

2025



National Centre for  
Truth and Reconciliation

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

# *Annual Report*





*“After a year of accomplishments and a decade of progress to look back on, we must now look forward and imagine what we can achieve together in the next chapter.”*

-DR. CYNTHIA WESLEY-ESQUIMAUX, GOVERNING CIRCLE CHAIR

Annual reports offer an opportunity to pause, reflect and celebrate. And, looking back over the past few years, it is almost overwhelming to consider the breadth and impact of what the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) has accomplished. I encourage you to read through the *10-Year Report*, which captures milestones and reflects the shared purpose guiding our ongoing work.

Let’s rewind to 2015. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC)’s closing ceremony marked the beginning of Canada’s collective healing journey, and the NCTR officially opened its doors in November 2015.

For the past 10 years, we have carried forward and supported critical missions to address the ongoing legacy of residential schools, like the Missing Children and Unmarked Burials research. This initiative fulfils Calls to Action 72 and 73, which urge us to identify and commemorate the children who died or disappeared from these schools and locate the burial sites of every child who never made it home.

2025 saw more progress in the development of a burial site repository on the NCTR website, an interactive basemap with searchable data layers that allow for mapping and display of burial sites





with permission of communities. Learn more about the map on page 28.

Far too many Canadians still have not had the opportunity to learn the truth about our country's history of residential schools. To help bridge this gap, in September 2025, the NCTR Education team developed a special three-part learning series: *Understanding the Residential School System: From Historical Legacy to Ongoing Impacts, Reconciliation, and Resilience*.

The team offered free daily lunch-and-learn webinars to the public during Truth and Reconciliation Week. We also saw more than 1,400 new educators register their classrooms for Taking Truth to Action, an educational program open to all schools across Canada, in addition to the thousands of educators who join us each year.

Important work lies ahead. I look forward to seeing the progression of NCTR's new home, which will empower truth and reconciliation on a national and global scale. When it opens in 2029, it will stand as an international destination, a beacon of learning and understanding—a place where the fires of truth and reconciliation will burn brightly forever. Read more about our new home on page 11.

The Governing Circle remains committed to honouring Survivors, as well as supporting and guiding the work of the NCTR in partnership with the Survivors Circle. Guided by their voices, we reaffirm our obligation to ensure their truths are not only heard, but honoured, protected and carried forward for generations to come.

After a year of accomplishments and a decade of progress to look back on, let us turn our eyes forward and imagine what we can achieve together in the next chapter.

Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux  
*Chair on Truth and Reconciliation*  
*Lakehead University*



*“The NCTR began as a small team with an enormous task to hold a country accountable. Today, we are stronger because Survivors believed in what this Centre could become. Their strength built its foundation. Their courage shaped its purpose.”*

-STEPHANIE SCOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NCTR

Reconciliation is a word that’s frequently used, yet only recently have more people begun to reflect on what it truly demands of us, collectively and individually.

There is a growing recognition that reconciliation is an ongoing, active process, not a destination or a simple box to be checked. But it requires more than acknowledgement. It demands honesty about the past and meaningful action in the present. It requires people to listen and learn (and unlearn), to sit with discomfort and to better understand the lived experiences and histories of Indigenous Peoples. Without truth, there can be no reconciliation.

We’re not there yet. Sadly, at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), we still hear ugliness from those who deny our truths, experiences and oral histories as reality. Denialism threatens meaningful reconciliation and reparation. Attempts to justify, rationalize or outright deny residential schools and their legacy are deeply offensive and must be confronted with education and truth.

Survivors fought a long and difficult struggle for the truth of residential schools to be acknowledged. Yes, awareness is growing, but the work before us remains vast and enduring. With exciting initiatives

underway, including the design and construction of our new home, we are positioned to carry this work forward with renewed strength.

The last decade has demonstrated what can happen when truth leads, and we can’t wait to see where the next 10 years and beyond take us. As part of our mandate, the NCTR will continue to look for opportunities to educate in the pursuit of truth and reconciliation. But it is also up to every single Canadian to reflect on the role they can play and to act with intention and accountability.

Only through collective commitment and sustained effort can we move forward together.

Miigwetch.

Stephanie Scott  
Executive Director  
NCTR



# Remembering John Jones (Tseqalmit)

*"I pray in my heart that I've left a good trail for my children and the people that follow."*

-JOHN JONES (TSEQALMIT)

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) remembers John Jones (Tseqalmit), who passed away in fall 2025.

A Survivor of the Alberni Indian Residential School, he was one of 18 men who bravely stood together in one of the first criminal trials in Canada against residential school staff. We are thankful for his meaningful contributions to the NCTR Survivors Circle. His wisdom and guidance were invaluable, and he will be greatly missed.



*2025 saw more truths come to light through the voices and lived experiences of Survivors, and we honour all our fellow Survivors who have moved into the Spirit World.*

Our truths, among many others', have deepened understanding of the realities Indigenous Peoples have endured, including the intergenerational impacts of colonial systems that remain embedded today. These uncomfortable truths must be confronted, and we must continue to centre lived experience in our efforts to grow awareness of the truth of Canada's history, along with the strength of Indigenous Peoples.

Women have long held central roles in many Indigenous cultures as matriarchs and Knowledge Keepers, carrying responsibilities that sustain families and communities across generations. In March, the *Winnipeg Free Press* featured women from the Survivors Circle in its International Women's Day magazine, emphasizing the impact women are making in Manitoba and beyond. By sharing our experiences as young girls in the residential school system, how the Survivors Circle has created a space for connection and understanding, and the importance of women's voices in healing and wellness, we were honoured to add vital perspectives needed for truth and reconciliation.

In September, Survivors who accepted were honoured with the King Charles III Coronation Medal for their





profound and lasting contributions to all of Canada. Miigwetch to Knowledge Keeper Fred McGregor for grounding us in ceremony and to the Senate for welcoming us into their chamber.

Survivors Circle members also gathered on Parliament Hill, unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation, to re-raise the Survivors' Flag in recognition of Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The power of the drum and dance were uplifting as the flag rose, now an annual tradition that holds such deep meaning as a symbol of strength and endurance—a remembrance of the children who never came home and the families who continue to carry their memories forward.

