

# Reconciliation Matters! Content for Sunday Bulletins at WPGUC

...the collection from Sept. 1, 2019 to June 28, 2020....

Sept. 1, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

Pacific Mountain Region  
of the United Church of Canada

### *Native Ministries*



Got your attention?

Read more here!

<https://www.bc.united-church.ca/category/native-ministries/>

***All Our Relations!***

Sept. 15, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

***Giving voice to Indigenous women  
to help end violence against them***

Indigenous Women's (MACIW)  
**Giving Voice** program

*"Eradicating gender-based violence  
requires courage and leadership...."*

This year's projects include traditional activities like knowledge workshops, healing circles, more community-focused projects: (monthly dinners, guided community dialogues, cultural retreats and workshops on healthy masculinity.)

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2019IRR0041-001096>

***All Our Relations!***

Sept. 8, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

**The 33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the  
United Church Apology  
to Canada's Indigenous Peoples  
*is this year: 2019!***



Watch this video from 1986, including the message by the Right Rev. Robert Smith:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5ewlqtTVXo>

***All Our Relations!***

Sept. 22, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

Next Sunday at WPGUC  
(Sept. 29, 2019)  
we will observe together

**ORANGE SHIRT DAY**  
(officially Sept 30)



***Read why:***

<https://www.facebook.com/orangeshirtdayeverychildmatters/videos/973478472834687/>

***All Our Relations!***

Sept. 29, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

**It's ORANGE SHIRT DAY!**  
**Wear an orange shirt or ribbon**



- ❖ **Assisting a Child in Need:**  
*What will each of us do?*
- ❖ **Assisting an Indigenous Child in Need:**  
*What will each of us do?*

**All Our Relations!**

Oct. 6, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

**Memorializing Indigenous Students who died in Canada's residential schools**

Estimates range from 4,200 to 6,000 children died in church-operated schools.

*"The children were taken away to school and never came home....."*

The memorial register is the result of the 72nd recommendation of the TRC Report on the legacy of residential schools. It calls for Canada's Federal Government to fund a national residential school death register.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/residential-school-students-died-memorialized-1.4910040>

**All Our Relations!**

Oct. 13, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

**Decolonizing Reconciliation**

*"Reconciliation is about establishing and maintaining a mutually respectful relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in this country...."*

*Here is an interesting and provocative article about decolonization:*

<https://ricochet.media/en/2633/the-colonization-of-reconciliation>

**All Our Relations!**

Oct. 20, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

**Report states that decades of missing Indigenous women is genocide.**

The report relies on work by legal experts and Indigenous scholars who conclude that Canada's continuing tragedy of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls can be legitimately classified as **genocide**.

*Read more here and give this some thought:*

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/may/31/canada-missing-indigenous-women-cultural-genocide-government-report>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/genocide-mmiwg-1.5164014>

**All Our Relations!**

Oct. 27, 2019

### Reconciliation Matters

#### *What was the Sixties Scoop?*

The **Sixties Scoop** refers to a practice that occurred in Canada of taking, or "scooping up" Indigenous children from their families and communities for placement in foster homes or for adoption.

Despite the reference to one decade, the **Sixties Scoop** took place from the 1950s to the 1980s.

*Read more about these practices here:*

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/sixties-scoop>

**All Our Relations!**

Nov. 10, 2019

### Reconciliation Matters

During **World War I (1914-1918)**, thousands of **Indigenous** persons voluntarily enlisted in the **Canadian military**.



While the exact enlistment number is unknown, it is estimated that well over 4,000 Indigenous persons served in the Canadian forces during the conflict.

**All Our Relations!**

Nov. 3, 2019

### Reconciliation Matters

#### *The Sixties Scoop and the harms inflicted on children, families, communities and Indigenous cultures.*



A study by The University of Windsor summarizes the harms of the Sixties Scoop:

<http://www1.uwindsor.ca/criticalsocialwork/the-sixties-scoop-implications-for-social-workers-and-social-work-education>

**All Our Relations!**

Nov. 17, 2019

### Reconciliation Matters

#### *Indigenous veterans: equal on the battlefield but not at home*



<https://www.ictinc.ca/blog/aboriginal-veterans>

#### *Efforts are underway to honour long overlooked Indigenous veterans:*

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-efforts-underway-to-honour-long-overlooked-indigenous-veterans/>

