

# **THE PATH TO RECONCILIATION ACT**

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## **ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

**PREPARED BY  
MANITOBA INDIGENOUS AND NORTHERN RELATIONS**

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## **Executive Summary: The Path to Reconciliation in Manitoba**

Manitoba Indigenous and Northern Relations is pleased to present the fifth Path to Reconciliation Annual Progress Report. The report focuses on the themes of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) 94 Calls to Action, which seek to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation. The Manitoba government reports on its actions following the two broad categories of 'Legacies' and 'Reconciliation,' presented by the TRC in its final report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*.

The first sections highlight new efforts the Manitoba government undertook between April 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020, while the later sections identify the previously reported and ongoing activities. Each year, the Manitoba government implements and supports a number of initiatives that further reconciliation outside of the TRC's Calls to Action. This report includes highlights of these activities as well.

The section on Legacies outlines the Manitoba government's efforts to address the disparities existing between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Manitoba's social, political and economic systems and institutions. We have collaborated with many different service providers and organizations to address gaps in the areas of child welfare, education, language and culture, and health and justice.

The section on Reconciliation highlights our ongoing work to establish and maintain mutually respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, and to create a more equitable and inclusive society. The Manitoba government, in partnership with many other organizations, have taken action towards reconciliation under many of the themes outlined in the TRC's Calls to Action.

Looking forward, the Manitoba government will continue to build on the progress it has made towards reconciliation in the province. Our government remains committed to continued engagement with Indigenous nations and peoples to guide the work and the development of a reconciliation strategy in our province.

## Background

On June 2, 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) released its report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*, which included 94 Calls to Action directed to governments, churches, organizations and all Canadians. The TRC released a final report on December 15, 2015.

In March 2016, the Manitoba government passed The Path to Reconciliation Act, with unanimous support in the Manitoba Legislature. The Act sets out the government's commitment to advancing reconciliation, guided by the TRC's Calls to Action and the principles set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Our understanding of reconciliation refers to the ongoing process of establishing and maintaining mutually respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples; to build trust, affirm historical agreements, address healing, and create a more equitable and inclusive society. Guiding our government's efforts towards reconciliation are the principles of respect, engagement, understanding and action that are outlined as follows:

**Respect:** Reconciliation is founded on respect for Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples. Respect is based on awareness and acknowledgement of the history of Indigenous peoples and appreciation of their languages, cultures, practices and legal traditions.

**Engagement:** Reconciliation is founded on engagement with Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples.

**Understanding:** Reconciliation is fostered by striving for a deeper understanding of the historical and current relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, and the hopes and aspirations of Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples.

**Action:** Reconciliation is furthered by concrete and constructive action that improves the present and future relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

Manitoba's commitment to reconciliation has a particular focus on addressing the persistent and long-standing negative impacts of residential schools and reconciling relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Manitoba. The work of the TRC and the courage of survivors who shared their experiences serve as an important catalyst for change. Since reconciliation has a long history in Manitoba, our efforts are also guided by best practices and

the partnerships with First Nations, the Métis Nation and other Indigenous communities, and by work with Indigenous organizations and governments.

The Path to Reconciliation Act establishes a transparent mechanism to monitor and evaluate the measures taken by the Manitoba government to advance reconciliation, including the measures taken to engage Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples in the reconciliation process. As mandated by this legislation, Manitoba Indigenous and Northern Relations publishes an annual report on the government's activity to further reconciliation. Throughout this report, a collective responsibility is demonstrated through the many partnerships between the Manitoba government, Indigenous communities and organizations, and the private and not-for-profit service providers that work together to promote reconciliation in Manitoba. As the TRC emphasizes, establishing a collective responsibility is essential for reconciliation to right past wrongs, to heal, and to progress towards reconciled nations.

### A Note on Terminology

In the context of this report, 'Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples' are inclusive terms for the original nations and peoples of North America and their descendants, which include: First Nations, Métis, Inuit and those of Indigenous descent who do not identify as one of these three distinct peoples. The term, 'Indigenous' has come to replace 'Aboriginal' in recent years, but some pre-existing programs still use the term 'Aboriginal' in their naming conventions. The reference to 'Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples' is an inclusive term, but we recognize and acknowledge the unique histories, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs of the distinct nations and peoples.

The term, 'Aboriginal' is still used in legal contexts, referring to people with specific legal rights under the *Constitution Act, 1982*. The Canadian constitution recognizes three groups of Aboriginal peoples: Indians (more commonly referred to as First Nations), Métis and Inuit. These are three distinct peoples with unique histories, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

**First Nation(s):** Status and non-Status Indigenous peoples in Canada identified by different cultural, national or linguistic groups who are neither Métis nor Inuit. For example, First Nations linguistic groups indigenous to Manitoba include Cree, Ojibway, Dakota, Ojibway-Cree, and Dene. The term First Nation came into common usage in the 1970's to replace the term 'Indian,' which many find offensive due to its incorrect origin, and connections to discriminatory and colonial policies under the *Indian Act*.

**Métis:** For purposes of section 35 rights, the term Métis refers to distinctive peoples who, in addition to their mixed First Nation and European ancestry, developed their own customs, and recognizable group identity separate from their First Nation and European forebears. A Métis community is a group of Métis peoples with a distinctive collective identity, living together in the same geographical area and sharing a common way of life.

**Inuit:** Indigenous peoples in Northern Canada, who come from Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Northern Quebec and Northern Labrador. The word Inuit means 'the people' and the word Inuk is the singular term for Inuit Person. Inuktitut is their language.



# Introduction

The fifth *Path to Reconciliation Act Annual Progress Report* follows the themes presented in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's final report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*. We present our progress towards reconciliation according to the TRC's 94 Calls to Action that seek to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of reconciliation in Canada. This report includes a summary of new actions taken by the Manitoba government and our partners between April 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020 and a summary of the previously reported and ongoing activities. This report is composed of six sections:

## New Initiatives

- 1) Calls to Action: Legacies
- 2) Calls to Action: Reconciliation
- 3) Other Reconciliatory Actions

## Ongoing Initiatives

- 4) Calls to Action: Legacies
- 5) Calls to Action: Reconciliation
- 6) Looking Forward

Each section in this report summarizes the actions taken to address the various calls to action outlined by the TRC. Engagement with Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples is key to our efforts towards reconciliation and it is reflected in the actions outlined under each theme.

## **Calls to Action: Legacies - New Initiatives**

This section focuses on addressing the legacy of impacts from residential schools on Indigenous peoples and the resulting disparities that exist between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Manitoba's social, political and economic systems and institutions.

### **Child Welfare**

#### ***TRC Calls to Action: #1-5***

In Manitoba, a disproportionate number of children in the care of Child and Family Services (CFS) are Indigenous. These numbers correspond with the circumstances in which many Indigenous families are living and are associated with the legacy of colonization, residential schools and loss of cultural identity. These calls to action require governments to:

- Reduce the number of Indigenous children in care;
- Report on the number of Indigenous children in care and total spending on preventative services;
- Implement Jordan's Principle; and
- Provide culturally relevant care and enact legislation affirming the right of Indigenous governments to maintain their own child welfare agencies.

#### **Progress to Date:**

##### Actions to reduce the number of Indigenous children in care include:

- Partnered with two community-based service providers, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre and Wahbung Abinoonjiiag, to deliver supports to children, in particular working with parents to reduce CFS apprehension and children coming into care.
- Provided support for the delivery of the Restoring the Sacred Bond project that is designed to connect at-risk Indigenous mothers with doulas or birth helpers. The project will match doulas with up to 200 Indigenous mothers who are at risk of having their infant apprehended into the child welfare system. The Restoring the Sacred Bond will help support a strong connection between mothers, babies and their communities.
- Implemented Single Envelope Funding to CFS Authorities. The six block funding contracts to CFS Authorities transitioned to Single Envelope Funding for CFS Authorities to allow flexibility and the use of funds to be redirected toward prevention and reducing the overall number of children in care. This new flexible funding approach will allow child welfare agencies to focus

on family preservation and reunification, with the intent of having placements in the traditional foster care system become less frequent.

Prevention and culturally relevant activities:

- Further developed foster parent training to include cultural competencies and a new system-wide communication protocol to guide various workers who become involved when children are placed into care.
- Provided support for the Peer Mentor Family Preservation Service program in partnership with the Métis CFS Authority to prevent CFS apprehension. This program is a mental health and addiction supported program to work with parents in their homes.

Reporting on the number of children in care:

- Manitoba has continued to see a reduction of the number of children in care, down four per cent in 2019-2020 over the previous reporting period. Additionally, a 20 per cent reduction in the number of apprehensions was achieved between March 31, 2019 and March 31, 2020.

Jordan's Principle:

- Participated on the Jordan's Principle Equity Roundtable Technical Advisory Group for the implementation of Jordan's Principle, led by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.
- Developed an inter-departmental Jordan's Principle Working Group which coordinates information sharing, makes recommendations to senior management, and reviews policies and regulations.

Child welfare legislation:

- Supported Indigenous CFS Authorities under provincial mandate to develop Interim National Standards in conjunction with federal child welfare legislation, respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families.

## **Education**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #6-12***

Manitoba is seeking to address the legacy of colonialism on the educational success of Indigenous peoples through the delivery of training and employment supports for youth and adults across Manitoba. Poor educational achievement among First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth can be linked to circumstances like poverty, poor housing and health, and family violence. The legacy of

impacts also affects the educational achievement and employment success of adults, including survivors and subsequent generations.

