

2021 Resources for Observing National Indigenous People's Day Every Day

Ode'miin Giizis (Strawberry Moon, June) 2021

Toronto Urban Native Ministry

www.tunm.ca

The Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line is available 24-hours a day for anyone experiencing pain or distress as a result of a residential school experience. Support is available at 1-866-925-4419.

Support Residential School Survivors and Families of Kamloops Indian Residential School

"We at Indian Residential School Survivor Society (IRSSS) strive to provide physical, emotional, intellectual, spiritual growth, development, and healing through culturally-based values and guiding principles for Survivors, Families, and Communities. Our mandate is: To assist First Nation Peoples in British Columbia to recognize and be holistically empowered from the primary and generational effect of the Residential Schools by supporting research, education, awareness, partnerships, and advocating for justice and healing. The Society assists Survivors with counselling, court support, information, referrals, workshops, and more."

<https://www.irsss.ca/donate>

LEARN

Part of the celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day involves engaging with the history and present of the vast Indigenous Nations and communities across this land. This is our opportunity to come to a greater understanding of the points of view, desires, and futures of Indigenous Peoples. The following lists a variety of opportunities and resources to expand your knowledge.

The Impact of Residential Schools

Webinar, June 1st 7:00pm Eastern Time Zone

Join Tracey Whiteye as she "shares her story as an Indigenous woman and second-generation residential school Survivor who fought to regain her culture and language through the healing of Indigenous ways of knowing. This session interweaves the history of residential schools with the personal experiences of Survivors and their families."

<https://secure.kairosCanada.org/civicrm/event/register?id=231>

An Evening with The Most Rev. Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop

Online Gathering, June 2nd 7:00pm-8:30 Eastern Time Zone

Join Redeemer Lutheran Church community and Archbishop Mark MacDonald, for his teachings on reconciliation, climate justice, treaties and land claims, and the role of churches. Register here:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-most-rev-mark-macdonald-national-indigenous-anglican-archbishop-tickets-154589700957?aff=ebdssbeac&fbclid=IwAR3OM3IPJw3GASFtNCQ8wiUHF0p-76HmlUECU5buUt_e9tleTHqWJ3Czlvl

Carrying Our Medicine and Strengthening Our Vision to End the Violence

Conference, June 8th, 9th, 10th, online

Register online to virtually attend some of the many workshops held by the National Indigenous Women's Resource Centre from June 8th-10th 2021. Conference organizers note that "carrying our medicine is how we have survived and continue to survive as Indigenous people... The Women Are Sacred Conference represents the strength and resilience of our people and the tools and knowledge we have to make a difference."

<https://www.niwrc.org/was>



Métis Teachings

Webinar, June 15th 7pm Eastern Time Zone

Join Métis elder Gloria Thomson as she discusses the "evolution of the Métis as a distinct People and shares the impact of that history as it has affected her and her family."

<https://secure.kairosCanada.org/civicrm/event/register?id=233>

Sacred Teachings Podcast

There are six incredible seasons to choose from the National Indigenous Ministries Sacred Teachings Podcast. From interviews with Indigenous psychologists to Traditional Teachings, this podcast series highlights the wisdom of Indigenous Elders from across the continent of Turtle Island.

<https://www.anglican.ca/im/podcasts/>

We Are All Treaty People

Webinar, June 21st 7:00pm Eastern Time Zone

On National Indigenous People's Day, join Mary-Anne Kechege for traditional teachings about the Two-Row Wampum Belt & Dish with One Spoon treaty. Kechege will discuss the treaty territory of Southern Ontario and how "it is important to educate our allies about what treaties represent and their responsibilities to uphold those treaties."

<https://secure.kairoscanada.org/civicrm/event/info?id=234&reset=1>

The Importance of Growing Gardens

Webinar, June 20th 7pm

Join KAIROS Teaching and Sharing Circles: "In this session, Mary-Anne talks about the importance of growing gardens as a way to remind us that all the plants that we grow can help to "sustain us in life". Specifically, she explores the relationship between sowing seeds and the cycles of the moon and how to "touch the earth, plant a seed, sing nurturing songs to it... and give healing to our spirit".