**All Our Relations!**

Nov. 24, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

### United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People) (UNDRIP)



*UNDRIP was adopted by the BC Government on Oct. 24, 2019, the first Canadian province to do so.*

[https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/un\\_declaration\\_on\\_the\\_rights\\_of\\_indigenous\\_peoples/](https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/un_declaration_on_the_rights_of_indigenous_peoples/)

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018PREM0112-001754>

***All Our Relations!***

Dec. 8, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

### IRSSS (Indigenous Residential School Survivors Society)

#### First set of 8 Guiding Principles

1. Transform and change.
2. Development comes from within.
3. Healing is necessary.
4. Justice means equal opportunity.
5. Vision creates growth and healing.
6. Authentic cultural development.
7. Honouring one and all.
8. Unity.

We will list the second set of IRSSS Guiding Principles next week.

**All Our Relations!**

Dec. 1

## Reconciliation Matters

### Indigenous Residential School Survivors Society

*The IRSSS has a 20-year history of providing services to survivors of Indigenous residential schools*

There are several IRSSS locations in BC; each one employs therapists:

***Kamloops, Penticton, Sumas, Williams Lake, and Terrace.***

The head office is in North Vancouver.

Read more about the IRSSS:  
<http://www.irsss.ca>

***All Our Relations!***

Dec. 15, 2019

## Reconciliation Matters

### IRSSS (Indigenous Residential School Survivors Society)

#### Second set of 8 Guiding Principles

1. Teamwork and participation essential.
2. Respect for each other.
3. Spiritual native.
4. Moral and ethical values.
5. Continue to learn.
6. Sustain and maintain strong foundations.
7. Move to the positive; turn the page.
8. Be a role model.

Read more about the IRSSS:  
<http://www.irsss.ca>

***All Our Relations!***

Dec. 22, 2019

### Reconciliation Matters

#### **Christmas in Indigenous Communities**

*Like most Indigenous people, the Nisga'a in northern BC fuse Christmas traditions with their own spiritual practices*



*Read the details in this 2011 article about the Nisga'a and other Indigenous groups across Canada:*

<https://vancouversun.com/news/staff-blogs/like-most-aboriginals-nisgaa-fuse-christmas-traditions>

**All Our Relations!**

Dec. 29, 2019:

### Reconciliation Matters

#### **First Nations Elders Share their Christmas Memories**



*“We’d be lucky if we got knitted mitts, it was about visiting, being happy...”*

*“Some kids would get their first and only doll.”*

*“We ate roasted rabbits or deer and sometimes roasted muskrat...”*

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/first-nation-elders-share-their-christmas-memories-1.2475891>

**All Our Relations!**

Jan. 5, 2020

### Reconciliation Matters

#### **Indigenous Peoples in BC And their Spirituality**

Today, there are approximately 200,000 Indigenous people in BC, including First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

There are 198 distinct First Nations in BC, each with its unique traditions and history.



*Want to know more about religion and spirituality of Canada’s and BC’s Indigenous population?*

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/religion-of-aboriginal-people>

**All Our Relations!**

Jan. 12

### Reconciliation Matters

#### **BC Indigenous Populations and their Religious Affiliations\***

1	Roman Catholic	410,005
2	No religion	211,895
3	Anglican	129,115
4	United Church	59,950
5	Other Christian	33,750
6	Pentecostal	28,950
7	Aboriginal spirituality	27,350
8	Baptist	12,705
9	Other Protestant	11,410
10	Lutheran	8,137

\*Vancouver Sun, Nov. 29, 2011

**All Our Relations!**

Jan 19, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**Greeting a New Year  
In the Arctic**



*How the Indigenous People of the North  
celebrate a new year:*

<https://arctic.ru/tourism/20160104/267479.html>

**All Our Relations!**

Feb. 2, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**How long might it take to reconcile with  
our Indigenous neighbours?**

**“In Canada, it might be  
just a matter of time...”**



*Read what co-authors Michael Adams and Keith  
Neuman have written:*

[https://www.environicsinstitute.org/insights/insight-  
details/real-reconciliation-in-canada-might-just-be-a-  
matter-of-time](https://www.environicsinstitute.org/insights/insight-details/real-reconciliation-in-canada-might-just-be-a-matter-of-time) (reprinted in the Globe & Mail)

**All Our Relations!**

Jan. 26, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**Indigenous Languages Worldwide  
Accessibility**

