

Indigenous Rights in Canada: Reconciliation through Recognition and Action at Library and Archives Canada

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Indigenous Peoples in Canada



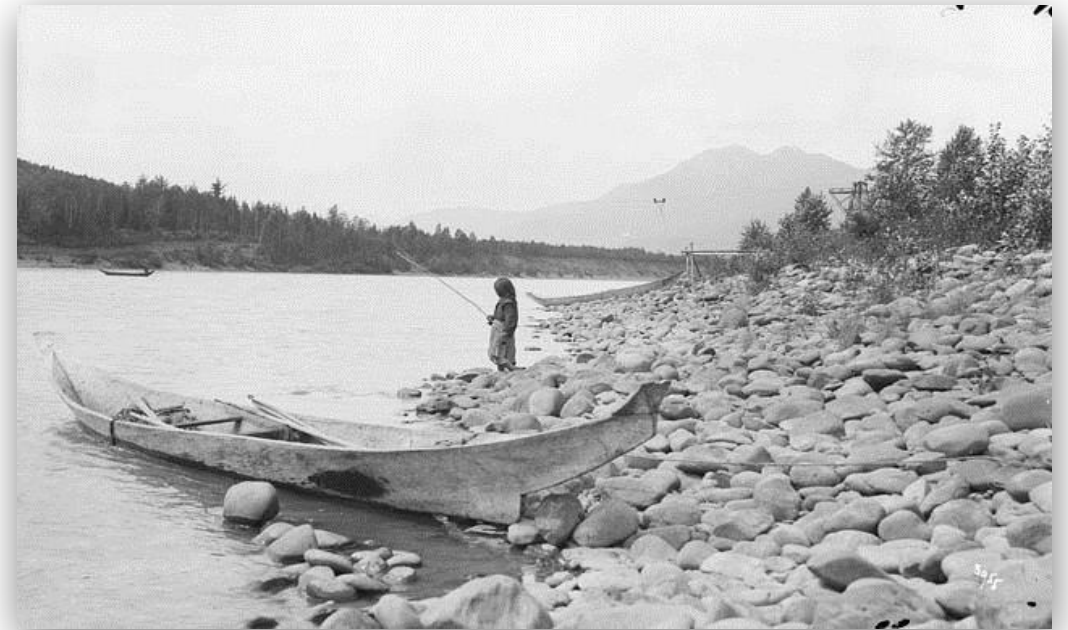
Legal Framework



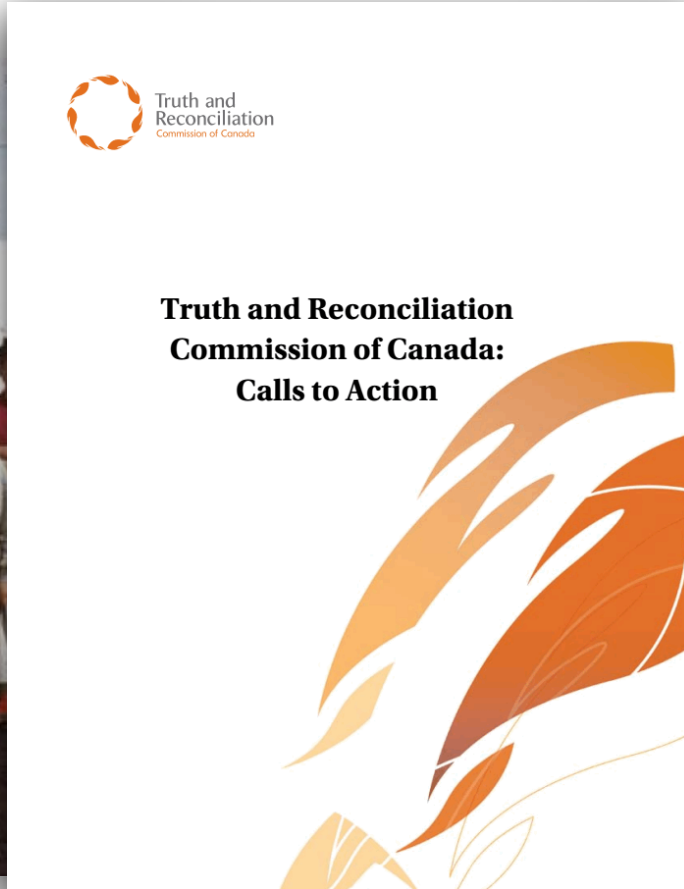
- Royal Proclamation of 1763
 - Establishment of framework for treaty-making in Canada
- Manitoba Act, 1870
 - Legal establishment of Métis nation, land settlements
- Indian Act, 1876
 - Administrative framework for First Nations reserves, governance
- Constitution Act, 1982
 - Section 35 entrenches Aboriginal and treaty rights for First Nations, Métis and Inuit
- Modern Treaties (Comprehensive Land Claims), 1975-present
 - Settlements for land rights, self-governance not covered by historic treaties or other legal means
 - LAC role in negotiation, implementation and ongoing obligations
- Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, 1993
 - Land claim settlement granting distinct territory for Inuit