<https://www.kairoscanada.org/event/the-importance-of-growing-gardens-2>

Tour a Residential School

Virtual Tour, 16 June 2021 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (EDT)

"The Woodland Cultural Centre presents a screening of the Mohawk Institute Residential School as a fundraiser for the Save the Evidence fundraising campaign. Join us every third Wednesday of the month at 7pm and help us raise funds for this important project. The virtual tour video was created with local production company Thru the Reddoor, and it follows the guide, Lorrie Gallant, as she gives a tour of the former Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School. During the video Lorrie provides the history of the institution over its 140 year history. Viewers will get to see the different rooms in the school, from the girls' and boys' dormitories, the cafeteria, laundry room, and other rooms throughout the building, as well as hear interviews from five Survivors of the Mohawk Institute."

<https://woodlandculturalcentre.ca/june-virtual-tour-of-the-former-mohawk-institute-residential-school/>

Nipivut Inuit Podcast

"Nipivut" (meaning 'our voices' in Inuktitut) is a community-based Inuit radio show in Montreal. Nipivut provides an opportunity for Inuit to represent themselves and to connect to the broader community, including north and south. Their most recent show featured Black Inuit community members on their experiences of racism and their perspectives on the Black Lives Matter movement. They spoke with Dominique Putulik from Aylmer Quebec, Miali Coley-Sudlovenick from Iqaluit, Aibillie Cumberbatch from Inukjuaq, and Qalingu Napartuk, a rapper from Umiujaq whose music is also featured on the show.

<https://soundcloud.com/nipivut>

Social Injustice in the Courts System

Webinar, June 29th, 7:00pm Eastern Time Zone

“In Social Injustice in the Court System, Tina Stevens explores how settler colonialism began the long-standing legacy of racism and discrimination toward Indigenous peoples, discusses the connections between the imposition of European culture and how Indigenous laws were overlooked, and explores how the removal of Indigenous people from their home territories continues to have long-lasting impacts today. Tina also offers steps towards reconciliation that could help to correct or re-shape the injustices in the justice system.”

<https://www.kairoscanada.org/event/social-injustice-in-the-courts-system>

Indigenous Lawyer Dr. Pamela Palmater's Youtube Channel

This incredible resource gathers research based knowledge and informed analysis in short videos brought to you by Ryerson University's Chair in Indigenous Governance and Mi'kmaq Nation's Dr. Pamela Palmater.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTeExnsj_hu87OwPCHcBcjA

Engage the Calls to Justice

This summary report gives an excellent introduction and engagement with the concrete calls to action and justice from the final report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Queer people. Consider reading the Calls to Justice, choosing one that speaks to you, and write your local MP for the implementation of the final report.

https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Calls_for_Justice.pdf

Learn how to offer a Land Acknowledgment in your Faith Community

Indigenous Peoples Month is a great time to think about how your community could craft a land acknowledgement that suits the place and context of your church, place of work, home or community at large. This is an important protocol that is one of the foundation blocks of building safer spaces for Indigenous presence and voices.

<https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/acknowledging-the-territory.pdf>

Resource kit of activities for children and families

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1315444613519/1534942257655>

Reclaiming Power and Place

Click below to access the final report of the Nation Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Queer peoples.

https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/final-report/?fbclid=IwAR1NOCNYZO2rZ5x6t6PsuuztJliSj5jfSk-pJDX_MS9bXSpAHB5d-aUt2lw

Medicine for the Resistance Podcast

[Medicine for the Resistance](#) is by “an Anishnaabe kwe and an Afro mystic looking at life through #Black and #Indigenous eyes.”

<https://soundcloud.com/patty-wbk>

Reconciliation Toolkit- National Indigenous Ministries

This extensive link organized by Reconciliation Animator Melanie Delva features a wide variety of resources, from films to recommended books, to ways you can personally get involved with the reconciliation journey.