*“As a residential school Survivor, seeing the Survivors' Flag on Parliament Hill brings up mixed emotions. It's a reminder of the pain from my youth—of being torn from my home, family, culture, and identity. But it also means my truth is no longer hidden. It gives me hope that Canada is ready to do what is right and that the promise to do better is a commitment to action, not just words.”*

**-EDNA ELIAS, INUK SURVIVOR**

Through the rest of the year, we provided guidance and assisted with several of the NCTR's key initiatives, participated in community engagement sessions and attended various gatherings and ceremonies. Our members were also involved in consultations and engagement about our vision for the NCTR's new building, a vision that is growing closer to reality by the day.

In addition to our direct work with the Survivors Circle, we actively work and meet with partners, organizations and governments to champion the NCTR's mission on an individual basis, including with other Survivors and communities.

We are honoured to provide ongoing advice and guidance to the NCTR and its partners, the Governing Circle, the University of Manitoba and the leadership of Treaty One Territory—lands that encompass the homeland of the Red River Métis and many Inuit. We also remain committed to ensuring Survivors' voices are not only heard, but also meaningfully reflected in the NCTR's programs and governance. We look forward to continuing this work together as part of Canada's collective journey toward truth and reconciliation.

## Mandate

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) derives its mandate from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) Calls to Action and from the agreements under which the Centre was established and the records of residential school Survivors first entrusted to its care.

*The core pillars of the NCTR's mandate are:*

To be a responsible and accountable steward for the experiences, photos and memories entrusted to the Centre by the Survivors of residential schools, to honour their truths, and ensure that they can never again be forgotten or ignored.

To continue the research work begun by the TRC and in this way contribute to the continuing healing of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples and the country as a whole.

To build a foundation for reconciliation by promoting public education and understanding of the residential schools and how they are part of a larger history of violent assaults on the distinct cultures and identities of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples.

## Governing Circle

The NCTR is overseen by a Governing Circle, which includes First Nations, Inuit and Métis Survivors and representatives of the University of Manitoba. The Governing Circle is guided by the Survivors Circle, as well as the Elders-in-Residence, legacy members of the Survivors Circle and Knowledge Keepers.

These governance structures are essential to ensuring Survivors are always at the very heart of the NCTR, and we rely on their advice and guidance to uphold Indigenous laws and protocols.

## GOVERNING CIRCLE MEMBERS IN 2025

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*Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux (Chair)*

Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux served as Vice-Provost for Aboriginal Initiatives at Lakehead

University for three years, and effective September 2016, was appointed as the first Indigenous Chair for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada for Lakehead University.



*Andrew Carrier (Vice-Chair)*

Andrew Carrier has served the Manitoba Métis Federation for more than 20 years as a Regional Director and, in 2018, became the

elected Vice President for the Winnipeg Region.



*Dr. Angie Bruce*

Dr. Angie Bruce is a proud Red River Métis woman and the Vice-President (Indigenous) at UM. Prior to joining the university, she

was the Assistant Deputy Minister of Natural Resources Canada's Nòkwewashk sector.



*Keith Chiefmoon*

Keith Chiefmoon is a Ga'na (kainai) Sundance teacher and the Indian Residential School Program and Community Engagement

worker for the Kainai Wellness Center, Blood Tribe Department of Health.



**Dr. Crystal Gail Fraser**

Dr. Crystal Gail Fraser is Gwichyà Gwich'in and originally from Inuvik and Dachan Choo Gèhnhjik in the Northwest Territories. Her

PhD research focused on the history of student experiences at Indian Residential Schools in the Inuvik Region between 1959 and 1996.



**Dr. Leavina Brown, LLD  
(honoris causa)**

Dr. Leavina Brown is an Inuk Survivor from Rankin Inlet. She served as the first female mayor of Rankin Inlet from

1989-1991 and was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut in 2004, at one point serving as Deputy Premier.



**Dr. B. Mario Pinto**

Dr. B. Mario Pinto is the Vice-President (Research and International) at UM. Before joining the university in 2022, he served as Griffith

University's Deputy Vice Chancellor and Director of the Gold Coast Health & Knowledge Precinct in Queensland, Australia.

## Survivors Circle

The NCTR exists to support Survivors so their truths and oral histories are recorded and safeguarded for all time. This crucial work is guided by the Survivors Circle, and their voices and perspectives remain central to our programming and policies.

We were pleased to introduce two new members to the Survivors Circle in 2025:

**Jerome Gordon**

Originally from Aklavik, Northwest Territories, Jerome now lives in Inuvik. He has held many



leadership positions in his community and region over the years, serving as a hamlet Councillor and Deputy Mayor of Aklavik for several terms. He enjoys advocating for and

representing his community and the people of the Mackenzie Delta.



**Dr. Antoine Mountain**

Dr. Antoine Mountain lived in the mountains in the far north and was sent to the first of three residential schools when he was nine.

He spent a total of 12 years at residential schools. He joined the Survivors Circle out of concern for today's youth, as many of the serious issues they face are due to intergenerational residential school trauma.

## Elders-in-Residence

Elders and Knowledge Keepers play a significant role at the NCTR. From visioning the turtle that sits in front of our building, to the sensitive work of honouring children that never returned home from residential schools, our work would not be possible without them.