Although these calls to action are directed at the federal government, the Manitoba government has addressed many relating to:

- Eliminating educational and employment gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians;
- Eliminating and reporting on the discrepancy in funding between First Nations children educated on and off reserve; and
- Developing culturally appropriate curricula, protecting languages and creating culturally appropriate early education programs.

**Progress to Date:**

Eliminating education and employment gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians:

- Provided support for the Network 4 Change project that provides employment assistance services for unemployed youth who are experiencing barriers to employment.
- Provided funding support to the Northern Youth Employment program. The program provides two streams of services: Intensive Support for 20 high-risk, multi-barrier youth for individualized supports such as paid work experience, and General Support for 25 Indigenous high school students in grades 11 and 12 to receive career exploration, planning and awareness related support and paid work experience.
- Provided approximately \$900,000 to fund 15 projects, as well as several individual proposals for the Indigenous and Northern Initiatives (INI) Fund. Initiatives included those related to reconciliation, education, and economic development. The INI Fund provides funding for projects that have the potential to improve Indigenous well-being.

Improving education attainment levels and success rates:

- Most recently introduced the Indigenous Identity Declaration Manitoba Schools online training course. The course will provide administrative staff with key information to help them better inform parents and guardians about the Indigenous identity declaration process.

- Partnered with the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) to administer the Early Development Instrument (EDI) questionnaire to First Nations schools in Manitoba to measure 'readiness to learn' at school entry.
- Participated on a Federal, Provincial and Territorial (FPT) Student Financial Assistance Policy Working Group to help identify gaps within the student financial assistance loan/grant funding and other barriers, including communications that may be contributing to low post-secondary participation.

#### Developing culturally appropriate early education programs:

- Invested over \$530,000 to community-based organizations that serve vulnerable families to ensure qualified child-care providers are available at no cost to parents when seeking supports and services. This includes funding through the Canada-Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement to support an early childhood educator at Wabung Abinoonjiag Inc. that focuses on empowering families and offering holistic healing through an Indigenous lens.
- Through the Manitoba Early Learning Child Care program revisions were made to the Early Childhood Educator competencies to include an Indigenous focus. All Post Secondary Institutions must now provide programs that follow these competencies.

## **Language and Culture**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #13-17***

Colonization and the residential school system have affected the sense of identity for many survivors and subsequent generations of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples. We recognize that connections to language, culture and heritage are essential, especially for youth, to reclaim identity and connection to community and society. These foundational first steps in reclaiming First Nations, Métis and Inuit identity and promoting an understanding of their languages, cultures and heritage, support the journey of reconciliation.

These calls to action are directed primarily at the federal government, but Manitoba has taken steps in the spirit of the calls to action to support Indigenous languages and culture. Actions within this theme emphasize the preservation and reclamation of Indigenous languages and supporting culture and heritage.

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Supporting culture and heritage, and preserving and reclaiming Indigenous languages:

- Updated the Trees of Manitoba Field Guide to include the Indigenous language names for trees including Cree, Dene, Michif, Ojibwe, Dakota, and Ojibwe-Cree. The field guide was widely distributed throughout northern Manitoba to support the science curriculum and preserve and promote Indigenous language names of trees.
- Provided funding to support to Bertrun E. Glavin School, which created an outdoor classroom to support Indigenous teachings for staff and students.
- Funded 'M.E.T.I.S. (Métis Elders Teaching in Schools)'. This is a project to support three Métis presenters in sharing their knowledge of Métis history, culture and craftwork with school classes in the Boundary Trail Heritage Region.

## **Health**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #18-24***

This section calls on all levels of government to acknowledge how the legacy of colonialism and residential schools have led to poor health outcomes for Indigenous people. The calls to actions address:

- Closing the gap in health outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations;
- Recognizing and using Indigenous healing practices;
- Improving cultural competencies; and
- Increasing the number of Indigenous professionals in the health care system.

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Closing the gap in health outcomes:

- An Advisory Committee was established for the development of the draft Indigenous Partnership Strategy Framework (IPSF) that included seventeen Indigenous members with extensive knowledge in the Indigenous health field. The framework was developed to enable culturally relevant and appropriate engagement with First Nations, Métis and Inuit organizations and communities in Manitoba's Health System Transformation. Four key guiding principles were used:
  - Indigenous History
  - Traditional Knowledge and Wellness
  - Indigenous and Human Rights
  - Systems and Structures

- In 2019, the IPS framework had undertaken several engagement sessions with Urban and Inuit stakeholders, Northern and Southern First Nations and the Winnipeg and Rural Regional Health Authorities.
- Work is underway to develop a strategy for Regional Health Authorities to include a chapter on Indigenous health in the Community Health Assessment (CHA) reports and to improve communication, sharing and joint planning with Indigenous representatives.
- Planning for the implementation of a number of Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) Clinics in locations throughout Manitoba, including one in the north. This new model will serve all Manitobans including Indigenous persons both on and off reserve. Services are to be delivered by the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, Regional Health Authorities and other regional resources such as Indigenous communities.
- Developed the Mental Health and Addictions (MHA) Strategy. The mental wellness of Indigenous peoples of Manitoba is one of seven priority areas included in the Virgo report. Indigenous communities and stakeholders were asked to provide their perspectives during the MHA strategy development and will continue to be engaged during its implementation. Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living will continue to work with other departments, as well as leaders at Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, Shared Health, the Regional Health Authorities, Indigenous communities, and other service providers to plan for, implement, track progress and measure results of actions and initiatives undertaken to improve access to and coordination of mental health and addictions services in the province.
- Partnered with the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba (FNHSSM) to research the impact of diabetes during pregnancy and breastfeeding and subsequent diabetes in First Nations mothers and children, and to conduct a population based study on Tuberculosis treatment, prevention and management in Manitoba.

#### Culturally appropriate health care services:

- Expanded services for youth seeking substance use services. Youth counsellors from the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba will now be accessible to existing and future participants from new locations across Winnipeg including Eagle Urban Transition Centre, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre, and Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc.

#### Culturally appropriate training and increasing the number of Indigenous professionals in the health care system:

- No new actions identified. Refer to ongoing initiatives.

## **Justice**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #25-42***

The high incarceration rates of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples can be linked to colonization, the harmful actions experienced by children in residential schools, and intergenerational trauma. The largest proportion of the calls to action fall under the justice theme. The calls to action directed at provincial governments include:

- Eliminating the overrepresentation of Indigenous adults and youth in custody;
- Providing culturally relevant services to offenders;
- Finding alternatives to imprisonment and recognizing Indigenous justice systems;
- Addressing the needs of offenders with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD); and
- Adequately funding Indigenous-specific victim services programs.

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Eliminating the overrepresentation of Indigenous adults and youth in custody:

- Identified a joint working group with the department of Families and Justice that is reviewing the intersections between these two systems and the pathways that lead children and youth from one system into the other. Also included in this work is piloting successful approaches from other jurisdictions that have drastically reduced the number of youths ending up incarcerated, improving outcomes for these children in favour of therapeutic supports and providing an overall reduction in Children in Care files.
- Investing more than \$11 million to improve safety and enhance access to justice in the north for families living in Thompson. These investments will support further modernization of Manitoba's criminal justice system. The project will increase accessibility at the Thompson Court Office and make court proceedings more timely and efficient. The multi-phased construction project will create jobs for skilled tradespeople in the region including graduates of UCN trades programs. This includes \$300,000 being provided to support collaboration between the RCMP, City of Thompson, and other stakeholders in the development of a public safety strategy for Thompson.

#### Addressing the needs of offenders with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD):

- Developed a comprehensive FASD training package in partnership with numerous FASD service providers. The training package will include four modules: 1) the social context of FASD, 2) prevention/stigma, 3) what is FASD?, and 4) strategies for support/intervention.



Module 1 includes two Elders teachings (a Unity Teaching and an Alcohol Teaching), which teach participants how colonization, residential schools and intergenerational trauma has impacted Indigenous communities.

Adequately funded and accessible Indigenous-specific victim services programs:

- Provided funding to Wahbung Abinoonjiiag Inc., a community based-Indigenous organization, to lead a network of community agencies to help improve housing options for women and children who have experienced family violence. Wahbung will collaborate with sister organizations to provide wrap-around supports and services for children and their families affected by violence to have safe, affordable housing to call home.
- Manitoba Victim Services partnered with Eyaa-keen Healing Centre and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) to offer support of Indigenous Elders at meetings with victims and surviving family members.
- Manitoba translated the brochure 'You Have Options: Help After Sexual Assault' into both French and Cree; making it available on the Victim Services website.
- Partnered with MKO to host a three-day healing event for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) families in Thompson that was focused on ceremony, honouring their loved ones and healing.
- Collaborated with Indigenous agencies to support Wiping Away the Tears, a two-day gathering event in Winnipeg, for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls families hosted by Ka Ni Kanichihk.
- Provided funding support to various community partners for activities, events and family supports in recognition of MMIWG Honouring and Awareness Day October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Provided more than \$400,000 in funding to support programs and services that assist victims of crime, including \$100,000 for Candace House. Funding enabled them to continue providing needed comfort to the families of homicide victims and others who are navigating the criminal justice system. This also include providing enhanced supports such as access to Indigenous Elders and travel costs for family members of homicide victims to travel to court to observe sentencings.

## **Calls to Action: Reconciliation - New Initiatives**

This section focuses on our government's efforts towards reconciliation. The Path to Reconciliation Act recognizes that Manitoba is situated on the traditional lands and territories of Indigenous peoples. The Act also recognizes that the Manitoba government benefited and continues to benefit from the historical relationships and treaties with Indigenous peoples and Indigenous nations. The Manitoba government further recognizes that Indigenous peoples in Canada have been subject to a wide variety of human rights abuses that have caused great harm since European contact. Through legislation, we recognize that reconciliation is founded on respect for Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples and their history, languages and cultures, and that reconciliation is necessary to address colonization.