*Last summer, Google launched a  
website aiding translations for Indigenous  
languages. The website facilitates language  
teaching and learning:*

[https://www.uvic.ca/news/topics/2019+google-  
indigenous-languages+media-release](https://www.uvic.ca/news/topics/2019+google-indigenous-languages+media-release)

**“We have great hope...”**

[https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-  
columbia/increase-in-young-people-learning-  
indigenous-languages-1.5236919](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/increase-in-young-people-learning-indigenous-languages-1.5236919)

**All Our Relations!**

Feb. 9, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**INDSPIRE**

*(founded in 1993)*



INDSPIRE is a national charitable organization  
dedicated to delivering programs for Indigenous  
peoples, especially the young,  
so they will have a better chance  
to achieve their potential.

*Read some success stories!*

[https://www.macleans.ca/society/how-indspire-supports-  
indigenous-education-and-works-for-change/](https://www.macleans.ca/society/how-indspire-supports-indigenous-education-and-works-for-change/)

**All Our Relations!**

Feb. 16, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Relationship Between Indigenous Peoples and Place Names**



*An informative discussion is here >>*

<https://www.ictinc.ca/blog/the-relationship-between-indigenous-peoples-and-place-names>

**All Our Relations!**

Feb. 23, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**What is the Salish Sea?**

It is a large and biologically rich inland sea named after the first inhabitants of the region, the **Coast Salish Peoples**.

It encompasses Puget Sound, the San Juan Islands, and the waters off Vancouver.



<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/b-c-waters-officially-renamed-salish-sea-1.909504> (July 2010)  
<https://www.seadocsociety.org/how-the-salish-sea-got-its-name>

**All Our Relations!**

Mar. 1, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**What does Tsleil-Waututh mean?**  
(pronounced slay-wah-tooth)

səlilwət is the həŋqəmiŋəm (Hun'qumyi'num) name which means

**People of the Inlet  
(Burrard Inlet and Indian Arm)**



*More information can be found here:*  
<https://twnation.ca/about/twn-faqs/>

**All Our Relations!**

Mar. 8, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**What does Squamish mean?**

"Squamish" is a loose English adaptation of Skwxwú7mesh, meaning

**"Mother of the Wind"  
(& "People of the sacred water")**



in the language of the people. It sometimes refers to the **Skokomish (Twana)** and **Squamish** peoples.

*Watch this video:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02hxcNgboNU>

**All Our Relations!**



Mar. 15, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Musqueam Nation Band  
is our closest neighbour**



The word **Musqueam** originates from the River  
Grass (məθkʷəy̓).  
A story explains the name:

**“People of the River Grass”**

See p. 6 of this fascinating 48-page booklet:  
[http://www.edo.ca/downloads/musqueam-community-  
profile.pdf](http://www.edo.ca/downloads/musqueam-community-profile.pdf)

*All Our Relations!*

Mar. 22, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**“Language is important in the  
preservation of culture.”**

**The Musqueam speak the  
Hulquminum language**



Here is a 304-page dictionary that helps to  
translate English to Hulquminum and  
Hulquminum to English.

[http://www.sfu.ca/~gerdts/papers/HulquminumW  
ords.pdf](http://www.sfu.ca/~gerdts/papers/HulquminumWords.pdf)

<http://sqwal.hwulmuhwqun.ca/learn/>

*All Our Relations!*

Mar. 29, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**Musqueam Reconciliation, Settlement and  
Benefits Agreement Implementation Act**  
(assented to March 31, 2008)



If you would like to know more about the  
Agreement, the UBC Golf Course, and nearby lands  
here is the document:

[http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/consol32/consol32/00  
08006\\_01](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/consol32/consol32/0008006_01)

*All Our Relations!*

April 5, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Musqueam Community Plan**

The community plan is a 136-page document, and  
deserves our attention.



*“We are of one heart and mind.”*

[https://www.musqueam.bc.ca/wp-  
content/uploads/2018/06/MUSQUEAMccp-112611-  
HiRes.pdf](https://www.musqueam.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/MUSQUEAMccp-112611-HiRes.pdf)

*All Our Relations!*



April 12, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**Oral history and Oral traditions  
of the First Nations**



“Oral-based knowledge systems are predominant among First Nations. Stories are frequently told as evening family entertainment to pass along local or family knowledge. Stories are also told more formally, in ceremonies such as potlatches, to validate a person’s or family’s authority, responsibilities, or prestige....”

<https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/oral-tradition/>

***All Our Relations!***

April 19, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Raven and the Oral Tradition of  
BC First Nations**

<https://ravenreads.org/blogs/news/the-raven-in-haida-culture>



*Bill Reid’s carving  
Museum of Anthropology, UBC*

***All Our Relations!***

April 26, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Sto:lo First Nation of BC**



The Sto:lo people, also known as the Fraser River Indians or Lower Fraser Salish, inhabit the **Fraser Valley** and lower Fraser Canyon of BC.

Stó:lō is the Halqemeylem word for "river". Hence, the Stó:lō are *the river people*.

<http://www.stolonation.bc.ca/history>

***All Our Relations!***

May 3, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Bear Symbol**

The black bear and the grizzly bear are native to North America and are strong, agile and quick.



The Bear symbol in Indigenous culture represents protection and courage, physical strength and leadership. Bear is a good omen; it conveys wise authority.

*Read more about the Bear Symbol:*  
<https://spiritsofthewestcoast.com/collections/the-bear-symbol>

***All Our Relations!***

May 10, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Eagle Symbol**



Indigenous people consider the bald eagle and the golden eagle to be sacred. Eagles are the highest flying birds and are seen to be nearer the Creator.

The Eagle signifies courage, wisdom, and strength; its purpose is as the messenger to the Creator.

*Read more here:*

<https://spiritsofthewestcoast.com/collections/the-eagle-symbol>

*All Our Relations!*

May 24, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Turtle Symbol**



Turtle is a First Nation symbol associated with the earth. In many Cree and Anishinabe Creation stories, North America was created on the back a giant turtle.

Turtle teaches us about patience, stability, grounding, and earth connection.

*Read about Turtle here:*

<https://www.warpaths2peacepipes.com/native-american-symbols/turtle-symbol.htm>

*All Our Relations!*

May 17, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Salmon**



The **Salmon** symbolizes abundance, fertility, prosperity and renewal. For thousands of years the Salmon has been the primary food source for the Northwest Coast Indigenous peoples; they are highly respected.

*Read more here:*

<https://spiritsofthewestcoast.com/collections/the-salmon-symbol>

*All Our Relations!*

May 31, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**The Hummingbird Symbol**



The **Hummingbird** is a messenger of joy. It stands for intelligence, beauty, devotion and love. The little birds are also respected as fierce fighters and defenders of their territory.

*Read more here:*

<https://www.universeofsymbolism.com/hummingbird-meaning.html>

*All Our Relations!*

June 7, 2020

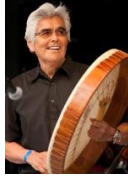
**Reconciliation Matters**

**Haida Modern**

**Watch**

**“The Art and Life of Robert Davidson”**

Knowledge Network TV (Shaw Channel 5)  
Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 9 pm.



*“In the 50 years since he carved his first totem pole and saw it raised on Haida Gwaii, Robert Davidson has been regarded as one the world’s foremost modern artists.”*

*All Our Relations!*

June 21, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

**It’s National Indigenous Day today!**

*June 21, 2020*

*Traditional dancing, music and festivals are part of the National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations in Canada.*



**Here are recommendations for celebrating the day in Vancouver and close by:**

<https://vancouverbestplaces.com/national-aboriginal-day/>

The **Government of Canada** provides additional information:

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1100100013248/1534872397533>

*All Our Relations!*

June 14, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

***The Seven Teachings***

(Southern Network in Manitoba)

Many Indigenous organizations and communities have adopted 7 guiding principles, in various forms, as moral stepping stones and cultural foundations, adapting them for each community. All abide by the moral respect for all living things.



**LOVE, RESPECT, COURAGE, HONESTY, WISDOM, HUMILITY, TRUTH.**

<https://www.southernnetwork.org/site/seven-teachings>

*All Our Relations!*

June 28, 2020

**Reconciliation Matters**

***Reconciliation Matters Network & Hub—***  
*a joint project of St. Andrew’s Wesley & West Point Grey United Churches—*  
***is now launched!***



**You can sign up here (see bottom of page):**  
<https://reconciliationmatters.com/>

*For these additions to WPGUC bulletins, we’ll be back in September.  
Have a wonderful, safe, summer.*

*All Our Relations!*