**Elder Harry Bone**  
*Giizih-Inini*



**Elder Florence Paynter**  
*Ozhoshko Binesi Kwe*



**Elder Philip Paynter**  
*Ogimaa Binesii*

# 2025 Members of the Survivors Circle

*A call for nominations for new Governing Circle and Survivors Circle members went out in 2025. Additional new members will be announced in 2026.*



**Eugene Arcand**  
Muskeg Lake  
Cree Nation  
(Saskatchewan)



**Tagaaq  
Evaluardjuk-Palmer**  
Inuk  
Mittimatalik/Pond  
Inlet (Nunavut)



**Phyllis Webstad**  
Stswecem'c  
Xgat'tem First Nation  
Canoe Creek Indian Band  
(British Columbia)



**Edna Agnes  
Ekhivalak Elias**  
Inuk  
Kugluktuk (Nunavut)



**Yvonne Rigsby Jones**  
Snuneymuxw  
First Nation  
Coast Salish (British Columbia)



**John Jones (Tseqalmit)**  
Nanoose First Nation  
(British Columbia)



**Laurie McDonald**  
Two-Spirit Cree  
Enoch Cree Nation  
(Alberta)



**Brian Normand**  
Métis/Michif  
Red River Settlement  
(Manitoba)



**Richard  
'Ejinagosi' Kistabish**  
Anicinabe (Algonquin)  
First Nation community of  
Abitibiwinni (Québec)



**Dennis Saddleman  
E'Welsh (Great Uncle)**  
Nlaka'pamux and  
Syilx Nations  
(British Columbia)



**Dorene Bernard**  
Mi'kmaki  
Grassroots  
Grandmother  
(Nova Scotia)



**Abraham Bearskin  
Miiyubinoskum (One  
who gives New Life)**  
Cree Elder, Cree  
Nation of Chisasibi  
(Québec)



**Francis "Dickie"  
Yuzicapi WaHa  
Chunka Hoksheda  
(Great Shield)**  
Traditional  
Knowledge Keeper  
Okanese First Nation  
(Saskatchewan)



**Barbara Cameron  
Neegaunibinessikwe  
Begonegeezhig (Female Leader of  
the Thunderbirds Hole in the Sky)**  
Wolf Clan  
Midewiwin Shkabehikwe to Minweyweyigaan  
Midewiwin Lodge, Roseau River (Manitoba)



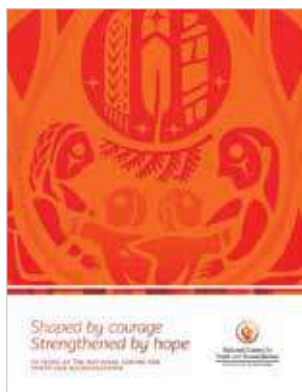
## A movement, not a moment: celebrating a decade of the NCTR

The NCTR was born from the mandate of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) to serve as the permanent, sacred home for the truths of residential school Survivors—the first of its kind in the world.

December 15 marked the 10th anniversary of the TRC's Final Report and the beginning of Canada's healing journey. Over the past decade, the NCTR has grown from a small team with a monumental task into a national leader in preserving memory, confronting denialism and advancing truth and reconciliation.

Our team has safeguarded more than four million archival records, verified the names of thousands of children who never came home and expanded education programs that have reached millions of learners across the country.

This 10-year milestone affirms what Survivors have always known: that truth and reconciliation is not a moment in time, but a movement to be carried forward by all who choose to listen, learn and act. We are proud to highlight our progress of the past decade and honour the work that still lies ahead.



Read more about our progress in our 10-year report, released in December 2025.



## Progress on our future home

Since it was established in 2015, the NCTR has operated out of a temporary facility on the University of Manitoba (UM) campus—a 5,800-square-foot brick house, which we have long outgrown.

With seed funding from the federal government, and land offered by the university as an act of reconciliation, the realization of our vision for a new home is growing ever closer to becoming a reality.

Building a new home for the NCTR is a once-in-a-lifetime national legacy project. It will play an integral role in sharing the history of residential schools and safeguarding the truths of Survivors now and for generations to come. With a founding contribution of \$60 million from the federal government, the NCTR and UM embarked on a fundraising campaign to secure the remaining funds needed to build our new permanent home.

### 2025 HIGHLIGHTS AND LOOKING AHEAD

In spring 2025, we launched a design competition to select an Indigenous architect to lead the project. A carefully considered strategy will position the building project to advance economic reconciliation throughout the design and construction process. Construction is set to begin in 2027, marking one of the final chapters in our journey.

Set to open in 2029, our new home will stand as an international destination, celebrated for its groundbreaking work in bringing history and Indigenous cultures to life. It will serve as a global beacon of learning and understanding—a place where the fire of truth and reconciliation will burn forever.

## A gift from the Mastercard Foundation

*"With this partnership, we will be able to showcase the voices and strength of Survivors on an international scale, ensuring the world bears witness to their statements and oral histories. Reconciliation is not a single act, but a shared journey. With Mastercard walking alongside us, we move closer to a future rooted in truth, justice and hope."*

**-STEPHANIE SCOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NCTR**

In September, the NCTR received a \$25 million gift from the Mastercard Foundation. This landmark contribution will strengthen the NCTR's capacity to advance truth and reconciliation for all Canadians through the education of children and youth.

With the support of generous funding partners like the Mastercard Foundation, the NCTR honours Survivors as living witnesses through education, archives and community programs. This provides young people with the knowledge they need to shape a better future for everyone.



## A heartfelt thank you



Our new home is possible through the generous support of our many partners and supporters, who walk alongside us on the path of truth and reconciliation. In 2025, we announced several significant gifts, and when combined with the generosity of donors at every level, these contributions brought us to over 90 per cent of the total funding needed for our permanent home. We are sincerely thankful for each and every gift that helped move us closer to this goal.

- *April:* \$2 million from Canada Life and Power Corporation of Canada
- *May:* \$75,000 from the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut
- *September:* \$20 million from the Government of Manitoba
- *September:* \$1 million commitment from the McConnell Foundation
- *Throughout the year:* \$20,000+ from labour organizations like the Manitoba Federation of Labour, Winnipeg Association of Public Service Operators (WAPSO), United Steelworkers, University of Manitoba Faculty Association and TEAM-IFPTE



## Truth and Reconciliation Week 2025

Leading up to Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, Truth and Reconciliation Week 2025 offered a transformative five-day journey for students, educators and the broader community to engage with the poignant history and enduring spirit of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples.

### **ME'J TEKWEYULKUL KINA'MATNEWE'L WJIT TELI-KPMA'LTULTIMK**

On September 18, 3,600 students filed into the Scotiabank Centre, becoming a sea of orange as they pulled on their orange t-shirts. Students in grades 7 to 12 from Kijipuktuk (Halifax) and surrounding areas attended, not to watch a

hockey game or a concert, but to hear truths from Survivors, immerse themselves in Indigenous cultures and watch performances from Indigenous artists.