<https://www.anglican.ca/tr/reconciliation-toolkit/>

Resources of Black and Indigenous Relations and Co-Creation

This toolkit features a diverse list of films, documentaries, academic articles, and more.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11GGzi6lDzayf-AcN_Duw6TGjGGQjEgu9t8cJgTbaPU/edit?fbclid=IwAR24-FzY-CFYutXWJ78XpDb_2NhyABfRTI56Btm7k8goCGt7hS2QmEhfFos

Amplify Indigenous Voices

Lift up Indigenous media, literature, art, music, and more. Use your social media channels to share and promote Indigenous based platforms.

<https://www.aptn.ca/>

<https://www.wawataynews.ca/>

<http://muskratmagazine.com/>

PRAY

The following are prayers that have been created to unify the heart and mind with both the plight and the strength of Indigenous Peoples. These prayers bring to mind many of the parts of settler-Indigenous relationship that have been wounded gravely, as well as the opportunity for healing and unity. These prayers can be used in your services, in your gatherings, or as a centering activity in your spiritual practices. You will also find longer listings of prayer resources from both the United and Anglican Churches of Canada.

Prayer for the Loss in Kamloops, BC

by Rev. Murray Pruden, Executive Minister, Indigenous Ministries & Justice, The United Church of Canada, May 31 2021

https://united-church.ca/news/kamloops-residential-school-time-mourning-and-support?fbclid=IwAR3Fad97UJ_hFKj4ix2ysqbdN7o-YxdKqFlxIw0xiIK0xOqizaSzXCIRODs

Creator,
We give thanks for this day and each day you grant us life to walk on this great land, our Mother.
Give us the heart and strength to come together in prayer in time of mourning, reflection, and peace.
The news we have heard these last few days of our relations, our families, the children who have been physically taken away from us and who have now been found.
And with this news, we grieve for their memory, for their struggle, for their spirit.
We pray for good understanding, guidance, and love for all our families and communities who will need direction and resolution at this time.
And we come together in prayer and ask for your light to guide us to be a part of that needed peace, support, and resolve for everyone who is reacting to this great tragedy in our Indigenous Nations of this great land.
Creator be with us, allow us to be brave. Allow us to be strong. Allow us to be gentle to one another. Allow us to be humble. But most of all, allow us to be like the Creator's love.
Peace be with us, we lift up our prayers to you. In love, trust, and truth, peace be with us all.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayer for those Who Did not Return Home from Residential School and for all Missing and Murdered Indigenous People

By Toronto Urban Native Ministry

Let us pray,
We hold close to our hearts today those whose absence leaves a gap too great for words. We hold to our hearts and grieve those beautiful lives cut short by colonial violence.
For the thousands of children who did not return home from residential school,
For the many Indigenous women, girls, and LGBTQ2S+ people who are missing, or taken from us,
May love surround them.
May love circle those who miss them from their circles of love, family, and Community. May love empower and encourage us to act with compassion, understanding, and peace.
Peace and dignity to all beings, of earth, sky, and sea.
We lament the violence at every level of Canadian society.
May we all listen and follow the leadership of the families in this time of reckoning and calls for justice.

May the chains of violence in hearts and communities be healed at their deepest roots.

We hold close to our hearts the tears of so many, and the dead who lay in the earth.

We commit ourselves to praying, listening, being in relationship, speaking, and acting for the healing of the generations past and generations to come. Creator of life- unleash the healing of your love in this land. In the spirit of the Creator who is with us now, Amen.

Prayer for the Students of Kamloops Residential School

by Moderator Richard Bott, The United Church of Canada, May 31 2021

O God, we are grieving. O God, we are shocked. O God, we are horrified. But, God, if we truly listened, we can't be surprised.

The Elders and the Communities had already told the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, told the governments and the world, the stories of the children, dead and buried, unnoted by the settler systems, but never ever forgotten by their siblings, their parents, their communities.

We grieve for the Indigenous children, taken from their homes and parents by the government, handed over to the responsibility of the Christian church, the children who died under its care, never to be held by their families, never to be returned to their communities—not only the 215 children of the Tk'emlups te Secwepemc and other Indigenous communities along the west coast and interior whose bodies have now been found on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School grounds, but all of those children whose bodies have not yet been found who died in any of Indian Residential Schools.

