for vulnerable women, and not make unilateral decisions.
- We suggest a focus on key recommendations, determined in cooperation with the families and impacted community groups, and giving urgent priority to those which would direct and provide assistance to the families and to seeking justice for the missing and murdered women.
- There must be adequate funding from the Province to implement the recommendations.
- The proposed Minister's Advisory Committee on the Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women, if established, must be large enough to allow for adequate representatives from the groups involved, and must include elder advisors as full members. The proposed Committee must allow the people most affected to appoint who sits on the Committee from their respective groups, rather than allowing the Minister with discretionary powers to make appointments. We are confident this will create a stronger and more effective committee.
- In addition to the fact that recommendations 12.1 and 12.2 are currently not even being implemented given the resignation of Mr. Point, the Province must take into consideration that the independent advisor would be most effective if it is a woman, given the extremely sensitive and gender-based nature of this work. Further, we object to the appointment of an independent advisor to serve as "champion" because we are concerned that this would mean the independent advisor would be bound to support all the recommendations even if s/he – or the Committee – did not agree with all of them, effectively taking away any independence.
- The Province must commit to a public, independent annual report on the situation of missing and murdered women in British Columbia, and on implementation of the Commissioner's recommendations. We strongly urge you to ensure that the recommendations do not get put aside and ignored, as the majority of the recommendations did coming out of the Frank Paul Inquiry.
- In order to address the gaps and eliminate the critical and devastating issues of violence against Indigenous girls and women, intersecting and deeply rooted factors including colonialism, racism, and extreme conditions of poverty must be examined. We remind you that in Canada, Indigenous women are five times more likely than other women to die as a result of violence, and that this problem is a national and international crisis. We absolutely refuse to accept the racist notion concerning the normativity of violence that many Indigenous girls and women experience on a regular basis.

***Coalition Committed to Pursuing a National Inquiry and International Investigation:*** In December 2011, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women announced that it was initiating an investigation of Canada with respect to disappearances and murders of Indigenous women and girls. Given the failures of the British Columbian and Canadian governments to effectively address the human rights crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, including the social and economic conditions that make Indigenous women and girls more vulnerable to violence in the first place, our organizations will dedicate what limited resources we can offer to working with the United Nations to facilitate their investigations and fact-finding processes, in order to ensure that Canada is held internationally accountable for these ongoing human rights violations.

Canada has been criticized by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and, in 2012, by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination because of the inadequacies in its law and practice respecting the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of

violence against women, particularly Aboriginal women. The high levels of violence experienced by Indigenous women, as well as the hundreds of missing and murdered Indigenous women across the country are evidence of Canada's failure to meet its international legal obligations to respect, protect and fulfill the fundamental human rights of women. To date, Canada has not made an effective response to these serious and significant findings by expert human rights bodies.

We remind you that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples clearly sets out a framework for states to effectively ensure the rights of Indigenous women:

Article 21(2): States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

Article 22(2): States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

We, the undersigned groups, continue to strongly advocate for a national public inquiry into the hundreds of murders and disappearances of Indigenous women and girls in Canada, to address the service, socio-economic and human rights gaps, and make concrete and specific recommendations to end violence against Indigenous girls and women at a national level.

### **Moving Forward**

Although members of this coalition were shut out of the Inquiry process, we continue to meet regularly to discuss how to move forward in order to support the families, and to pursue justice for the missing and murdered women. We are not going anywhere, and we look forward to the opportunity to work with you on this important issue. We will be pursuing justice with or without you, and we certainly hope that you choose to work with us.

Minister Anton, it is absolutely imperative that you work collaboratively with the families and impacted communities to make the issue of justice for the missing and murdered women one of your top priorities as Minister of Justice and Attorney General. Given the urgency of this issue, we request a meeting at your earliest convenience so that we can discuss how to move forward in addressing the violence against disadvantaged and marginalized women and girls in British Columbia. Please contact Don Bain, Executive Director at the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs, to set up a meeting time (604) 684-0231.

Yours truly,

Aboriginal Front Door Society  
Amnesty International Canada  
Atira Women's Resource Society  
B.C. Assembly of First Nations  
B.C. Civil Liberties Association  
Battered Women's Support Services  
Butterflies in Spirit  
Carrier Sekani Tribal Council  
Downtown Eastside Women's Centre  
Ending Violence Association British Columbia

February 14th Women's Memorial March Committee  
Lookout Emergency Aid Society  
Justice for Girls  
PACE: Providing Alternatives Counselling & Education Society  
PHS Community Services Society  
Pivot Legal Society  
Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs  
Union Gospel Mission  
West Coast LEAF  
WISH Drop-In Centre Society

## **Reconciliation Canada**

*Leading a historic call to action for Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians to come together to build a stronger, better Canada.*

### **Who We Are**

We are a catalyst for social change in Canada. We are building new relationships among Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians – relationships built on a foundation of openness, dignity, understanding and hope. Our initiatives include hosting four major events that uphold and advance the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) BC National Event. Together RCI and TRC events form Reconciliation Week in Vancouver from Monday, September 16th to Sunday, September 22nd.

Born from the vision of Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, Gwawaenuk Elder, Reconciliation Canada is a charitable project established as a collaboration between the Indian Residential School Survivor's Society (IRSSS) and Tides Canada Initiatives Society (TCI).

### **Why We Need You To Get Involved**

The time is now to move beyond sorry and to move beyond misunderstandings. Reconciliation Canada offers an opportunity for all Canadians to renew relationships, based on a shared understanding of our histories and our cultures and walk a path together for a shared tomorrow.

*To 'reconcile' is to weave a stronger and more vibrant social fabric, based on the unique and diverse strengths of Canadian cultures and their communities.*

### **Our 2013 Goals**

- Reach close to half the population of B.C. (1.8 million people)
- Conduct 40 community reconciliation dialogue workshops across the province
- Gather 100 of B.C.'s First Nations in a symbolic event alongside of the community
- Bring together 50,000 Canadians committed to walking a path together
- Engage 1000 volunteers from across B.C.
- Partner with 100 leading businesses and organizations

### **Events and Initiatives**

To reach our goals, our events and initiatives this year engage people from every part of Canadian society in an open and honest conversation about our diverse histories and experiences in order to build vibrant, resilient, sustainable communities.

### **Community Engagement - From Nov, 2012 to Nov, 2013**

*All across BC*

Founded on dialogue and inspirational storytelling, these workshops engage community leaders to discuss reconciliation; and to develop local models of reconciliation. Most importantly, this unique program gives participants new perspectives and a personal plan of action to promote reconciliation in their communities. These workshops represent the groundswell movement towards building better relationships.

## **Lighting the Flame of Reconciliation - Monday, September 16, 2013**

To commence the Week of Reconciliation, a sacred fire will be lit followed by a ceremony and attended by our key partners.

## **All Nations Canoe Gathering - Tuesday, September 17, 2013**

*From Kits Point to the end of False Creek (adjacent to the Olympic Village)*

More than 100 traditional canoes and vessels from across BC are expected to attend this unique and visually powerful welcome ceremony. Our Gathering will be culturally inclusive, with an invitation for Dragon boats, kayaks and other people-powered vessels.

## **Walk for Reconciliation & New Way Forward Celebration - Sunday, September 22, 2013**

*From Georgia Street, across the Viaducts ending at Creekside Park*

At what is gearing up to be a historic event, approximately 50,000 participants are expected to 'walk the talk' of reconciliation – all ages, all backgrounds, all faiths, all cultures –walking the 2km or 4km route. The Walk and the Week of Reconciliation will culminate with a celebration marking a new beginning and a show of commitment to continuing on the journey of reconciliation - featuring multicultural performers and various festivities.

### **Consider This**

On a purely economic scale, the urgency for change is real. Canada's economy is facing a critical shortage of skilled workers. And one of the fastest growing populations in Canada is urban Aboriginal youth living in communities rife with poverty, anger, despair and apathy. This under-20 group, half a million strong, need a positive message to help build a better future for themselves and Canada.

In addition, there are Aboriginal groups and private enterprises that want to partner with each other, but are lacking in the knowledge or the language on how to actually get there. Reconciliation Canada addresses both those issues and opens new doors for everyone.

### **Get Involved!**

You can make a difference and be part of a historical moment. Reconciliation Canada invites individuals, neighbours and community groups, businesses, government and other organizations to join us. Whether you are considering volunteering, registering for the Walk, building a Walk Team, fundraising or looking for partnership opportunities (financial and in-kind support are most welcome), we need you and will greatly appreciate your support!



Learn more & Join Us.

Visit us at: [www.reconciliationcanada.ca](http://www.reconciliationcanada.ca) or contact us at [info@reconciliationcanada.ca](mailto:info@reconciliationcanada.ca)

or (604) 770-4434.

*"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 Elder and Reconciliation Canada Ambassador

**BC ELDERS  
COMMUNICATION  
CENTER SOCIETY**

**ADDRESS:  
1415 Wewaikum Rd.  
Campbell River, B.C.  
V9W 5W9**

**Phone: 1-250-286-9977  
Fax: 1-250-286-4809  
Toll-Free: 1-877-738-7288  
Coordinator:  
Donna Stirling  
Website: [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com)  
Email:  
[bcelders@telus.net](mailto:bcelders@telus.net)**

**BCECCS HAS GONE  
PAPERLESS!  
AND NOW  
ELDERS VOICE ISSUES  
ARE EMAILED OUT TO  
ALL CONTACTS AND  
POSTED ONLINE BY THE  
1ST OF EACH MONTH!**

**Myth 5: RECOMMENDED TIRE PRESSURE IS LISTED  
ON THE TIRE**

How many times have you looked on the tire for the recommended pressure? Well, you are looking in the wrong place.

This is a common mistake. The number on the tire's sidewall is the tire's maximum pressure.

You should always use the recommended inflation pressure listed in your vehicle's owner's manual or on the inflation sticker found on the driver's doorjamb.

The proper tire inflation pressure is determined by the carmaker as it relates to the specifications of your vehicle.

From Vehicle Safety, Maintenance & Warranty  
Myth Slaying Guide

**PROVERBS**

**"Experience is the comb that nature gives us when we are bald."**

**"Do not use a hatchet to remove a fly from your friend's forehead."**

**"The believer is happy, the doubter is wise."**

**"To teach is to learn."**

**"No one can say of his house, "There is no trouble hear."**

**LEO - The Boss (July 23 - Aug 22)**

Very organized. Need order in their lives - like being in control. Like boundaries. Tend to take over everything. Bossy. Like to help Others. Social and outgoing. Extroverted. Generous, warm-hearted. Sensitive. Creative energy. Full of themselves. Loving. Doing the right thing is important to Leos. Attractive.

**Annual Elders Gathering Grand Entry Photos are on:  
[www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) each year**

**ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING INFO CORNER**

**DATES of the 38th Annual Elders Gathering  
The dates for next years event have been announced as  
July 7, 8, and 9th 2014 and will be held at the  
Trade And Convention Centre in Penticton.  
Watch the EV for further press releases on the  
Gathering from the new host.**

**\*Forms are not available from the host as yet, but we are all fortunate to have the venue and dates set so early so that everyone can book the rooms for their elders right away.**