

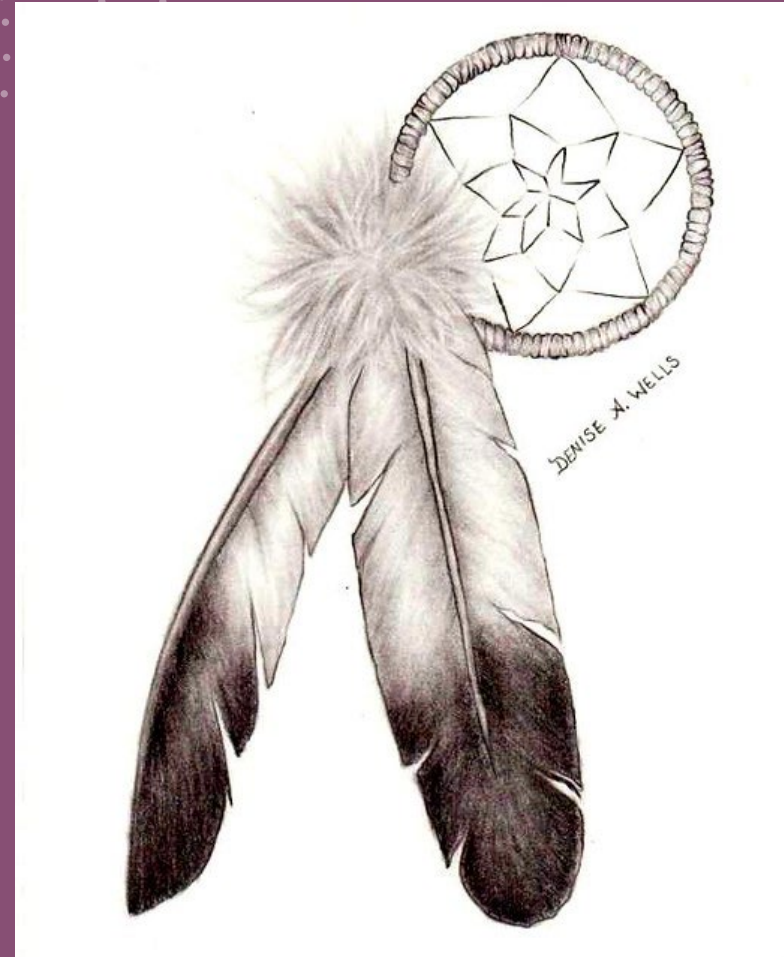
Indigenous Issues

Red Dress Day – May 5

Brain Trauma/Intergenerational Trauma

The Movement of Truth and Reconciliation

Luisi Chacon-Rodriguez and Lillian Mulder



A background image showing several hands of different skin tones joined together in a circle, symbolizing unity and solidarity. The hands are wearing various colored sleeves: red, orange, green, blue, and brown. One hand has a ring on the ring finger.

Catholic Social Teachings

- Life And Dignity Of The Human Person
- Call To Family, Community And Participation
- Solidarity
- Dignity Of Work
- Rights And Responsibilities
- Option For The Poor And Vulnerable
- Care For God's Creation

Intro

- As non-Indigenous persons, we are allies and advocates of Indigenous issues.
- Today as we read the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement, we want to recognize the historic and present-day struggles of our brothers and sisters of this nation, Turtle Island.



Red Dress Day – May 5th

What is Red Dress Day mean?

- A National Day of Remembrance and activism that commemorates the lives of Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people who have been missing or murdered in Canada

Purpose and Significance

- Red Dress Day highlights the disproportionate violence faced by Indigenous communities.