Each performance reflected the theme “The Gifts We Carry,” honouring and sharing the talents of musicians, dancers and poets; teachings from Elders; and the strength carried through generations.

### **PROGRAMMING FOR STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS**

From September 22 to 26, the Taking Truth to Action virtual educational program offered free, age-appropriate materials for students in grades 1 through 12.

Held in classrooms across Canada, at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and the Museum of History, and over Zoom, students heard directly from residential school Survivors and subject matter experts. Topics included the history, truths and impacts of the residential school system, connection to Indigenous identity and how they can take action.

*13,642 educators registered  
758,904 students represented*

2025 saw more than 1,406 new educators register their classrooms in addition to the thousands of educators who join us each year.

### **PUBLIC PROGRAMMING**

To reach and teach as many people as possible, we offered free daily lunch-and-learn webinars during Truth and Reconciliation Week. These webinars were designed for adults seeking to challenge colonial narratives and deepen their understanding of Indigenous history.



This year, we held discussions with Survivors and subject matter experts on areas such as residential school survival and strength of Survivors, lived experiences of Survivors around missing children and ground searches, the connection between the residential school system and the child welfare legacy, Calls to Action (10 years later), corporate responses to truth and reconciliation, and confronting denialism.

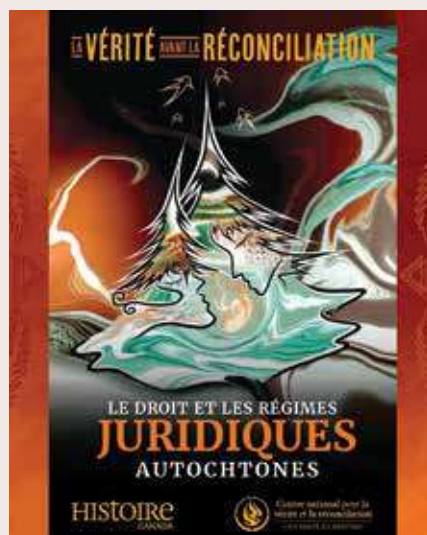
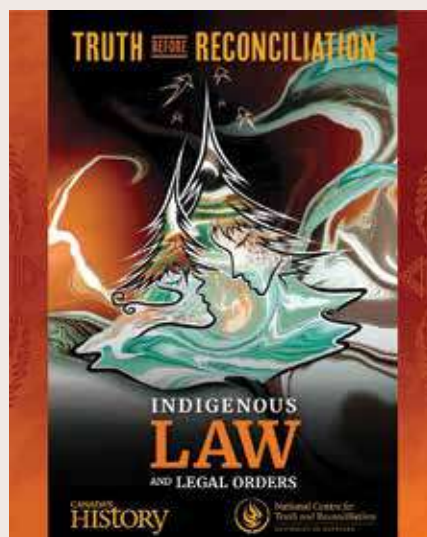
The lunch-and-learns had more than 30,000 views from attendees who joined us from across the country.

*Truth and Reconciliation Week 2025 was made possible through the generous support of our funders and partners. Funders include Canadian Heritage, RBC, Government of Ontario, Children's Educational Foundation of Canada, Government of Nova Scotia | Support for Culture, Government of Manitoba, Halifax Regional Municipality, Arc'teryx, Enbridge, Government of Alberta, CSMARI (MARP), NAV Canada, CUPE, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Winnipeg Foundation, The North West Company, Sysco, CN, Bell Canada, Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Friends United Foundation and Office Interiors. Partners include Canada's History, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Canadian Museum of History, CBC Kids, Douglas Park Community School (Langley, BC), École secondaire Champagnat (La Tuque, QC), Orange Shirt Society, Reconciliation Education, Sheldon-Williams Collegiate (Regina, SK), Spirit of Hope Secondary School (Hope, BC), St. Paul's High School (Winnipeg, MB) and Wapikoni mobile.*



## Partnership with *Canada's History*

The NCTR partnered with *Canada's History* on *Truth Before Reconciliation: Indigenous Law and Legal Orders*. Through this publication, teachers and students can explore how Indigenous law and legal orders can help us solve problems, strengthen relationships, and consider how we live together and care for one another.



# *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation*

## REMEMBERING THE CHILDREN

In honour of Orange Shirt Day and the annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, APTN, the NCTR, CBC/Radio-Canada and the Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation united to produce a 90-minute multilingual commemorative gathering to memorialize the children lost to the residential school system and to honour Survivors and their families.

On September 30, we gathered on Parliament Hill, in the unceded, unsurrendered territory of the Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation, for a powerful day of solemn remembrance and joyful celebration. We were grateful to be joined by many special guests, including Elder Claudette Commanda; Her Excellency, the Governor General Mary Simon; and Prime Minister Mark Carney.

More than 2,000 people came to Parliament Hill for the national broadcast, with more than 10 million tuning into the live broadcast from coast to coast to coast.



## First Nations Data Sovereignty and Research Conference

In January, the NCTR sponsored the First Nations Data Sovereignty and First Nation Research Conference: Our Data, Our Truths, Our Voice.

Hosted by the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba in Treaty One Territory, this conference aimed to create a space for First Nations communities, researchers, policymakers and non-First Nations allies to discuss data sovereignty and research. The NCTR also delivered a main plenary session: *Where to Gather Information, How to Protect Data: Records of Residential School Experience*.

## National Wellness and Healing Gathering

To mark the 10th anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)'s Final Report, the NCTR, in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada and the Future Generations Foundation, hosted a National Wellness and Healing Gathering for Survivors and Resolution Health Support Workers in December.



Throughout the gathering, we heard reflections from Survivors on their healing journeys, discussed what truth and reconciliation has looked like over the past decade, had conversations with youth about how the next generation sees reconciliation in this country and reflected on how the former TRC Commissioners worked tirelessly to ensure the voices of Survivors were heard.