Our efforts towards reconciliation are long-term and continually evolving. We are committed to the development of a fulsome reconciliation strategy that is informed through engagement with Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples. We would like to emphasize that reconciliation efforts began prior to our legislation and will continue to happen prior to the development and release of our strategy. Manitoba, in partnership with many other organizations, have taken action towards reconciliation under many of the TRC's Calls to Action themes that include:

- Canadian Governments and United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);
- Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation;
- Settlement Agreement Parties and UNDRIP;
- Equity for Indigenous people in the legal system;
- National Council for Reconciliation;
- Professional development and training for public servants;
- Church apologies and reconciliation;
- Education for reconciliation;
- Youth programs;
- Museums and archives;
- Missing Children and Burial information;
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation;
- Commemoration;
- Media and Reconciliation;
- Sports and Reconciliation;
- Business and Reconciliation; and
- Newcomers to Canada.

## **Canadian Governments and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)**

***TRC Calls to Action: #43-44***

Manitoba has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with First Nations, Métis and other Indigenous communities when a government decision or action could infringe upon or adversely affect their ability to exercise their Aboriginal or treaty rights. In addition to our constitutional obligations, Manitoba recognizes the importance of Indigenous peoples' relationships to land and provides support for co-operative natural resources management.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) refers to a broad spectrum of rights, many of which fall under previous themes, such as Child Welfare, Education and Health. In an attempt to avoid duplication in reporting, the following actions are in response to the UNDRIP articles referring to Aboriginal and treaty rights, land and resource rights, and self-determination.

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Aboriginal and Treaty Rights:

- Manitoba Conservation and Climate has implemented a policy to review all content and materials intended for distribution by way of the department's websites, as a measure to control content for bias, and is guided by the rights outlined in UNDRIP.

#### Land and resource rights and self-determination:

- The Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels project is the largest infrastructure project built by the Manitoba government since the Red River Floodway Expansion Project. To date, the province has engaged with 39 Indigenous communities and groups identified by provincial and federal requirements and is in the process of signing consultation agreements with 10 First Nations communities that will be impacted by the project.

## **Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #45-47***

These calls to action are directed towards Canada and the parties involved in the residential school system, to recommend a Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation that would identify the principles for advancing reconciliation. In response to the TRC's Final Report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future*, Manitoba proclaimed The Path to Reconciliation Act to guide provincial action towards reconciliation.

- No new actions identified. Refer to ongoing initiatives.

## **Settlement Agreement Parties and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

***TRC Calls to Action: #48-49***

These calls to action are directed to church and settlement agreement parties and to religious denominations and asks them to comply with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. These calls to action are not directed specifically at the Manitoba government, and to date there have been no actions identified under the calls.

## **Equity for Aboriginal People in the Legal System**

***TRC Calls to Action: #50-52***

These calls to action are directed primarily to the federal government. They refer to establishing funding to support Indigenous law institutes and publishing legal opinions concerning the scope and extent of Aboriginal and treaty rights. The federal and provincial governments are also called upon to adopt legal principles pertaining to Aboriginal title claims.

- No new actions identified. Refer to ongoing initiatives.

## **National Council for Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #53-56***

These calls to action are directed primarily to the federal government and Parliament to establish and fund a National Council for Reconciliation to monitor, evaluate and annually report to Parliament on the progress of reconciliation and develop a multi-year national reconciliation plan. Call to Action #55 calls upon all levels of government to report on progress towards reconciliation.

### **Progress to Date:**

#### National Council for Reconciliation:

- No new actions identified, refer to ongoing initiatives.

#### Reporting on progress towards reconciliation:

- Released the 2018/19 Path to Reconciliation Act Annual Progress Report, which focused the Manitoba government's efforts towards reconciliation around the themes of the TRC's 94 Calls to Action. Collaboration and engagement with Indigenous communities informs our priorities and methods of evaluating and reporting on progress towards reconciliation.

## **Professional Development and Training for Public Servants**

### ***TRC Call to Action: #57***

This calls upon all levels of government to provide education to public servants on the history of Indigenous peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), treaty and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law and Indigenous-Crown relations.

Manitoba offers many corporate education and training opportunities, but individual department and branches have also undertaken initiatives to train their staff to increase cultural awareness and understanding. The decolonization of service and program delivery is also taking place through the promotion of inclusive, respectful and mindful policies and processes. In 2019/20, the Manitoba government invested over \$110,000 on new and ongoing initiatives to train public servants.

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Education and training for public servants:

- Offered educational and training opportunities to improve understanding and knowledge of the Call to Action #57 topic. Multiple departments participated in various initiatives that included but were not limited to:
  - Forming a 'Reading and Discussion Group' on the TRC and its Calls to Action;
  - Participation in the Organization and Staff Development Course 'Indigenous Peoples: Building Stronger Relationships';
  - Participation in the Call to Action #57 Inter-Departmental Working Group;
  - Participation in the governments 'Certificate of Indigenous Relations Program (CIRP)';
  - Hosted and participated in the 'Kairos Blanket Exercise'; and
  - Hosted a learning event at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day.
- Participated in the Prairies Regional Adaptation Collaborative Workshop that focused on moving to Climate Resilience: Managing Risk and Communicating Change on the Prairies.

Sessions included case studies presented by Indigenous communities and examining methods of communicating climate change through Indigenous ways of knowing.

- The department of Families developed and piloted a two-day Indigenous History and Culture training offered to all staff. The curriculum is based on the TRC's Calls to Action #57 and includes traditional teachings delivered by an Elder/Knowledge Keeper.
- Development of a new employee professional development course 'The Path to Reconciliation: A Historic and Contemporary Overview'. This workshop is delivered by Indigenous employees to increase awareness of public servants about: the history of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada; a deeper understanding about the direct and intergenerational effects of colonization and residential schools on Indigenous peoples; and knowledge about effective and respectful communication practices and working relationships with Indigenous peoples in Manitoba. This year 62 government employees from various departments participated.

## **Church Apologies and Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #58-61***

These calls to action request apologies and education strategies for church congregations, clergy, religious organizations and other parties to the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement. These calls to action are not directed specifically to the Manitoba government, and to date there have been no actions identified under the calls.

## **Education for Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #62-65***

Non-Indigenous people must have an understanding of First Nations, Métis and Inuit histories, cultures, and heritage to foster reconciliation. Manitoba recognizes the importance of building this understanding by supporting educational and training initiatives incorporating Indigenous perspectives, knowledge, history, culture and traditions, and establishing educational programs and resources. These calls to action strive to increase every student's knowledge and awareness of the legacy of residential schools, treaties and Indigenous history through inclusion in Kindergarten to Grade 12 and post-secondary curricula.

### **Kindergarten to Grade 12 Curricula:**

- Manitoba Education has partnered with the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to

implement a five-year Treaty Education Initiative (TEI) in Fall 2019. It will ensure that all students grade K-12 and teachers learn about Treaties and the Treaty Relationship by providing classroom teachers with intensive professional development and treaty kits.

Post-Secondary Curricula:

- No new actions identified. Refer to ongoing initiatives.

## **Youth Programs**

***TRC Call to Action: #66***

This call to action is directed at the federal government for multi-year funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation and share information and best practices for youth programming.

Youth Programs:

- No new actions identified. Refer to ongoing initiatives.

## **Museums and Archives**

***TRC Calls to Action: #67-70***

Although these calls to action are directed at the federal government, the Manitoba government supports the calls to action relating to:

- Reviewing of museum policies and best practices; and
- Funding for commemoration projects on the theme of reconciliation.

Supporting and Reviewing Museum Policies and Programming:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Manitoba Education and Manitoba Museum was renewed February 11, 2020. The MOU will allow the two parties to continue to collaborate on events and workshops such as Treaty Education to align Museum programming with the Manitoba Social Studies and Science curricula outcomes. The MOU addresses shared interests to ensure that Indigenous perspectives are explicitly reflected in the development of learning resources and programs, and improving literacy, student engagement, and education and career opportunities.

## **Missing Children and Burial Information**

***TRC Calls to Action: #71-76***

These calls to action are mainly directed at the federal government and relate to identifying and documenting deaths and burial sites related to residential schools.

**Progress to Date:**

Identifying and collecting records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system:

- No new actions identified. Refer to ongoing initiatives.

**National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation**

*TRC Calls to Action: #77-78*

These calls to action require all levels of government to work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to maintain records and support research relevant to the history of residential schools.

- No new actions identified. Refer to ongoing initiatives.

**Commemoration**

*TRC Calls to Action: #79-83*

These calls to action are directed primarily towards the federal government to:

- Commemorate residential schools and the children who were lost to their families and communities;
- Honour survivors, their families and communities; and
- Recognize the contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canada's history.

Commemorating and honoring residential school students and survivors:

- Provided funding support for the 'Reconciliation through Education: Every Child Matters' event. This intergenerational event was held on September 30, 2020 to coincide with Orange Shirt Day, and featured live-streamed activities including survivor stories, cultural celebrations, educational sessions, and opportunities for community engagement. September 30<sup>th</sup> is historically used to mark advancements in truth and reconciliation.

**Media and Reconciliation**

*TRC Calls to Action: #84-86*



These actions relate to funding for the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, educating journalists on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the:

- History and legacy of residential schools;
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- Treaty and Aboriginal rights;
- Indigenous law; and
- Aboriginal-Crown relations.

The Calls to Action also request the reflection of diverse Aboriginal cultures and perspectives in media programming.

Student education on history of Indigenous peoples for journalism and media schools:

- Funding support to Red River College for the Pathways to Business, Creative Communications and Digital Technology Programs – preparatory and exploratory skills, financial readiness, and supports to Indigenous students to transition into selected programs.

## **Sports and Reconciliation**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #87-91***

Sport and recreation are fundamental elements to health and well-being. These calls to action address inclusive sports policies, programs, initiatives and Indigenous athlete development.

### **Progress to Date:**

Inclusive sport policies, programs and initiatives:

- The Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Recreational Council (MASRC) hosted a one-day forum on Truth and Reconciliation for a variety of staff, allies, and community members. The forum included an Elder, NTRC speakers, and residential school survivors.
- The Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame held a recent feature exhibit on the Great War and Manitoba athletes who partook; a feature case dedication was given to Joe Keeper and Angela Chalmers (for Women in Sport exhibit). In addition, the current Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame exhibit includes celebrating 40 years of inductions and features 500+ individuals and teams since 1980 that also include Indigenous members photos on the Hall of Fame wall.

- Provided funding support for the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) Operations Coordinator and preparation for Team Manitoba to participate in NAIG games to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia July 2020 (\*now postponed to 2021).
- Provided financial support to the Community Sport Development Grants program that facilitates the development and delivery of community-based sport by local clubs or teams. Grants are provided to support the development of athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers. In parallel, Sport Manitoba is conducting an Impact Study specific to areas of Indigenous participation in sport and sport development.
- Provided ongoing funding support to MASRC for various Indigenous awareness/education growth initiatives that includes:
  - Traditional Games Programming - provide access to the Indigenous games resource (book) and training to be used as a tool by educators, organizations, parents and the MASRC in communities; and
  - Supporting Dene communities to work with the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society to help provide equipment needed for a five-day wilderness expedition for youth: O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation, Northlands Denesuline, Barren Lands First Nation, Sayisi Dene First Nation (Tadoule Lake).

## **Business and Reconciliation**

### ***TRC Call to Action: #92***

This call to action recommends that the corporate sector adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and commit to consultation and relationship building with Indigenous peoples. Following these recommendations may potentially result in economic opportunities and benefits, as well as the pursuit of consent before development of natural resources.

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Relationship building, economic opportunities and benefits in the corporate sector:

- Administered multi-year renewal agreements for the Job Seeker Manager Agreements in partnership with Manitoba Hydro and participating communities; one with each of the four Keeyask Cree Nation Communities (Fox Lake, Tataskweyak, York Factory, and War Lake First Nations) and Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation.

- Partnered to deliver the Northern Industry Collaborative Employment (NICE) program that explores a wide range of seasonal employment and economic development opportunities for northern communities that also aligns with Manitoba's Look North Strategy.
- Provided funding in the amount of \$250,000 to deliver the Seasonal Employment Training (Fishery Helper, Non-Timber Forest Project, Experiential Tourism, Wilderness Safety Leading to future Prospector training). Training includes a partnership with Communities Economic Development Fund (CEDF), Manitoba Economic Development and Training, University College of the North, Northern Manitoba Mining Academy, Workplace Education Manitoba and participating northern communities.
- The Manitoba Government, Travel Manitoba and the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce have launched a new provincial tourism strategy aimed at increasing tourist expenditures of \$2.2 billion by 2022. There is significant demand for travel experiences Manitoba can offer, including northern and Indigenous tourism, and world-class water-based experiences.
- Established an economic development office. Indigenous engagement is a mandate priority and a key focus for all partners to foster the ongoing strength of Indigenous contributions to Manitoba's economy. The plan is based on the advice received from representatives of business, industry, economic development organizations, Indigenous groups and academia.
- Delivering industry-specific training to 12 Pimicikamak Cree Nation (Cross Lake) community members interested in employment opportunities in the mining sector. Manitoba is providing nearly \$87,000 for the training, with further in-kind support from Hudbay Minerals and Pimicikamak Cree Nation.
- Provided new funding for sector councils - includes strategies to support underrepresented groups in the workforce, such as Indigenous peoples, youth and newcomers who lack Canadian work experience and face barriers to employment. The Manitoba government is investing \$24 million over four years to help sector councils provide workforce training and develop human resource services.
- Partnered with Manto Sipi Cree Nation to advance mineral development with the signing of a new consultation protocol agreement, the first to be developed through the Manitoba-First Nations Mineral Development Protocol initiative. Manitoba is in discussions with 10 other First Nations relating to consultation protocols. The process is open to all Indigenous communities with immediate or potential mineral development opportunities.

## **Newcomers to Canada**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #93-94***

These calls to action include:

- Revising the citizenship test to reflect an inclusive history of the Indigenous peoples in Canada;
- Revising the information kits provided to immigrants; and
- Amending the Oath of Citizenship.

These Calls to Action are not directed specifically to the Manitoba government; there have been no actions identified under the calls.

## Other Reconciliatory Actions – New Initiatives

Each year, the Manitoba government implements and supports a number of initiatives that further reconciliation outside of the TRC's Calls to Action. Highlights of new initiatives that support reconciliation include:

- Created an Information Sharing Agreement with the Manitoba Inuit Association (MIA) that aligns with the Principles of OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access and Possession), to collect and use Inuit identifier information about individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 for the purposes of protecting public health directives during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Generated and shared reports about positive COVID-19 diagnoses to the Manitoba First Nation COVID-19 Pandemic Planning and Response Team, MIA, and other recipients agreed upon by the FNHSSM and MIA in order to assist community leadership and health care professionals to prevent or limit loss of life and harm to the safety, health or welfare of community members.
- Provided Operational and Collection Development Grants to three First Nation Libraries to enable communities to collect materials and provide programming that reflect the interests of the community. Some of the communities encourage local authors and have published their own materials. University College of the North/First Nation Libraries have presented workshops about their services at provincial conferences.
- The Public Library Services Branch organized the webinar with the Circles for Reconciliation project. The webinar was promoted in the public library community and is available for viewing on-demand. Circles for Reconciliation is a grassroots partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, initiated in response to the TRC's Calls to Action. The program's purpose is to foster respectful relationships as the basis of reconciliation.
- The Manitoba government provided \$25,000 to Circles for Reconciliation to further the opportunity to learn about the shared history of Canadian Indigenous nations and peoples. The initiative aims to create trusting, meaningful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples as part of the 94 Calls to Action.
- Completed construction for the Shoal Lake 40 First Nation – Road Project (Freedom Road). In 1989, the Province and the City of Winnipeg signed a 60-year Memorandum of Agreement (the 'Tripartite Agreement') with Shoal Lake First Nation No. 40 (SLFN 40) to protect and

maintain the high quality of Winnipeg's drinking water and promote sustainable economic development for SLFN 40. The grand opening for the road was held on June 6, 2019.

- The Province transferred ownership of Grace Lake Airport to Mathias Colomb Cree Nation - supporting Indigenous-led ventures and bringing economic benefits to Indigenous communities. The Manitoba government entered into an agreement with Beaver Air Services Limited Partnership, Missinippi Management Ltd., and Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (MCCN) on the sale of Grace Lake Airport including 373 acres of Crown Land. The sale supports the continued use of the land as an airport under Indigenous community-based ownership.
- On February 20, 2020 Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister and Grand Chief Arlen Dumas, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC), signed a memorandum of understanding to formalize discussions towards an agreement on the transfer of assets, ownership and operations of the province's Northern Airports and Marine Operations (NAMO) to First Nations. Such an agreement would give First Nations independence in controlling the transportation infrastructure they depend on daily and benefit northern economies.
- Created an Indigenous Internship Program within the department of Finance. The initiative is aimed at building Indigenous representation in Manitoba Finance by allowing a qualified Indigenous candidate a one-year internship. This internship will provide valuable work experience to the candidate and will help strengthen Manitoba Finance with diverse knowledge. Outreach to Manitoba colleges and universities has been done to target recently graduated Indigenous students looking to enter the workforce.
- Contributed funding to the development of Granny's House community respite services in Winnipeg for at-risk families to mitigate CFS involvement.
- The governments of Canada and Manitoba signed a 10-year housing agreement investing in approximately \$450.8 million. Families, Indigenous communities and vulnerable Canadians in need of an affordable place to call home can count on long-term funding for community housing in Manitoba. A bilateral agreement under the National Housing Strategy (NHS) will be cost-shared by Canada and Manitoba demonstrating a joint commitment to prioritize affordable housing.
- Supported and collaborated with Neecheewam on the development of 'Ata Chiminis Misigew' which translates to 'Eagle Embracing You,' a program designed to address addictions and mental health through access to a treatment facility that is flexible and includes cultural connections for Sexually Exploited Youth.

- Supported a new Indigenous Spiritual Advisory and Mental Health Clinicians on the Winnipeg StreetReach Team in coordination with the Tracia's Trust, the provincial strategy to address sexually exploited children and youth. Supported an intensive Peer Mentor Family Preservation Service program through the Métis Community Addiction Response Team to prevent CFS apprehension.
- Supported the participation of a group of Indigenous Elders to attend the National Gathering of Elders conference that focused on Reconciliation, Revitalization of Culture and Language, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), and Climate Change. The purpose of this event was to promote the sharing of culture, tradition, and language from Elders to other Indigenous Canadians as well as the youth.

## **Calls to Action: Legacies - Ongoing Initiatives**

The section focuses on the addressing the legacy of impacts of residential schools on Indigenous peoples and the resulting disparities that exist between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Manitoba's social, political and economic systems and institutions. These are the ongoing initiatives to address the disparities in the areas of child welfare, education, language and culture, and health and justice.

### **Child Welfare**

***TRC Calls to Action: #1-5***

#### **Progress to Date:**

##### Actions to reduce the number of Indigenous children in care include:

- Continuing to implement the Child Welfare Transformation Plan to achieve better outcomes for children. This includes fewer children in care, stronger partnerships with families and communities, better coordination of services and greater public accountability. The Manitoba plan focuses on:
  - Reducing the number of children in care;
  - Reducing the number of days spent in care;
  - Fostering more lifelong connections; and
  - Enabling greater coordination of services and public accountability.
- Continuing to deliver training through CFS authorities and agencies on the Residential School System, Intergenerational Effects, and Truth and Reconciliation.

##### Reporting on the number of children in care and preventative services:

- Continuing to report on the number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children in care through the Department of Families Annual Report. In addition, continuing to collaborate with provinces and territories to gather numbers of children in care across jurisdictions.

##### Jordan's Principle:

- Continuing to be responsive and to work with partners and families by providing information, service navigation and consultative support in order to improve the coordination of services. This involves working with the federal government and First Nations governments to implement Jordan's Principle.



#### Child welfare legislation and culturally relevant care:

- Continuing to create an environment where service providers are able to collaborate and better share critical information to protect the safety and well-being of children through the Protecting Children (Information Sharing) Act. The Act allows government departments, organizations and others who provide services to at-risk and vulnerable children to collect, use and share personal information including personal health information, about supported children and their parents or legal guardians.
- Continuing to support post secondary institutions to develop and deliver training for Indigenous social workers through the Master of Social Work in Indigenous Knowledge Program. Indigenous forms of caring are applicable to the unique circumstances of Indigenous clients and communities and is rooted in traditional knowledge.
- Continuing to devolve child and family services responsibility to the Southern Chiefs Organization (SCO), Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO), and the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF).
- Offering culturally relevant services and programming through the following CFS authorities and agencies:
  - Metis Child and Family Services Authority;
  - Southern First Nations Network of Care;
  - First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority; and
  - General Child and Family Services Authority.
- Continuing to support community-based agencies to deliver programs and services that offer culturally appropriate programming for Indigenous children, parents and caregivers.

#### **Education**

##### ***TRC Calls to Action: #6-12***

#### **Progress to Date:**

#### Eliminating education and employment gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians:

- Maintaining the development of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Policy and Action Plan that sets out key policy intended to educate educators and increase achievement and

attainment of Indigenous students. In addition, action-oriented recommendations obtained from the Manitoba Indigenous Education Roundtables are being embedded with the policy.

- Continuing to collaborate with Manitoba universities, colleges and the Manitoba School Board Association for the Manitoba Collaborative Indigenous Education Blueprint initiative that commits to making excellence in Indigenous education a priority in Manitoba.
- Continuing to deliver over \$3.3 million in grant funding to support education and training for Indigenous youth previously in contact with the Child and Family Services system. Programming includes:
  - Futures Forward;
  - Advancing Futures Bursary;
  - Youth in Care Tuition Waiver Post Secondary Initiative; and
  - Work2It.
- Continuing to deliver approximately \$2.5 million in grant funding to connect Indigenous youth with education, training, mentorship and business opportunities as well as encourage engagement of Indigenous parents and caregivers in the school and with learning activities at home through the Building Student Success with Indigenous parents:
  - Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneurship Program;
  - First Jobs Fund;
  - Youth Build;
  - Young Entrepreneurs Business Grant; and
  - Partners for Careers.
- Carrying on with supporting Indigenous youth through the Bright Futures Fund Career Trek, Bright Futures Fund Medical Careers Exploration Program, Bright Futures Fund CEDA Pathways to Education, and Bright Futures Fund Wayfinders program. Approximately \$2.8 million is allocated to provide programming in education and career development, mentorship and support in academic, financial and social.
- Supporting adult education, literacy and skill development through the delivery of 31 adult literacy centres, 40 adult learning centres across Manitoba, and Adult Learning on Lombard, a full time literacy program serving clients primarily on Employment and Income Assistance. Manitoba provided approximately \$21.0 million to support this programming in 2019/20.

- Continuing to partner with various Indigenous communities and organizations to deliver education, training, drivers education and employment supports across the province, with a particular focus on Northern Manitoba. In 2019/20, Manitoba provided more than \$1.6 million to support initiatives such as:
  - Cross Lake; Wabowden; Thicket Portage; and Lynn Lake Resource Centres;
  - Flin Flon, Thompson, Churchill communities;
  - Pathways Project;
  - FireSpirit (includes FireSpirit Youth Internship Program);
  - Northern Fire Training;
  - Community Delivered Training (CDT);
  - Employment Links Development Centre;
  - Job Readiness and On-the-Job-Training on Tail Line Maintenance;
  - Inter-Provincial Examination Preparation for Carpentry Apprentices in Northern Manitoba; and
  - Northern Construction Trades Training program.
- Continuing to fund Tina's Safe Haven (Ndinawe Youth Resource Centre) to support programming aimed at improving the cultural, social, economic and personal prospects of Indigenous youth. The NYRC provides Indigenous youth (13-24) a safe and supportive environment as an alternative to involvement with gangs, crime, violence and sexual exploitation.
- Providing over \$200,000 in grant funding to Ndinawemaaganag Endaawaad Inc. to support their partnership with Red River College. These organizations work together to deliver the first year certificate of Child and Youth Care Certificate Program that provides participants with the skills, knowledge and attitude to assess and formulate strategies to enhance child and youth care.
- Supporting the Urban Circle Training Centre through \$830,000 in grant funding. This funding supports individuals receiving Employment Income Assistance in developing their employability and essential skills to help transition into employment and economic self-sufficiency.
- Continuing to implement the Look North Strategy and Action Plan. This plan includes six priority areas of action, based on what was heard through engagements with northern First Nations communities, Indigenous organizations, businesses and industry, economic development agencies and other northern stakeholders.

- Providing over \$197,000 in funding to the Fort Whyte Alive Day Camp Experience for low-income Indigenous youth.

Eliminating and reporting on the discrepancy in funding between First Nations children educated on and off reserve:

- Continuing to support school division programming through the Indigenous Academic Achievement Grant to improve the academic success of Indigenous students. Changes to the grant include that 50% of the nearly \$10.0 million in funding must be allocated to literacy and numeracy programming.
- Supporting a number of initiatives through partnership agreements between First Nations communities and school divisions, supporting several community schools on reserve and working with Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre to implement joint professional development.
- Continuing to work with partners and stakeholders to promote and collect Indigenous identity self-declaration information for K-12 students to inform planning and programming within the education system. This aligns with the ongoing implementation of K-12 Framework for Continuous Improvement that requires School Divisions to analyze Indigenous student data to inform planning and set targets.
- Delivering approximately \$2.8 million in funding to support 36 schools in urban, rural and northern communities through the Community School Program. Almost half of the program funding is directed towards Indigenous students and their families.
- Continuing to partner with Assiniboine Community College Adult Collegiate and several First Nations Band Councils to deliver vocational/occupational and academic programming in First Nations communities (i.e. Mature Student High School Programming and/or Post-Secondary College Programming, such as nursing, electrical trades, plumbing).

Developing culturally appropriate curricula, protecting languages and creating culturally appropriate early education programs:

- Carrying forward with *Mamahtáwisiwin* – Indigenous Inclusive Education System Toolkit (in Cree translates to ‘wonder and my responsibility’) which supports the achievements of First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners by supporting educators in incorporating Indigenous identities, languages, and cultural practices into their teaching.

- Completed the Grade 12 Foundations of Law online curriculum that includes First Nations Law topics including educations on the Sixties Scoop.
- Continuing to provide approximately \$200,000 in funding to Frontier College Summer Literacy Camps. The camps embed activities to reduce summer learning loss and community/Elders helped shape the camps by incorporating traditional language, learning and culture. This past year the summer camps served 459 children in 7 communities: Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Hollow Water First Nation, Fisher River Cree nation, Misipawistik Cree Nation, Mystery Lake School District, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation and Waywayseecappo First Nation.

Supporting parents to participate in the education of their children:

- Continuing to offer the Parent Child Program in Community Schools, which enhances student success and parent involvement through culturally appropriate activities for First Nations, Métis and Inuit families.

## **Language and Culture**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #13-17***

#### **Progress to Date:**

Preserving and reclaiming Indigenous languages:

- Continuing to lead work on the Manitoba Aboriginal Languages Strategy. This includes supporting Indigenous language programming across several post-secondary institutions in Manitoba (e.g., University of Winnipeg, University of Brandon, Red River College and University College of the North) and developing Indigenous language curricula in high schools.
- Providing support to Red River College for students to learn the fundamentals of the Anishinaabe (Ojibway) and Cree languages and cultural experiences within a bilingual environment. Likewise, support is provided to Brandon University for the 'Speaking Michif' language program developed by the Louis Riel Institute to assist teaching families the Michif language. In addition, support is ongoing for the University College of the North certificate in teaching 'Ininimowin' program that teaches Cree and is offered entirely in the Cree language.
- The Path to Reconciliation Act directs the Manitoba government to translate the annual progress reports required under the act into the seven Indigenous languages identified in The Aboriginal Languages Recognition Act.