Highway of Tears – by Jessica McDiarmid

- Foreword – Mary Teegee
- Executive Director of Child and Family Service Carrier Sekani Family Services
- Chair. B.C. Delegated Indigenous Agencies
- President , B.C. Aboriginal Childcare Society

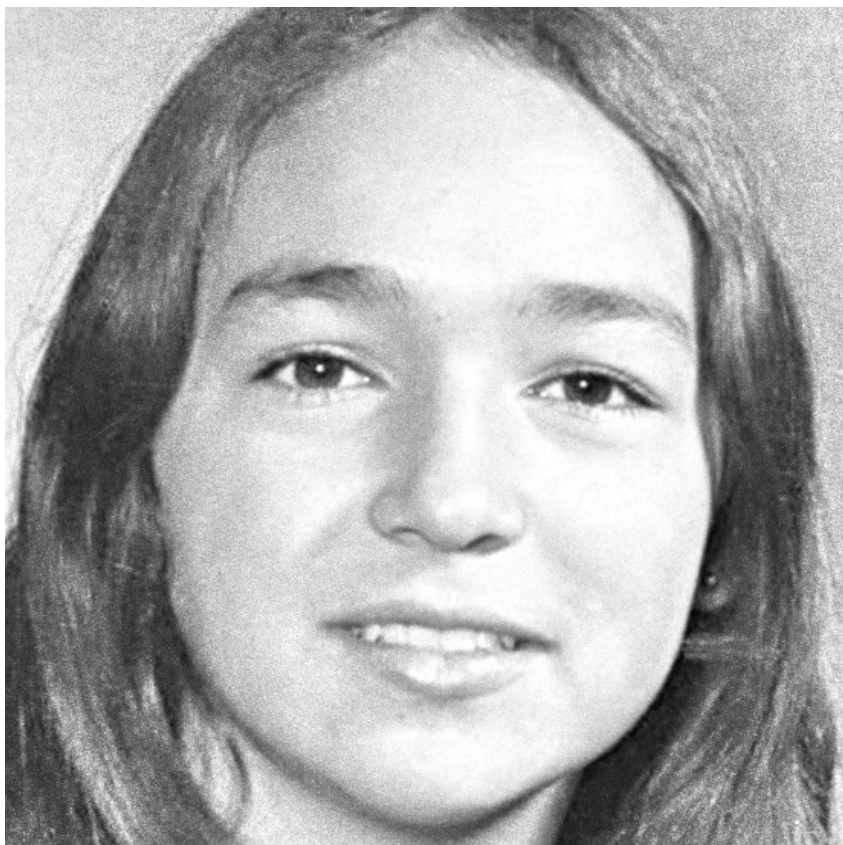
- She writes, “Because I am an Indigenous woman, I am six times more likely to be murdered than my Non-Indigenous sister. I am considered high risk just by virtue of being Indigenous and female. This is my reality. I am a Statistic.



The RCMP has put the number of missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada at about 1200, with about a thousand of those being victims of homicide.



Documenting the Missing – 1969 and Up





Action Taken by Family and Friends

1. Went to the Police – report missing daughter/friend

2. Gathering to search by families and friends

3. Mistrust of officials – Police, RCMP

4. Corrupted Judge

Why are Indigenous Girls and Women Targeted?

Highway 16

Vulnerable females

Serial killers

Mistrust of authorities

Dismissal

They are targeted by race and class

What the government is doing

- Federal funding is supporting 47 emergency shelters and transitional housing projects creating 380 units within First Nations, Inuit, Métis, and Indigenous urban communities across Canada.
- over 3,000 Indigenous households received high-speed Internet access through federally-funded projects.



What Can We Do As Non-Indigenous Peoples

- Read and share the MMIWG+ final report and calls for justice
- Hang a red dress or shirt outside your door or establishment
- Wear red May 5
- Support any vigil, walks, events or discussions that your communities may be holding
- Attend events or any space where families and advocates are taking time to organize and educate.
- **Look out for one another**





Colonialization

- The term is closely related to **colonialism**, which describes the relationship between the colonizers and the colonized.