## A tribute to Mazina Giizhik-iban

The NCTR was proud to sponsor the Manitoba Museum's 2025 Tribute Gala, celebrating the life and legacy of Mazina Giizhik-iban, the Honourable Murray Sinclair. On April 17, the celebratory evening recognized His Honour's outstanding contributions to justice, truth and reconciliation, and the preservation of Indigenous knowledge and cultures in Canada.

## Canadian UN Ambassador Bob Rae

The NCTR was pleased to welcome Canadian UN Ambassador Bob Rae to the NCTR to learn more about our work advancing truth and reconciliation. During his one-day trip to Winnipeg in January, Ambassador Rae also met with Premier Wab Kinew and headlined a special lecture at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

## NCTR heads north

Also in January, the NCTR team headed north to host a commemoration gathering in Rankin Inlet (Kangiqliniq), Nunavut.

In partnership with Parks Canada, the gathering marked an opportunity to bring the community together and pay tribute to the Survivors of the Chesterfield Inlet Residential School (Turquetil Hall), while remembering the missing and disappeared children who never returned home. We also provided an overview of the Na-mi-quai-ni-mak (I Remember Them) Fund and the Centre's work; explored potential commemoration activities for communities in the Chesterfield Inlet area and how communities can apply for funding; and Parks Canada discussed the National Program of Historical Commemoration.

## CEO of U15 Canada Robert Asselin

2025 saw the NCTR team meet with Robert Asselin, CEO of U15 Canada, an association of 15 leading research universities across Canada, including our host, the University of Manitoba. As a great deal of our work involves research, we were pleased to highlight our ongoing work to find missing children and the six research projects coordinated by the Truth and Reconciliation Network Coordination Hub.

## National Day of Prayer

In March, community members gathered at the Turtle Lodge International Centre for Education and Wellness in Sagkeeng First Nation to observe a National Day of Prayer, dedicated to honouring missing children and unmarked burials.

In partnership with the Turtle Lodge National Council of Elders and Knowledge Keepers and the NCTR's Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Initiative, Elders, staff and community members came together for a ceremony to remember the children lost to residential schools and to acknowledge the ongoing efforts to identify unmarked graves.

## Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean

In May, the NCTR was honoured to welcome the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean and her team from the Michaëlle Jean Foundation. We had the chance to learn more about their work, and exchange dialogue about our shared experiences and wisdom.



## Knowledge exchange with ABC and CBC

Also in May, the NCTR hosted an Indigenous knowledge exchange with Australian Broadcasting Corporation's Tasha James and CBC's Robert Doane and Jo-Anne Chartier. Together, we discussed the importance of archival work and how we can use it to preserve Indigenous knowledge for future generations.

## Honourable Willow-Jean Prime

In August, the NCTR was honoured to welcome the Honourable Willow-Jean Prime, a Member of New Zealand's Parliament. She and her team spent time with Survivors and our leadership to learn about the work we do at the Centre and how it is shaping national conversations and action across Canada.



## Meeting Her Excellency, the Governor General

Leading up to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the NCTR had the privilege of joining Her Excellency, the Governor General Mary Simon, along with Survivors, Elders and Indigenous leaders, at Rideau Hall. It was a beautiful afternoon of learning, healing and reflection in honour of Survivors.

## National Center for Reconciliation, Truth, and Justice

The NCTR was honoured to meet with Andrew Gunstone, Executive Director of the National Center for Reconciliation, Truth, and Justice (NCRTJ), and Emma-Jaye Gavin, Professor of Indigenous Truth-telling Research with Federation University in Australia.

The NCRTJ explores regional and national understandings and commitments regarding reconciliation, truth and justice across industry, academic and community settings. Like the NCTR, they conduct this work through education, engagement, outreach and research activities.

In September, they also presented a lecture at UM that reflected on the relationship between the NCRTJ and the NCTR, along with the potential for deepening allyship, partnership and knowledge exchange between these national institutions and countries.

## Brazilian delegation

The NCTR welcomed Dr. Eloy Terena, Vice-Minister of Brazil's Ministry of Indigenous Peoples, and his delegation during a recent visit to UM. Dr. Terena, an Indigenous lawyer and scholar, has played a leading role in advancing Indigenous rights in Brazil and was recently awarded the Order of Rio Branco, the country's highest civilian honour, for helping establish the nation's first Ministry of Indigenous Peoples.

During their visit, the delegation met with NCTR staff to learn more about the Centre's Survivor-centered work in truth-telling, commemoration and public education. The group shared stories of the human rights violations faced by Indigenous Peoples in Brazil and expressed a deep connection to the NCTR's mission to preserve memory and foster healing.



## McConnell Foundation

In December, the NCTR was honoured to attend a gathering of Survivors, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, philanthropists and youth hosted by the McConnell Foundation, where we continued the important dialogue around the 10 years of the *Declaration of Action: Reaffirming Philanthropy's Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation*.

Thanks to a significant gift from the McConnell Foundation, the Survivors' vision for a new permanent home for the NCTR is becoming even closer to reality. In the spirit of reciprocity, we gifted the foundation with a beautiful work of art by First Nations artist Wayne Stranger, depicting our spirit name, *bezhig miigwan*.

## Shaping the path ahead

In June, NCTR leadership and staff, alongside members of the Survivors and Governing Circles, gathered for a two-day strategic planning session.

It was a cherished opportunity to connect with friends and colleagues from across Turtle Island—a challenging feat given our growth from a small team of 19 just four years ago to nearly 70 today!

During our time together, we got to know one another better, reviewed our achievements and challenges, and discussed the NCTR's future. This involved a strategic focus on enhancing our impact and ensuring our enduring ability to advance truth, reconciliation and healing across Canada.




## OPERATIONS

The NCTR is located on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Inineew, Anisininew, Dakota and Dene peoples, the National Homeland of the Red River Métis and home to many Inuit. We are open Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT and can be found on the University of Manitoba Fort Garry Campus, in Chancellor's Hall at 177 Dysart Road.

## Communications

Our primary focus is to raise the NCTR's profile and protect its reputation. Through our work, we promote the Centre's mandate, programs and initiatives on a national level via various channels including social media, a newsletter, media relations activities, our website and more.