### Supporting culture and heritage:

- Continuing to support the Indigenous Place Names initiative to record, verify and enter geographic names (and supporting information) into the Manitoba and Canadian geographical names databases.
- Festival du Voyageur was granted special designation under the Celebrate Manitoba program. The annual winter festival has strong ties to the francophone and Métis communities and brings voyageur, Métis and First Nations histories to life.
- Continuing to provide support for the Winnipeg Art Gallery's Inuit Art Centre to inspire greater understanding of northern art and culture. The Inuit Art Centre is a programming hub to celebrate Inuit Art and Indigenous cultures through exhibitions, research and education.
- Continuing to support and provide approximately \$650,000 in funding to support Indigenous culture and arts through various initiatives that includes dance, art centres or courses, film and music:
  - Aboriginal Cultural Initiatives: Supports traditional dance and arts education programs;
  - Aboriginal Arts Consultant job position;
  - The Art of Managing Your Career for Indigenous Artists Course;
  - Urban Art Centres Program: provides funding to not-for-profit arts and cultural organizations delivering arts-based programming to underserved or underrepresented urban communities;
  - Cultural Operating: provides cultural institutions with operating grants to enable public access to programs of artistic and cultural innovation and excellence and to develop audiences;
  - Film and Sound Development: provides support to cultural industry associations who contribute to the development and promotion of identified cultural industry sectors; and
  - Indigenous Music Development Program: supporting First Nations, Métis and Inuit music entrepreneurs.

## Health

### *TRC Calls to Action: #18-24*

#### **Progress to Date:**

##### Closing the gap in health outcomes:

- Continuing to participate as a funding partner on Nanaandawewigamig/First Nation Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba (FNHSSM), which pursues a collaboration between federal, provincial and First Nations governments to deliver a unified health system in Manitoba. Progression towards a unified health system includes health data sharing agreements and the creation of First Nation Community Health Profiles.
- Collaborating with the Nanaandawewigamig and the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy on the First Nations Atlas Update to the Health and Health Care Use of Registered First Nations People Living in Manitoba: A population-based study released in 2002. The data will be used to inform policies and planning in governments and First Nations communities.
- Continuing to provide over \$1 million in funding through the Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy to support Intervention and Outreach Teams that provide 24/7 strength based community approaches to improving the life outcomes of youth with profound and co-occurring mental, behavioural, social/emotional, physical health and academic challenges.
- Providing funding for the PAX evidence based approach that promotes childhood mental health in school settings. Many schools in First Nations communities are implementing PAX, initial research findings indicate students in PAX classrooms have better outcomes.
- Supporting the Positive Adolescent Sexuality Support program which is a peer-based family support and community education program for Indigenous youth with a goal for reducing adolescent pregnancy while promoting healthy adolescent development.
- Delivering funding to organizations such as Ma-Mow-We Tak Friendship Centre, Ma Mawi Chi Itata and Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre for early intervention programs for youth. Programs include:
  - Northern Youth Councils Project and Positive Adolescent Sexuality Support to promote healthy adolescent development and reduce adolescent pregnancy;

- Solvent Abuse Prevention Program, an early intervention and prevention program that promotes healthy lifestyles through leadership, role modelling, and family and community supports; and
  - Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy Education Initiatives Task Team, to implement education-based youth suicide prevention initiatives, programming and capacity building throughout the province. Initiatives include: safeTALK; Body Positive; the Everyone Matters Education and Awareness program; Best Practices in School-Based Suicide Prevention; School-based Youth Suicide Prevention Initiatives; and Assessing Suicide in Kids.
- Continuing to collaborate with partner stakeholders to address the mental health and addiction service needs for Indigenous peoples related to suicide prevention through the Provincial Suicide Prevention Network. Partners at the table include: AMC, SCO, MKO, Nikan Awasis Agency, FNIC, FN CFS Authorities, etc.
  - Providing inpatient health services through the Selkirk Mental Health Centre. The centre provides services to Indigenous patients residing in Manitoba and Nunavut, including First Nations patients from both on and off reserve.

Culturally appropriate health care services:

- Working with federal health partners and the Giigewigamig First Nation Health Authority (Sagkeeng, Black River, Bloodvein and Hollow Water First Nations) to fund and operate the Giigewigamig Traditional Healing Centre in Powerview-Pine Falls. The centre is managed by the four First Nations through the Giigewigamig First Nation Health Authority, and offers Indigenous spiritual and traditional care.
- Continuing to support and offer services through the Selkirk Mental Health Centre's Indigenous Service Program. Programming includes:
  - Weekly pipe ceremonies;
  - Smudging;
  - Emotional and spiritual support provided by Elders;
  - Year-round sweat lodge ceremonies;
  - Training sessions on traditional and cultural teachings; and
  - Various outings and centre activities that support cultural (re-)connections.
- Continuing to offer services through the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's Indigenous Health Services. Cultural supports include spiritual and cultural care providers; facilities that



accommodate smudging and ceremonial practices; and the Traditional Wellness Clinic at the Health Sciences Centre, which offers traditional approaches to healing.

Improving cultural competencies and increasing the number of Indigenous professionals in the health care system:

- Continuing to support the University of Manitoba's 'Ongomiizwin' Indigenous Institute of Health and Healing, which provides leadership in Indigenous health across the five colleges of the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences (dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and rehabilitation sciences) in the areas of education, research and health services.
- Continuing to provide funding and support to post-secondary institutions such as University College of the North whose student population is more than 70% Indigenous. Currently, UCN offers nursing programs aiming to increase nursing students in Indigenous communities. In addition, UCN also offers the approved Diploma in Practical Nursing which prepares students to write the national license examination for registration with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba.
- Continuing to provide the online Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Safety Training, within the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

## **Justice**

***TRC Calls to Action: #25-42***

**Progress to Date:**

Eliminating the overrepresentation of Indigenous adults and youth in custody:

- Continuing to use the *Criminal Justice Modernization Strategy* as a foundational guide to implement the necessary changes to modernize the criminal justice system. The four key objectives of the strategy that will support future action, are to:
  - Reduce crime, improve community safety and reduce the number of individuals coming into conflict with the law and the criminal justice system;
  - Deal with each case in a manner appropriate to the seriousness of the offence and the circumstances of the offender;
  - Use restorative justice options more effectively to improve public safety, reduce delay in the court system and ultimately reduce reliance on incarceration, especially in the case of Indigenous offenders; and

- Reintegrate offenders from custody to the community with essential supports to prevent further offences and re-contact with the criminal justice system.
- Continuing to invest nearly \$200,000 to provide support and assistance to the Bear Clan Patrol's community crime prevention and intervention efforts. Part of this funding will support infrastructure and safety improvements including a 15-passenger van, first aid kits, safety gear and bikes for the patrol. The funding will enable Winnipeg Police services to work in partnership with the Bear Clan Patrol, supporting information sharing and increased awareness of community situations.

Providing culturally relevant services to offenders:

- Continuing to offer cultural supports in both youth and adult correctional centres and in the community correctional offices. Cultural supports include:
  - Manitoba Corrections has PITIMA, an Aboriginal Staff Advisory Group comprised of Aboriginal (First Nation, Métis and Inuit) corrections staff from community and custody, including Aboriginal Spiritual Caregivers. Serves as an advisory role on recruitment, selection and retention of Aboriginal employees and assists with development and implementation of policies, standards and service delivery to Aboriginal offenders.
  - Aboriginal Spiritual Caregivers (Elders/Kokums) in each adult and youth correctional facility as well as a Manager of Indigenous Spiritual Caregivers assigned to support its Elders and advise senior Corrections Management on matters related to cultural services to Indigenous Offenders. Examples include:
    - ventilation for smudging in a number of correctional centres and community offices;
    - sweat lodges; and
    - gathering of Medicines and Grandfathers.
  - Manitoba Corrections has revised the Indigenous Culturally Appropriate Program (CAP) and rebranded to 'Reclaiming Our Identity' (ROI). ROI is a four-day self-awareness program that promotes healing, personal growth and identification through education of the historical impacts of colonization and residential school. Topics include the 60's scoop, discrimination, racism, and intergenerational trauma. The medicine wheel is used to facilitate the program.
- Delivering mandatory Aboriginal Awareness Training to correctional and probation officers.
- The Provincial Court of Manitoba has established an FASD disposition docket for both youth and adults who have an FASD diagnosis. One of the goals of these dockets is to ensure the sentencing Judge can properly consider to what extent, if at all, the FASD diagnosis contributes

to the offending behaviour. If there is a link between the identified impacts of FASD and the offending behaviour, the Court may consider how this link impacts the offender's degree of responsibility and can explore how the sentence imposed would best reflect and respond to that link. Additionally, the Court also explores the degree of existing and available supports connected to the individual for improved outcomes.

- Introduced the sacred eagle feather into Manitoba's court system at a sunrise ceremony. Indigenous peoples are now able to give their testimony in Manitoba courts after swearing their oath on an eagle feather. The eagle reminds Indigenous peoples to love all creation, and the feather shows the path they should walk.

#### Finding alternatives to imprisonment and recognizing Indigenous justice systems:

- The Province of Manitoba marked Restorative Justice Week from November 18-25 with a formal proclamation and investments in effective restorative justice programs across the province. Manitoba invests more than \$2.3 million annually in restorative justice programs, supplemented with another \$1.4 million from the federal government. The Canada and Manitoba governments jointly fund restorative justice programs to provide community-driven and culturally appropriate prevention, diversion and reintegration services to Indigenous communities and organizations, such as:
  - Cross Lake Mino-Menostamatowin Restorative Justice Program;
  - Fisher River Ochekwianowesowin Restorative Justice Program;
  - Hollow Water Community Holistic Healing Program;
  - Manitoba Metis Federation Metis Community Justice Program;
  - Manitoba Metis Federation Thompson Community Justice Program;
  - Norway House Restorative Justice Program;
  - Onashowewin Justice Circle Program;
  - Onashowewin Bloodvein Fire Inside Program;
  - Southern Chiefs Organization Restorative Justice Program;
  - St. Theresa Point First Nation Justice Program;
  - John Howard Society of Brandon Westman Mediation Services; and
  - John Howard Society of Brandon Westman Parkland Hub.
- Providing funding to support:
  - Manitoba Keewatinowik Okimakanak's First Nations Justice Strategy;
  - Mediation Services Restorative Action Centre;
  - Salvation Army Correctional and Justice Services; and

- Community Justice Committees.

Addressing the needs of offenders with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD):

- Leading the provincial FASD Strategy by funding and delivering prevention and support services, programs and events for individuals and families affected by FASD. Manitoba delivered over \$14.1 million in funding to support initiatives, such as:
  - Looking After Each Other: A Dignity Promotion Project;
  - FASD Youth Justice Program;
  - FASD in the Classroom;
  - InSight Mentoring Program;
  - Manito Ikwe Kagiikwe - The Mothering Project;
  - MB FASD Coalition;
  - MB FASD Network;
  - MB Key Worker Program;
  - Visions and Voices Program;
  - FASD Family Support Education and Counselling;
  - Project CHOICES;
  - Project Starfish;
  - Spectrum Connections and Rural Connections; and
  - Annual Elder's Gatherings.
- Bringing FASD program service providers and Indigenous leaders from across Manitoba together to share knowledge and exchange ideas on how to prevent FASD, and increase support to children and families affected by FASD, in a more culturally relevant manner.

Adequately funding Indigenous-specific victim services programs:

- Providing funding to organizations that deliver culturally appropriate support to victims of crime through the Victims grants, which includes: Ka Ni Kanichihk, North End Women's Centre, Ndinawe, Sage House, and NCN Wellness Centre.
- Continuing with the work and mandate of the province's Gender Based Violence Cabinet Committee (GBVCC). The committee will help integrate services and take a government-wide approach to co-ordinate policies, legislation and initiatives on pervasive issues such as domestic and sexual violence and harassment.
- Continuing to fund Ka Ni Kanichihk for the Heart Medicine Lodge rehabilitative Program to deliver programming in the community, and to engage with women who have been criminally

involved. This program was the first Indigenous-led healing program for Indigenous survivors of sexual violence.

- Victim Services continues to work to improve the representation of Indigenous staff members across the province. Victim Services has established an Indigenous cultural safety committee to improve supports to Indigenous victims, as well as cultural safety in the workplace. Recent initiatives to improve culturally-safe services include:
  - The creation of a smudging room near the Law Courts in Winnipeg for victims to have access to smudge before Court or meetings;
  - Enabling victims who are accessing counselling benefits under the Compensation for Victims of Crime program to use the funding for cultural supports such as Elders, traditional medicine, and attending ceremony; and
  - Ongoing training for staff on colonization, reconciliation, and Indigenous culture.
- Providing direct support to families of MMIWG through Family Liaison Contacts (FLC) housed within Project Devote (RCMP) and Winnipeg Police Service (WPS), who:
  - Assist families with access to services and information;
  - Attend community and healing events with family members;
  - Connect families with culturally safe programs and counselling services;
  - Serve as a direct link to the police and community agencies; and
  - Establish connections with FLCs in other provinces and territories to address requests for information.
- Broadening the Family Information Liaison Unit to include community-based supports for victims of crime and their families. Based on feedback from Indigenous organizations, Manitoba contracts with Ka Ni Kanichihk and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak to deliver these supports.
- Continuing to participate and support the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and continuing to raise awareness of the injustices by the establishment of October 4<sup>th</sup> as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Honouring and Awareness Day.
- Continuing to support Indigenous self governance initiatives. For example, Manitoba is a signatory to the Sioux Valley Dakota Nation Governance Agreement which recognizes the jurisdiction of First Nations to pass laws and to enforce those laws through local courts and by

traditional means. Manitoba Justice has also sought to address the over-representation of Aboriginal offenders in the criminal justice system by adoption policies consistent with the Restorative Justice Act that supports Indigenous communities to develop alternative approaches to address criminal conduct (e.g., diversion).

## **Calls to Action: Reconciliation - Ongoing Initiatives**

Manitoba, in partnership with many other organizations, has taken action towards reconciliation under many of the TRC's Calls to Action themes that include:

- Canadian Governments and United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);
- Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation;
- Settlement Agreement Parties and UNDRIP;
- Equity for Indigenous people in the legal system;
- National Council for Reconciliation;
- Professional development and training for public servants;
- Church apologies and reconciliation;
- Education for reconciliation;
- Youth programs;
- Museums and archives;
- Missing Children and Burial information;
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation;
- Commemoration;
- Media and Reconciliation;
- Sports and Reconciliation;
- Business and Reconciliation; and
- Newcomers to Canada.

### **Canadian Governments and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)**

***TRC Calls to Action: #43-44***

#### **Progress to Date:**

##### Aboriginal and Treaty Rights:

- Establishing a renewed and strengthened duty-to-consult framework for respectful and productive consultations with Indigenous communities.
- Working cooperatively with 29 Entitlement First Nations, Canada and the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee to fulfill the outstanding treaty land entitlement obligations by transferring Crown lands into reserve lands:
  - Since September 2019, 11, 717 acres of land have been transferred;

- In 2019/20 fiscal year 8,285 acres were transferred;
- For the 2020/21 fiscal year, 3,459 acres have been transferred with an anticipated 13,715 acres to be transferred next year.
- Continuing to negotiate and implement provincial settlement agreements relating to the adverse effects of hydroelectric development and other natural resource-related issues.
- In July 2018, Pimachiowin Aki became Canada's first 'mixed' cultural and natural World Heritage Site, recognized for its outstanding Indigenous cultural and boreal ecosystem values. UNESCO World Heritage list. Pimachiowin Aki is Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe) for 'the land that gives life.' A partnership of four Anishinaabe First Nations - Bloodvein, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi and Poplar River - and the Manitoba and Ontario governments has worked with the Government of Canada for over a decade to achieve World Heritage status for 29,040 square kilometers of boreal forest spanning the Manitoba-Ontario boundary

#### Land and resource rights and self-determination:

- Manitoba signed a forestry option licence with four First Nations to explore Indigenous-led forest development. The licence is a first of its kind in Manitoba and is between the provincial government and Black River First Nation, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Hollow Water First Nation and Sagkeeng First Nation. The consortium will investigate:
  - Determining wood supply and suitability for commercial forestry;
  - Pursuing private partnerships and investment for commercial developments;
  - Preparing a proposal for an Indigenous-owned and operated company to manage, develop, harvest and renew the area's forest; and
  - Making an application for a long-term forest management licence as well as supporting greater participation by Indigenous communities in economic development and sustainable management of the province's natural resources.
- Manitoba's Geographical Names Program, via the Manitoba Indigenous Names Project facilitates the communication, engagement, and capacity of Indigenous communities/peoples to meet Article 13 of the UNDRIP to "designate and retain their own names for communities, places, and persons."
- Supporting northern communities through connections to the land and increased access to healthy and traditional foods. Partners under the Northern Healthy Food Initiative continue to fund and implement local food security projects.



- Working with representatives from various Indigenous communities on resource management boards and committees to sustain long-term furbearer, moose, caribou, polar bear and fisheries populations.
- Working with various Indigenous communities in the planning, development and implementation of community-specific integrated watershed management plans.
- Work proceeds in partnership with Canada, Manitoba and First Nations to purchase and install directional highway and community boundary signage.

## **Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #45-47***

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Principles for Advancing Reconciliation:

- Proclaiming The Path to Reconciliation Act and committing to a public engagement process in collaboration with Indigenous communities and all Manitobans. This will develop a comprehensive reconciliation framework and action plan for advancing Indigenous priorities.

## **Settlement Agreement Parties and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

***TRC Calls to Action: #48-49***

These calls to action are directed to church parties, to the settlement agreement, and to religious denominations, asking them to comply with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. These calls to action are not directed specifically to the Manitoba government, and there have been no actions identified under the calls.

## **Equity for Aboriginal People in the Legal System**

***TRC Calls to Action: #50-52***

The Manitoba government notes that the legal principles that apply to the determination of Aboriginal title have been set by the Supreme Court of Canada through several cases including Delgamuukw, Marshall, Bernard and Tsilhqot'in.

## **National Council for Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #53-56***

### **Progress to Date:**

#### National Council for Reconciliation:

- In December 2017, the federal government appointed six members to the Interim Board of Directors for the National Council for Reconciliation to help advance their commitment to implementing the Calls to Action. Over the course of the next six months, the board members will engage with various stakeholders to recommend options for the establishment of the National Council for Reconciliation and the endowment of a National Reconciliation Trust. Although the Manitoba government is yet to be involved in this call to action geared towards the federal government, there is potential for participation in the future.

#### Reporting on educational and income attainment of Aboriginal peoples in Canada:

- The Manitoba Government released Pathways to a Better Future: Manitoba's Poverty Reduction Strategy in March, 2019. The strategy includes 13 indicators to measure progress, including the low income rate (Market Basket Measure). On an annual basis, government will report on low income rates and Indigenous status will be among the sub-group populations that will be included.
- Continuing to report on the graduation rate and credit attainment results for Grade 9 English Language Arts and Mathematics. Results of self-declared Indigenous and non-Indigenous students are publicly available.