Residential Schools

- The schools were funded by the Canadian government and administered primarily by Christian churches, including Roman Catholic, Anglican, Methodist, and Presbyterian denominations.
- The legacy of residential schools remains profound, affecting Indigenous identity



Residential Schools Con't

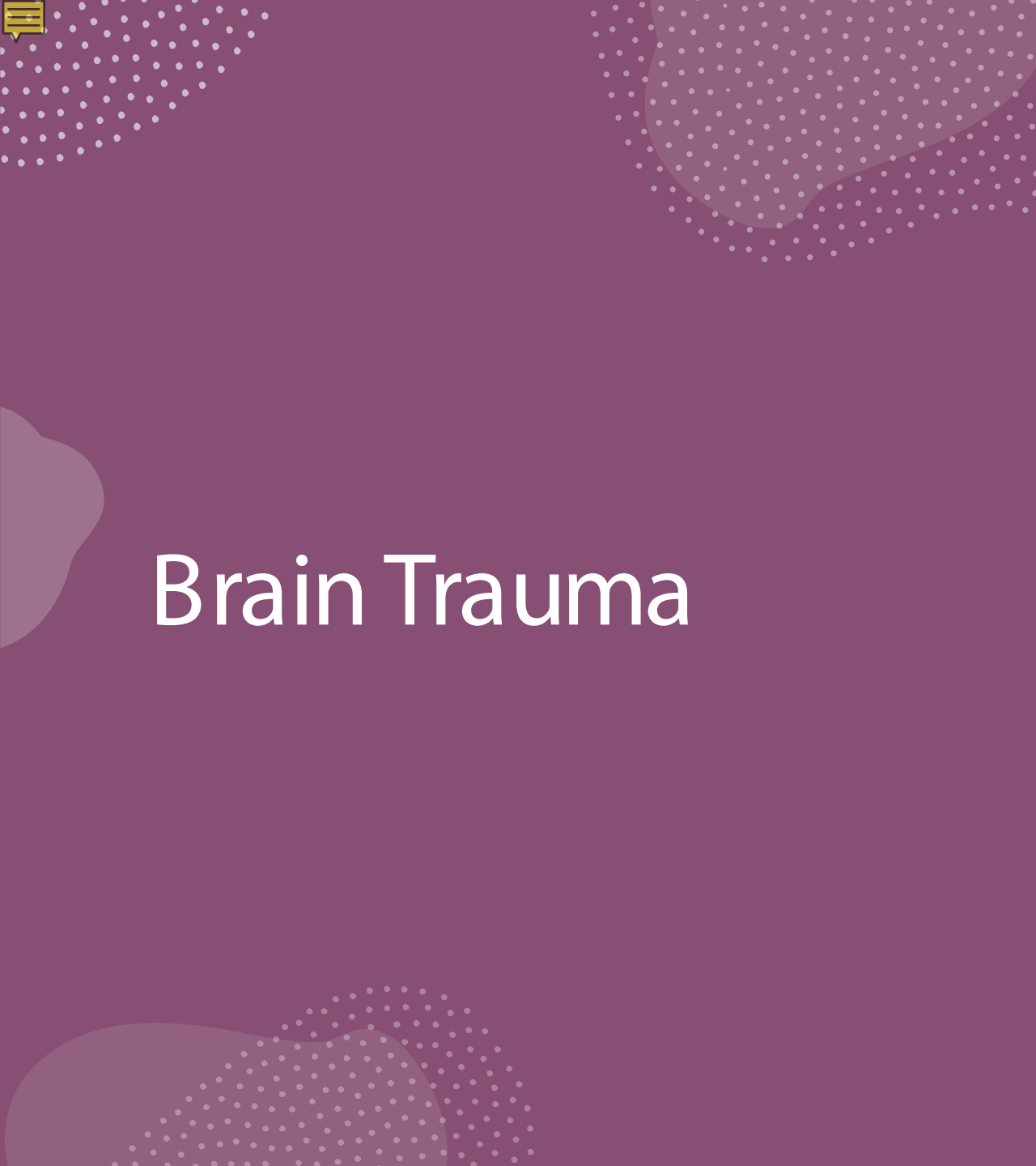
- The first church-run school, the Mohawk Institute in Brantford, Ontario, opened in 1828 or 1831, depending on sources, and the system expanded significantly after an Amendment to the Indian Act in 1920 made attendance compulsory for Indigenous children aged 7 to 15, not the Original Indian Act of 1876.