Facebook	100,000+ followers
Instagram	19,900 followers
Linkedin	14,700+ followers
Youtube	7,600+ subscribers
Average new website users	82,000 per month (up from 70,000)
Average web sessions	119,000 per month (up from 104,000)

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2025:

- Overhauled the NCTR website, reorganizing information and archiving outdated content, while striving to meet accessibility standards
- Published a 10-year report detailing the NCTR's journey over the past decade
- Published an annual report with a fulsome overview of our work and priorities
- Coordinated 100+ media responses, statements and interviews on a variety of topics
- Created 184 posts and 209 stories for our social media channels, seeing an increase in followers on all channels
- Coordinated media relations at eight in-person gatherings, announcements and events
- Managed a successful marketing campaign for Truth and Reconciliation Week
- Developed and distributed five digital newsletters to over 12,000 subscribers

## Human Resources

In 2025, we hired several new team members to support the NCTR's continued growth and expanding work in supporting learning and dialogue about the truths of the residential school experience in Canada. The NCTR also hired a project position to work specifically on reviewing and processing the Oblate records that have been transferred to the Centre, as well as five new student employees.

The NCTR currently holds approximately four million documents originally collected by government and church offices for colonial purposes.



## New acquisitions for the NCTR

2025 saw the NCTR Archives acquire 72 new acquisitions, including private statements, sharing circles, Independent Assessment Process (IAP) records and other records. Some unique highlights included:

*Unmarked*, a painting created by Deron Ahsén:nase Douglas, a Mohawk painter formerly from Kahnawake Mohawk First Nation

Photographs taken and compiled by Kevin Nolan, an Irish immigrant who worked as a math teacher at St. Mary's Residential School in Kenora

Handmade yearbooks and a letter from Crosby Girls' School in Port Simpson, donated by Donna Bishop

Photo album from Old Sun Indian Residential School

School division half-yearly attendance reports, which includes reports submitted biannually to the department by all public schools in Manitoba

## Proactive disclosure requests

Typically requested by researchers, external agencies, academics, the media and communities, records requested through this process are more focused on a specific purpose rather than a specific individual.

### ACCESS REQUESTS BY SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Access requests completed in 2025	342 requests
Number of individuals researched by Archives to identify relevant records in 2025	342 individuals
Number of pages of records released in 2025	27,914 pages

### DISCLOSURE REQUESTS

Proactive release requests received	63 requests*
Records released	6,729 records

\* There has been a decrease in proactive release requests since 2023. In 2021, the discovery in Tkémilúps te Secwépemc resulted in an increased need to access records held by the NCTR. We created the option for communities and researchers to enter into Memorandums of Agreement to assist in missing children and unmarked burials research, which led to a decrease in proactive disclosure requests.

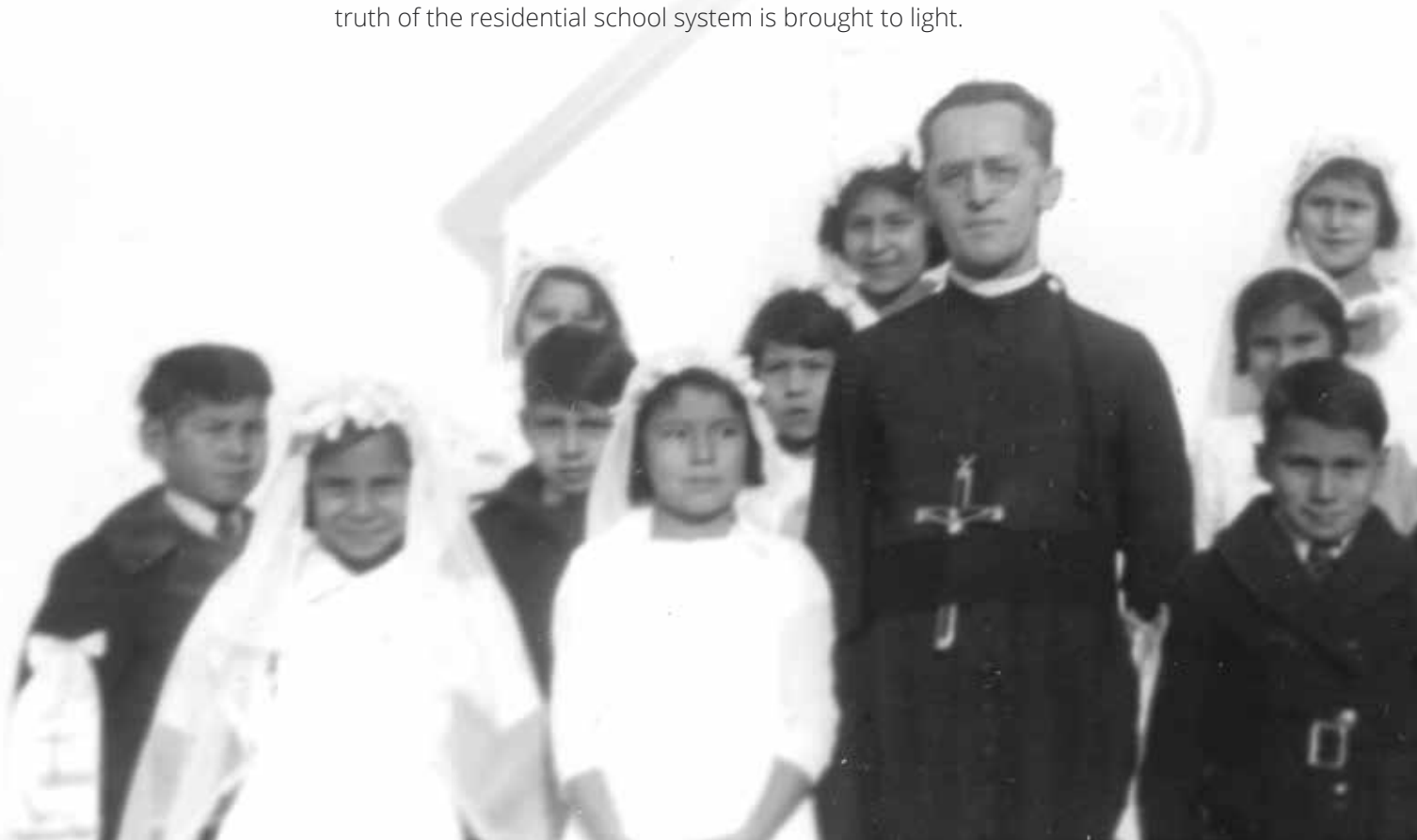
# *New NCTR research identifies 140 Oblate priests and brothers who served in residential schools*

The NCTR and the Oblates of OMI Lacombe Canada (the Oblates) continue their collective efforts to ensure residential school Survivors, their families and communities have access to critical historical Oblate documents.