Indigenous Collections at LAC

- 400+ years of history documenting the experience of Indigenous peoples in Canada in every imaginable format:
 - Government records (federal management of lands, resources, social services)
 - Private archives
 - Publications



LAC and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission



Reconciliation Based on the Recognition of Rights

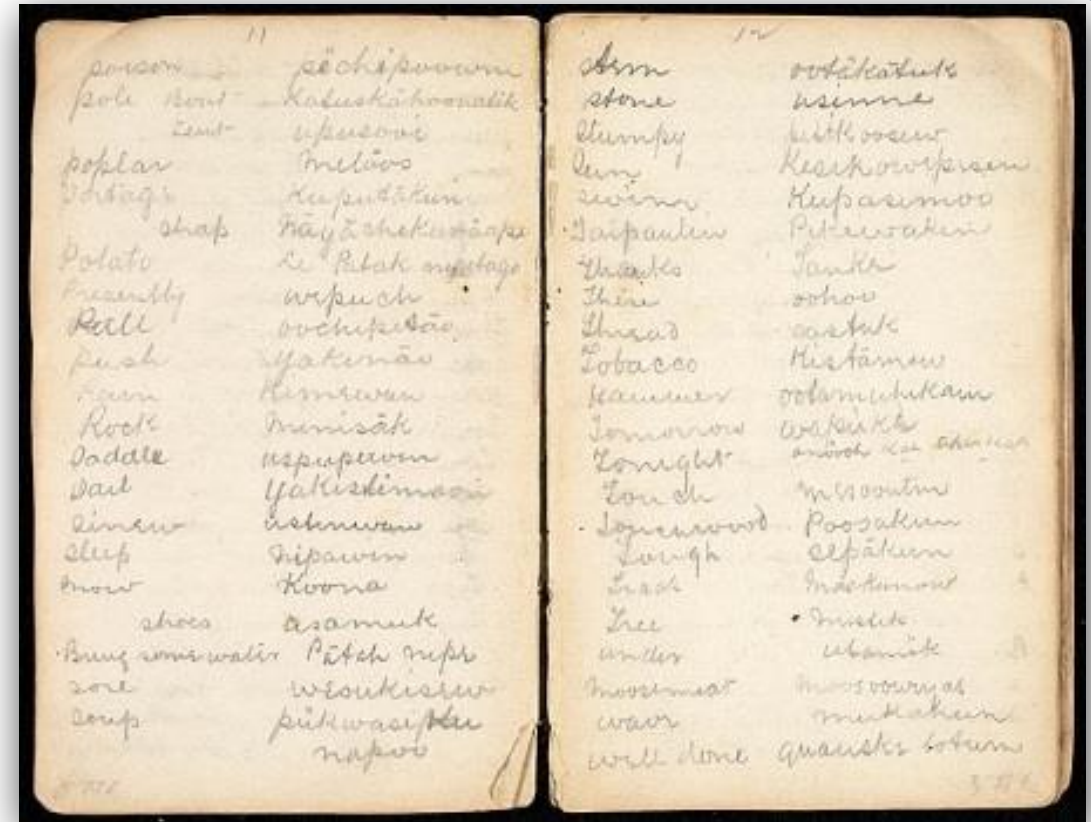


- Alignment with the Government of Canada's 10 Principles respecting the Government of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples
- Recognition of international Indigenous rights (UNDRIP, UNJOP) of all Indigenous peoples in Canada
- Recognition of national Aboriginal rights (constitutional, legislative, legal) of First Nations, Métis and Inuit
- Responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Five key articles in UNDRIP are of a particular importance to LAC in our efforts to fully implement the Declaration.

- Preservation of culture and distinct identity (8)
- Revitalization of cultural traditions and customs (11)
- Revitalization, development and transmission to future generations of languages, histories, oral traditions and writing systems (13)
- Consultation, cooperation and consent (19)
- Maintenance, control and protection for heritage, traditional knowledge and cultural expressions and related intellectual property (31)



Joint-Orentlicher Principles

The Right to Know:

- Preservation of residential school information
- Broad but balanced access to collections

The Right to Justice and Reparation

- Neutral and equal facilitation of information for land claims, settlements and other litigation



Recent and Ongoing Programming

Public Programming:

- Residential schools exhibitions
- Connecting with youth and students
- Specialized web content
- Project Naming
- Public Events
- Canada 150+



Indigenous Heritage Action Plan

- Ambitious multi-year plan in four broad areas:
 - Institutional Awareness
 - Engagement
 - Collections Management
 - Promotion/Support
- To be developed in consultation with LAC Indigenous Advisory Circle
- Plan and results will be made public



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