We grieve for the survivors of the Indian Residential Schools, the children who did come home, but were changed by their experience, the children who grew up, and have the trauma of remembering, again, what happened to them.

Even as we give thanks for their families and communities, who hold the stories of the children, who have kept searching, who keep searching, we grieve that that search is even necessary, that even one child was taken, that even one child died, that even one child's death went unnoted by the system.

Help us to stop, to sit in silence, to remember the names we do not know. May their spirits have peace, and their bodies be brought home to their lands. And God? Help us to take this grief, this shock, this horror, and turn it into right action—action that works for right relations—action that works for healing and justice and hope.

And, please, don't let those of us who are settlers and descendants of settlers, newcomers to this land, let the horror, the shock, and the grief just be an outpouring of words, or tears, or ineffectual hand-wringing.

Let this be a moment that changes, a moment that transforms the brokenness, that we might walk in right relations, for the good of your children, for the good of your world.

Please, God.

These things we pray, in the name of the one who brought Creation into being,

in the name of Jesus, our teacher and friend,

in the name of the Holy Spirit, whose wings spread across the sky.

Amen and amen.

Prayer for those Recently Killed by Police Violence

By Toronto Urban Native Ministry

In Holy Darkness You created

Over black water the Spirit breathed first life into being.

Shield and protect all who are targeted, harassed, and terrorized, and all who are re-traumatized, right now.

Shield and protect all who are broken, enraged, unable to sleep, all who are on the streets, all who are at home, all without a home.

Give them the strength of mountains.

Shelter them in the comfort of your love and surround those who grieve the tragic murder of their loved ones with community and care.

Spirit of burning truth, overturn and topple every institution, structure, practice, and mindset of white supremacy. Bring to ruin all workings of hatred and malice.

Creator of Life, we commit to your eternal cradle and loving arms your slain children, murdered by police:

(name those recently killed by police)

Honour and dignity to their names and families. They rise like stars- may they guide our navigation as we pray for all to turn to the path of justice.

From violence to community.

From white supremacy to repentance.

As you tear down the mighty from their thrones and lift up the stomped on Enkindle our hearts with the fire of your transformation.

God who overcame and precluded police and soldiers, opened prisons, and raised the murdered from the dead- give us your courage, creative vision and powerful love that breaks every chain. Amen.

Indigenous Day of Prayer- United Church of Canada

Check out the link below for an extensive liturgical resource portfolio, from the Seven Grandfather Teachings to a Covenant of Reconciliation.

<https://www.united-church.ca/worship-special-days/indigenous-day-prayer>

National Indigenous Day of Prayer- Anglican Church of Canada

Check out this resource page, featuring prayers and liturgical readings for community observation of National Indigenous Day of Prayer.

<https://www.anglican.ca/im/nidp/>

W O R S H I P W I T H O T H E R S

Toronto Urban Native Ministry's Online Worship Prayer

Every Sunday at 9am Toronto Urban Native Ministry releases a worship video, which features prayers, drum songs, hymns, and reflections on sacred scriptures and teachings. These videos are then archived on our facebook page, which is available in the link below. Join Reverend Evan Noodin Smith, Reverend Leigh Kern, and Sandra Campbell every week for new reflections!

https://www.facebook.com/urbannativeministry/videos/?ref=page_internal

Gathering at the River: Online Gospel Jamboree

Want to hear songs and voices from across the land and territories? Check out this National Indigenous Ministries online worship video and educational resource about the Jamboree tradition.

https://www.anglican.ca/im/gospeljam/?fbclid=IwAR1b5V3OQHbXQnUU4eVY8OF_UeJJb3fSCMyKWkv9QQBzkqvh9DDi93Y-kk8

Social Distance Powwow

Join this ongoing online Powwow, all are welcome! As Powwow season has been shutdown by the COVID-19 pandemic, many Indigenous vendors, dancers, artists and singers have lost significant income. Participate in this online forum to enter the prayerful Powwow spirit, support others, and "spread love and positivity!! Let's Powwow everybody!!"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/832568190487520>

R E D I S T R I B U T E W E A L T H

We know that Indigenous communities for hundreds of years have often been under resourced and left out of economic growth. If you are able, consider organizing a fundraiser for a local Indigenous community based organization or initiative. Below are a few local recommendations of where you can make a donation that will have a direct impact on the lives of Indigenous peoples.