## **Professional Development and Training for Public Servants**

***TRC Call to Action: #57***

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Education and training for public servants:

- Delivering the Indigenous Peoples: Building Stronger Relationships workshop across government.
- Offering department-specific educational and training opportunities to improve understanding and knowledge of the call to action #57 topic. Initiatives include the:

- Manitoba Families' ReconcileACTION and the Relational Training Program positively affects social attitudes and informs staff of best practices to deliver excellent customer service and build healthy relationships with Indigenous peoples that respective program areas serve. The program also integrates speaker series sessions, new employee orientation sessions, Karios Blanket exercises, and a lending library.
- Departments of Manitoba Conservation and Climate and Agriculture and Resource Development provide the Certificate of Indigenous Relations Program – includes readings, lectures, field trips, group work, and discussions to increase staff knowledge of Indigenous history and perspectives to take steps toward reconciliation in their work
- All Provincial Park Interpreters are trained annually on respectfully incorporating Indigenous themes into regular park programming, cultural awareness and the role Park Interpreters can play in public education of Treaties, and the history and culture of Indigenous peoples in parks.

## **Church Apologies and Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #58-61***

These calls to action request apologies and education strategies for church congregations, clergy, religious organizations and other parties to the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement. These calls to action are not directed specifically to the Manitoba government, and there have been no actions identified under the calls.

## **Education for Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #62-65***

### **Progress to Date:**

#### Kindergarten to Grade 12 Curricula:

- Implementing mandatory learning outcomes relating the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada, residential schools and the treaty relationship in K-11 Social Studies curricula and textbooks, and promoting the development of resources that address the legacy and history of Indian Residential Schools within the education system.
- Delivering over \$300,000 in funding to the Louis Riel Institute's Standing Tall Project, a community-based program that works to improve the self-esteem of Métis students, while increasing participation of the Métis community in the public school system. This program was initiated by the Métis, yet it supports all students, especially Indigenous students.

### Post-Secondary Curricula:

- Continuing to support mandatory course on Indigenous Perspectives within post secondary institutions.
- The Manitoba government is working across the education system to increase the number of Indigenous teachers in the province, and to improve pre-service and professional learning opportunities for all educators.
- Delivering funding to train teachers on how to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods. Training is delivered through the:
  - Community-Based Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (University of Winnipeg);
  - Winnipeg Education Centre (University of Winnipeg); and the
  - Faculty of Education 'Kenanow Bachelor of Education' (University College of the North)
- Integrating Indigenous ways of knowing and learning into curricula, specifically for Français and French Immersion schools. L'intégration des Perspectives Autochtones dans le Milieu Scolaire de Langue Française supports this work.

### Council of Ministers of Education to maintain commitment to Indigenous education issues:

- Manitoba Education is a member of the Council of Ministers of Education and collaborates with other provinces and territories on Indigenous education.

## **Youth Programs**

### ***TRC Call to Action: #66***

#### Develop community-based youth programs on reconciliation:

- Collaboration between Indigenous Inclusion Directorate, Economic Development and Training and Immigration Manitoba to develop an approach for promoting relationships and understanding between Indigenous and newcomer youth.

## **Museums and Archives**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #67-70***

- Continuing to provide support to the Association of Manitoba Museums (AMM) through the Provincial Heritage Agencies Program. The program support allows the AMM to explore training, workshops, policy development and best practices for member museums, as well as

support to AMM in their role in addressing the TRC Calls to Action. AMM also provides support to the Cultural Stewardship Program to the National Indigenous Residential School museum of Canada in Portage La Prairie and the Peguis First Nation professional development courses and starting a museum.

- Continuing to support the Signature Museums Program to seven signature museums (Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre in Morden, Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum in Brandon, Manitoba Agricultural Museum in Austin, Mennonite Heritage Village in Steinbach, Le Musée de Saint-Boniface in Winnipeg, New Iceland Heritage Museum in Gimli, and the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada) and also in Winnipeg, for exhibits, special events, public programming, and policy development initiatives. Examples include:
  - Le Musée de Saint-Boniface created the MSBM Board's Reconciliation sub-committee, a community and educational program that shares the stories of the Metis people through Métis beadwork workshops and the 'Dolorès, Grand-mère métisse' Métis Elder program. They also added land acknowledgements for Treaty 1 and the Métis homeland territory and water acknowledgements for Treaty 3 territory (Shoal Lake) to their email welcomes and signatures.
  - The Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre met with Indigenous Elders from the nearby community of Swan Lake First Nation and gifted Indigenous heritage artifacts (projectile points, hammer stones, axe stones, clay pipes, etc.) deaccessioned from the museum's collection. Land acknowledgments were added to all email signatures.
  - Museum staff at the Mennonite Heritage Village were active in informing themselves about Indigenous issues, attended the Winnipeg Foundation's event with Senator Murray Sinclair, and reached out to the nearest reserve in Roseau River to develop relations with their council/community.

## **Missing Children and Burial Information**

### ***TRC Calls to Action: #71-76***

These calls to action are mainly directed at the federal government and relate to identifying and documenting deaths and burial sites related to residential schools.

#### **Appropriate memorial ceremonies and commemorative markers to honour the deceased:**

- Providing Crown land records and ownership information to assist in the research and identification of residential school burial sites.

- Manitoba continues to work with Indigenous partners to support the protection of Indigenous cultural heritage. Ceremonial rights are considered and proper re-burial practices are undertaken, particularly where the remains of an Indigenous person are recovered.

## **National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #77-78***

### **Progress to Date:**

Provincial collaborative efforts identifying and collecting records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system:

- Partnership between Archives Manitoba and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation with respect to a Archival Studies Entrance Scholarship in the amount of \$10,000.

## **Commemoration**

***TRC Calls to Action: #79-83***

These calls to action are directed primarily towards the federal government. Manitoba has not undertaken activities under these calls to action.

## **Media and Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #84-86***

The Calls to Action also request the reflection of diverse Aboriginal cultures and perspectives in media programming. These calls to action are not directed specifically to the Manitoba government, and there have been no actions identified under the calls.

## **Sports and Reconciliation**

***TRC Calls to Action: #87-91***

### **Progress to Date:**

Inclusive sport policies, programs and initiatives:

- In 2019/20, the Manitoba government continued to support partner organizations such as Sport Manitoba, the Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Council (MASRC), the Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Association (WASRA), Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre (WASAC), the University of Manitoba, Provincial Sport Organizations and

community groups. Manitoba delivered over \$924,000 to support ongoing sport programming:

- Providing funding support to sport and recreational activities under the Active Start FUNdamental and Learn to Train – Athlete and Leadership Development Program. This program is supported by Sport Organizations and Indigenous and northern community groups to train leaders and coaches and provides disadvantaged children and youth access to community-based sport.
- Delivering funding to the MASRC to deliver the X-Plore Sports program and Sports Forums. This funding increases the development of new sport opportunities in Indigenous communities and provides education to rural communities on the values and benefits of sport.
- Funding MASRC to deliver coaching programs that deliver culturally relevant sport training and promote the certification, professional development and leadership skills of Indigenous coaches:
  - Aboriginal Coach Module Delivery;
  - Canada Games Internship Apprentice Coaching; and
  - Coach Academies.
- Funding the Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Association and the Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre, which deliver sport and recreation programs, leadership development and positive role models to Indigenous youth and adults in the highest need community areas.
- Funding Fit Kids Healthy Kids facilitated in partnership with a handful of Indigenous communities, which delivers training, programming and workshops based on the fundamentals of movement. These services are offered to children, parents, program facilitators and recreation leaders throughout Manitoba.
- Funding support to the University of Manitoba's Aboriginal Youth Mentorship Program. The program develops culturally responsive sport leaders that can plan and facilitate relevant and meaningful sport programs and physical literacy for all youth.

## **Business and Reconciliation**

### ***TRC Call to Action: #92***

#### **Progress to Date:**

#### **Relationship building, economic opportunities and benefits in the corporate sector:**

- Continuing to work with Manitoba Aerospace Inc. to deliver training to Indigenous people to increase their participation in the aerospace industry.

- Training to Employment Pathways (TEP) is a proven Northern Manitoba Model to enhance the employability of northerners for northern jobs.
- Collaborating with Manitoba Hydro and Keeyask Cree Nation partners to offer the Keeyask Engagement Project. This initiative identifies barriers to employment faced by job seekers and apprentices from the four Keeyask Cree Nation communities, and refers the candidates for employment and training opportunities at the Keeyask Hydro project.

### **Newcomers to Canada**

***TRC Calls to Action: #93-94***

No ongoing activities identified.



## Looking Forward

The Path to Reconciliation Act establishes a transparent mechanism to monitor and evaluate the measures taken by the Manitoba government to advance reconciliation, including the measures taken to engage Indigenous nations and Indigenous peoples in the reconciliation process. One of the tools implemented by our government to monitor our progress is The Path to Reconciliation Act Annual Progress Report, outlining our actions that contribute towards reconciliation in our province.

Reconciliation is rooted in respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Determining what specific actions should be taken can only be done in a collaborative fashion in partnership with First Nations, Métis and Indigenous peoples. The Manitoba government is committed to a public engagement process to hear the reconciliation priorities of Indigenous nations, Indigenous peoples and all Manitobans. This public engagement will guide the development of a reconciliation strategy in Manitoba. The strategy will also be guided by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action and the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Reconciliation in Manitoba is a collaborative effort that involves both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Manitoba and all sectors of society. As Manitobans learn about each other and the diverse cultures and histories in our province, we can all journey together along the path toward reconciliation.

Available in alternate formats upon request