Impact on Indigenous Communities

- Approximately 150,000 First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children attended residential schools.





Brain Trauma

Indigenous peoples in Canada face significant challenges related to brain health, particularly traumatic brain injury (TBI).

The Neurotrauma Care Pathways have been developed to address these challenges by integrating Indigenous health principles and voices into the care and rehabilitation of brain and spinal cord injuries.



ACE – Adverse Childhood Experience

For clinical interpretation, ACE-Q scores are categorised as follows, with corresponding qualitative descriptors:

0 ACEs (No Reported Adversity): Indicates no exposure to the measured adverse childhood experiences. Individuals in this category typically show the lowest risk for negative health outcomes.

1-3 ACEs (Low to Moderate Adversity): Indicates exposure to one or more types of adversity. Research demonstrates a modest but statistically significant elevation in risk for various health and social problems compared to individuals with no ACEs.

4+ ACEs (High Adversity): Represents a clinically significant threshold where risk for negative outcomes increases substantially. This category is associated with significantly elevated risk across multiple domains of functioning and should prompt thorough clinical attention.

6+ ACEs (Very High Adversity): Although not a formal categorisation in all ACE literature, scores of 6 or higher represent exposure to multiple forms of serious adversity and are associated with the highest risk for severe and complex health problems.

A photograph of two Indigenous women, likely from the Ojibwa or Anishinaabe nations, wearing traditional regalia. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The woman on the left is wearing a dark blue or black garment with a large, circular, colorful medallion featuring a landscape scene. The woman on the right is wearing a light blue or white garment with a similar medallion. Both are wearing elaborate headdresses with white feathers and red and yellow beaded decorations. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting.

RCMP – Files Recently Opened

- Newly declassified RCMP Security Service files confirm Canada's Cold War-era domestic intelligence agency infiltrated and sought to disrupt legitimate political Indigenous organizations in the 1970s, in an extensive program of covert surveillance, informants and countersubversion.
- "They were collecting intelligence clearly in order to disrupt and create turmoil within these movements. This is the kind of information that you gather in order to engage in divide and conquer tactics." - Shiri Pasternak, a criminology professor at Toronto Metropolitan University.

 **CBC NEWS**

The National



Declaration of Dene



Truth and Reconciliation

- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) hopes to guide and inspire First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and Canadians in a process of truth and healing leading toward reconciliation and renewed relationships based on mutual understanding and respect.



Stats

- “Between 2007 and 2015, the Government of Canada provided about \$72 million to support the TRC's work.”
- “The Truth and Reconciliation Commission created a historical record of the residential school's system. As part of this process, the Government of Canada provided over five million records to the TRC. The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation at the University of Manitoba will house all of the documents collected by the TRC.”



Updated TRC Movement 2025

- "Our classrooms are beginning to embrace inclusive history, and more Indigenous children are learning their cultural practices and ancestral languages with pride," Simon told those gathered at a ceremony on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. – Mary Simons, Governor General



Truth and Reconciliation



Murry Sinclair

- First Nation Lawyer – Judge – Senator (as of 2016) – Ojibway – raised on the St. Peter's Indian Reserve in Manitoba
- **“Education got us into this mess, and education will get us out,”** he says, highlighting the critical role of awareness and learning in reconciliation.







How to Make the Day Meaningful

1

Educate yourself
and others

2

Support Indigenous
businesses and
artists

3

Participate in
community events

Thank You for Coming Out

**Any questions on this
presentation?**

1. What did you learn new?
2. What do you plan to do to help change the attitude/treatment of our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters?

Thank you, **merci**, *Wela'lioq*

Voice your
opinion, rate
this workshop



**Exprimez votre
opinion,
évaluez cet
atelier**



Compassion in
en Action