Toronto Urban Native Ministry

Did you know that despite our founding in 1996 as an ecumenical ministry, we still do not have stable funding? In order to continue to offer chaplaincy, community care, ceremonies and outreach services we need to fundraise for our staffing, rent, and program costs. Please contribute so that TUNM can continue into the future and continue to make these resources available for faith communities.

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/tunm/?utm_expid=.Zw6wDABWRgyB0oPCIDzoRg.0&utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2Furl%3Fq%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.canadahelps.org%252Fen%252Fcharities%252Ftunm%252F%26sa%3DD%26sntz%3D1%26usq%3DAFQjCNFMFIJn-tblz7H9EyLM2r7T85hHyw

Fundraiser for Eishia Hudson

The family Eishia Hudson, a 16 year old Indigenous youth killed by police, continue to organize to fight against her tragic death and bring accountability. Please support her family here and learn more about her case.

<https://ca.gofundme.com/f/justice-for-eishia-hudson>

Fundraiser for Regis Korchinski Paquet

Please support the family of Regis Korchinski Paquet, a recently deceased Black and Indigenous woman in Toronto, as the family is seeking public help so that they can pursue an inquiry into her death.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/regis4ever?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=customer

Fundraiser for the Family of Chantel Moore

Please support the family of Chantel Moore, who was shot dead by police in her home during a wellness check. She tragically leaves behind her family and 5 year old daughter Gracie. *See the ACT section for how you can stand in solidarity with those who grieve her devastating loss.*

<https://ca.gofundme.com/f/support-for-family-of-chantel-moore>

Toronto Indigenous Harm Reduction

“Toronto Indigenous Harm Reduction is a response to the pandemic of ongoing colonization and lack of services for the urban Indigenous population. TIHR has been on the frontlines of encampment support and the

devastating overdose crisis that is currently taking place across Turtle Island. We are a grassroots initiative that works to provide traditional meals and supplies that are needed." Support Indigenous led outreach to those in need in the GTA by donating to TIHR!

<https://www.torontoindigenoushr.com/>

TransPride Toronto

Support this Two-Spirit and Indigenous led collective, that supports trans people living in the GTA through life saving and life sustaining supports.

<https://transpridetoronto.com/donate/>

The Anglican Healing Fund

This resource provides funding for Indigenous led organizations in the work of cultural and community revival, healing the wounds of Indian Residential Schools.

<https://www.anglican.ca/resources/anglican-healing-fund/>

Native Arts Society

The Native Arts Society is a Two-Spirit and trans led art gallery and studio space for Indigenous artists living in Toronto. "We are so excited to be able to provide a platform for Indigenous art that is rarely seen or uplifted, including Art from the street community, those who are incarcerated, and more modern forms of Inuit art. To date there is an appalling lack of Indigenous-owned galleries in Toronto, with the majority of galleries carrying invaluable First Nations, Metis and Inuit art being non-native owned. Indigenous people's deserve self-determination in the Arts as we do in any other venue."

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/nativeartssociety?fbclid=IwAR33mv1fDpX-TKB20tTDqGvzDc-m3F89HDYoyzLrzBDLOMoTCCdr-IRRvrk>

Support the Most Vulnerable: COVID-19 Protection for Prisoners

Did you know that Indigenous peoples are overwhelmingly represented in our Canadian jails and prisons? Prisoners are at heightened risk of COVID-19. While it is their right under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Human Rights codes, and the International Human Rights Guidance on Health Care in Prison Settings, prisoners do not have healthcare access that is equivalent to that in the community. Learn more about the impact of COVID-19 on Prisoners and Indigenous Peoples and take action in solidarity through the following links and letter writing tools.

<https://cp-ep.org/protectprisoners/>

https://www.gofundme.com/f/prisoner-emergency-support-fund?utm_source=widget&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet