



reconciliation
CANADA



Namwayut:
**A New Way Forward for Aboriginal
Peoples and all Canadians**


Local Government Leadership Academy
Elected Official Seminar Series
Friday, January 16, 2015



**GILAKASLA
GREETINGS**



Acknowledge the territory of the
Coast Salish Peoples


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How do we begin?

WORDS FROM OUR ELDERS




Elder Wisdom

Four Emerging Themes

- **ACKNOWLEDGE** – the past
- **UNDERSTAND** – the present realities
- **CHANGE** – the future
- All of this is done – **TOGETHER.**

'Namwayut: WE ARE ALL ONE.



Elder Wisdom #1


ACKNOWLEDGE

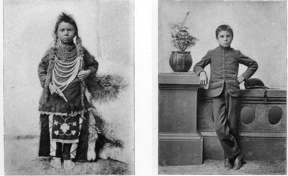
Our Shared History

Canada's Indian Residential School System

Mandate

“Kill the Indian in the child”






Thomas Moore before and after his entrance into the Regina Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan in 1874.
Library and Archives Canada / NL-023474

- 130 residential schools operated in Canada. Last school closed in 1996
- Over 1/3 of Aboriginal children in Canada attended
- 1907 report: 42% of the children in Residential Schools died before the age of 16
- By 1947: death rate was 48%

Assimilation



1884 – Founding Prime Minister, Sir John A McDonald


“We must ... by slow degree educate generation after generation, until the nature of the animal almost is changed by the nature of the surroundings.”

1920 – Duncan Campbell Scott, Deputy Superintendent DIA

“I want to get rid of the Indian problem until there is not a single Indian in Canada that has not been absorbed into the body politic and there is no Indian question and no Indian department.”

Elder Wisdom #2

UNDERSTAND



Our Present Realities

Your constituents’ lives



Inter-generational Legacy



More than **three times** the number of Aboriginal children are placed in care **today** than in the height of Residential School in Canada

Photo: National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health



The Time is Now to Move Forward

- **2/3rds of Canadians** believe that Canadians with no experience in Indian Residential School System have a role to play in reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

Environics Research for Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada and Truth and Reconciliation Commission



Elder Wisdom #3 CHANGE

The Future
Using Reconciliation for a
New Way Forward

CHANGE

100 Reconciliation Dialogue Workshops


- In partnership with UBCM and BCAAFC
- 100 Reconciliation Dialogue workshops across BC

Vision: to encourage and facilitate community-driven reconciliation leading to vibrant and healthy communities



100 Dialogue Workshops

- Transformative Workshops including 40 diverse community leaders
- Self-reflection, shared learning, and community collaboration
- Creation of individual and community-based reconciliation action plans (ongoing)



100 Dialogue Workshops

You can be part, by:

FINANCIAL source or provide funding, and/or in-kind support for Workshops in your community

ADVISORY be a community advisor, identify fellow leaders

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT identify community leaders (participants)




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Elder Wisdom #4


New Way Forward TOGETHER


The Future

Using Reconciliation for a
New Way Forward

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Namwayut - We Are All One




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Elder Wisdom


Reconciliation in Action

ACKNOWLEDGE The past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local territory: website, speeches Start the conversation in your community
UNDERSTAND your present realities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What Reconciliation Canada resources are available? What are the systemic issues?
CHANGE the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Reconciliation Dialogue Workshops in your community Stronger and more inclusive relationships with local First Nation(s)
A new way forward TOGETHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local First Nation(s) and Aboriginal Friendship Centre(s) Renewed relationships, new partnerships and endless opportunity for diverse leaders to collaborate

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In Closing, Elder wisdom:

Dr. Marie Anderson, Nlakapmux Elder:
*"Moving forward means to live a good life.
Long time ago, our people lived a good
life. Every day was a good day.
We cheat ourselves out of a full rich life if
we are not willing to take the risks of
reconciliation."*

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Our Children's Gift to You...

Let us 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