For several years, the NCTR has worked with OMI Lacombe to acquire Oblate residential school records from various archival sources and expedite access to critical historical documents, including personnel files on members who worked in residential schools in Canada. These records are vital for families and communities as they continue their research on residential school Survivors and the children who never made it home. These records will also assist researchers who are investigating unmarked burial sites.

Through research, agreements and dialogue with the Oblates, the NCTR has created a list of priests and brothers who participated in the administration and operations of these schools. This information is available online through the NCTR Archives, with personnel profiles and links to the schools where the Oblate members served. This work is ongoing, and the list will continue to grow.

This research is part of an ongoing partnership between the Oblates and the NCTR to support the Centre in collecting and reviewing all available historical records to help ensure the full truth of the residential school system is brought to light.



## CALLS TO ACTION

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*The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada tabled 94 Calls to Action to address the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of reconciliation. The NCTR reports annually on its own contributions to advancing them. The NCTR Archives is actively working on the following Calls to Action:*



### TOWARD RECONCILIATION LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

#### *Call to Action 17*

*We call upon all levels of government to enable residential school Survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving administrative costs for a period of five years for the name-change process and the revision of official identity documents, such as birth certificates, passports, driver's licenses, health cards, status cards, and social insurance numbers.*

The NCTR is working with the Québec provincial government to supply information on Survivors in order to research and reclaim their original Indigenous names given to them by their families at birth. To date, the NCTR has held three meetings with Québec Survivors for this purpose. The NCTR will expand this work to other provincial jurisdictions, using Québec as a model.



### TOWARD RECONCILIATION CHURCH APOLOGIES AND RECONCILIATION

#### *Call to Action 59*

*We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church's role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary.*

In May, the Head of Archives visited the Grey Nuns Archives in Montréal, which hold significant volumes of records concerning Grey Nun activities operating residential schools. They agreed to allow an NCTR researcher to review the archives for the purpose of transferring digital records to the NCTR. As part of the discussion, the Grey Nuns were asked to begin a personnel project similar to the Oblate Order. They have consistently refused, but discussions are ongoing.





TOWARD RECONCILIATION

MUSEUMS AND  
ARCHIVES

## Call to Action 67

*We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Museums Association to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of museum policies and best practices to determine the level of compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to make recommendations.*

The NCTR's Head of Archives published a 50-page paper on the Indigenous influence on archival practices: [\*Red Jenkinson: Tracing Indigenous Influences on Canadian Archival Theory | Archivaria\*](#)

They also contributed to the translation of the International Council on Archives (ICA) Tandanya Declaration for its international release. The upcoming issue of *Archives and Manuscripts*, an international journal, will be a special edition focused on the Declaration. The Head of Archives authored the Declaration for the ICA as part of efforts to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

## Call to Action 69

*We call upon Library and Archives Canada to:*

- i. Fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations Joint-Orentlicher Principles, as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.*

- ii. Ensure that its record holdings related to residential schools are accessible to the public.*
- iii. Commit more resources to its public education materials and programming on residential schools.*

The NCTR is working with Library and Archives Canada to improve how people access records, developing clearer and better-coordinated processes to make records easier to find and use. This work will also ensure an Indigenous perspective guides how records related to Indigenous heritage are ordered, stored and shared. The two organizations will share information about record collections that have already been made public and records that are currently available. This will help improve access to records with similar origins. The NCTR is also exploring ways to work together on technology projects, including participatory description projects, descriptions standards and linked data.

The Archives team has also developed an application to transfer digital files. It collects the key metadata needed to take in digital records, based on the Canadian National Metadata Standard. This helps NCTR Archives staff receive, organize and preserve new digital materials more efficiently.

The NCTR also completed six new Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs) for access to the NCTR Archives for missing children and burial research, with three in progress. We now have a total of 79 MOAs with government entities, private and Christian organizations, and Indigenous researchers.



TOWARD RECONCILIATION

## LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

### Call to Action 71

We call upon all chief coroners and provincial vital statistics agencies that have not provided to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada their records on the deaths of Aboriginal children in the care of residential school authorities to make these documents available to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

The NCTR is:

- receiving coroners' reports from the Royal BC Museum through an ongoing research agreement
- continuing its agreement with Manitoba Vital Statistics to update death certificates based on research concerning children lost in Manitoba residential schools
- entering into negotiations for a plan to acquire Québec Coroner's reports and vital statistics on children lost at Québec residential schools



TOWARD RECONCILIATION

## MISSING CHILDREN AND BURIAL INFORMATION

### Call to Action 76

We call upon the parties engaged in the work of documenting, maintaining, commemorating, and protecting residential school cemeteries to adopt strategies in accordance with the following principles:

- The Aboriginal community most affected shall lead the development of such strategies.
- Information shall be sought from residential school Survivors and other Knowledge Keepers in the development of such strategies.
- Aboriginal protocols shall be respected before any potentially invasive technical inspection and investigation of a cemetery site.

Read more about the Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Initiative and National Student Memorial Register on page 28.

#### 2025 SUMMARY OF PRIORITY REQUESTS RESEARCH

<b>ACTIVE</b> (December 31, 2025)	556 individual profiles (includes 111 on hold, pending receipt of additional material such as proof of death)
<b>LOGGED</b> (2025 cumulative)	426 individual profiles
<b>COMPLETED</b> (2025 cumulative)	342 individual profiles



## Call to Action 77

*We call upon provincial, territorial, municipal, and community archives to work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to identify and collect copies of all records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system, and to provide these to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.*

The NCTR is currently working with the Bibliothèque et Archives National de Québec to acquire residential school records. This includes vital statistics, Indian hospitals, coroners' reports and other records related to the history and legacy of the residential school experience.



*“Survivors will never forget. Finding the names of the children is a way for the country to never forget. This work helps to bring their spirits home so they can finally rest, and their families can begin to heal.”*

-SURVIVOR AND ELDER BRIAN NORMAND

## Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Initiative

The NCTR’s Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Initiative is mandated to fulfil Calls to Action 72 and 73, which call for the identification and commemoration of children who died at residential schools and the identification of their unmarked burial sites.

In 2025, efforts continued to identify missing children in our records and beyond. In reviewing a large volume of unexamined documents, the research team identified a number of previously unrecorded deaths for inclusion in our database and available at the request of relatives.

The NCTR consulted with Survivors and communities across Canada to build a shared vision for an online Student Burial Site Repository, as part of our response to Call to Action 73. Once established, it will be available on the NCTR’s website and will consist of an interactive basemap with searchable data layers to allow for mapping and display of burial sites with the permission of communities. The NCTR continues to offer community researchers secure online storage space to maintain their ongoing research. This will assist communities by covering the heavy costs related to systems administration and storage of active research materials.

In 2025, the Community Engagement team continued its outreach to communities across

Canada to inform them of the NCTR’s work and to support communities in their search and commemoration efforts. Webinars and in-person engagements were completed in several provinces, with additional sessions being planned for the future.



## National Student Memorial Register

The creation of the National Student Memorial Register builds upon the extensive work conducted by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. It remembers, honours and acknowledges the children who died while attending a residential school in Canada.

In September 2025, the NCTR, through the Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Initiative, verified 1,143 new names of children for the register. Additionally, the names, dates of death and school information for more than 1,000 students have been updated through new research.

Our research team has been searching Survivors statements, historical documents in our care and beyond, and information provided by community researchers and family members to confirm previously unverified student deaths. We will continue to verify and update the names of children in the National Student Memorial Register as research continues.

## Truth and Reconciliation Network Coordination Hub

In October, the NCTR welcomed Truth and Reconciliation Network Coordination Hub (TRNCH) researchers from across Canada at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights on Treaty One Territory. Over two days, members from the six TRNCH research projects presented what they have been working on and how they hope their projects will bring Canada closer to truth and reconciliation, and discussed challenges and opportunities with one another.

During the presentations, Elders, members of the NCTR's Survivors and Governing Circles, and NCTR staff offered guidance, support and new perspectives to the researchers.

TRNCH is a partnership between the NCTR and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), created to support Call to Action 65, which calls for the establishment of a national research program to advance the collective understanding of reconciliation.

## The Memorial Cloth

The Memorial Cloth, a sacred item blessed and smudged by Elders, carries the names of many children listed in the National Student Memorial Register, and has also been updated to commemorate recent additions. At sixty metres in length, it is a vital, powerful part of our ceremonies to honour these precious lives.





## Helen Betty Osborne Memorial Fund

The NCTR continues to work with the Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Winnipeg Foundation to oversee the Helen Betty Osborne Memorial Fund. 2025 applications were reviewed by an independent adjudication panel with representation from the NCTR and the ICC, with 78 awards distributed to students.

Helen Betty Osborne was a high school student attending Margaret Barbour Collegiate Institute and was on the home placement program administered by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada when she was brutally murdered in northern Manitoba in 1971. It took 16 years for anyone to be charged with her murder.

## Malcolm & Catherine Dewar Truth and Reconciliation Fellowship

Erin Sinclair is the recipient of the 2025 Malcolm & Catherine Dewar Truth and Reconciliation Fellowship. Their project focuses on how storytelling can be used to increase awareness of historical and ongoing violence toward MMIWG2S+ communities, connecting with Calls to Action on education.

The Malcolm & Catherine Dewar Truth and Reconciliation Fellowship was established to support action that is intentional and effectual. The University of Manitoba alumni couple established the fellowship to reward the academic achievements of graduate students at the university pursuing research in the area of truth and reconciliation.

## Ongoing statement gathering

Responding to a surge in interest, the NCTR's statement gathering team was busy in 2025, connecting with Survivors and their families who wish to share their experiences. We collected 57 statements from one-on-ones, circles and produced videos, and are maintaining a list of more than 40 people who are still interested in sharing.

## National Advisory Committee on Residential Schools Missing Children and Unmarked Burials

The National Advisory Committee on Residential Schools Missing Children and Unmarked Burials (NAC) was established to ensure Indigenous communities have access to independent, trusted and expert information in their efforts to identify, locate and commemorate their missing children. As co-administrator, the NCTR was proud to support the NAC on this critical work.

The NAC hosted its final knowledge exchange gathering in March in Calgary, Treaty 7 Territory, with panel discussions, training sessions and dialogues on the tools and information available for communities who search for their missing children. Two final webinars wrapped up the NAC's work in June.

We are grateful to the Circle of Survivors who guided our work over the past three years; the communities, leaders and specialists who partnered with us to share their knowledge and expertise; and all the participants who attended our gatherings and webinars. Hundreds of people attended both in person and virtually, and we

were able to touch so many areas of the country, including Yellowknife, Whitehorse, Quebec City, Ottawa, Truro, Vancouver and Regina.



While the NAC has wrapped up its mandate, this crucial work in communities will continue, and information and resources remain available through the NCTR's website.

## Na-mi-quai-ni-mak Community Support Fund

The Na-mi-quai-ni-mak ("I remember them") Community Support Fund, administered by the NCTR, offers grants to Indigenous communities for activities focused on commemoration and healing. This includes support for community ceremonies and feasts, the establishment of commemorative markers like gardens and plaques, and the maintenance of burial sites.

In 2025, the NCTR received applications from 35 communities. Twenty of those initiatives were funded by Parks Canada (for a total payment of \$329,506.04) and 15 were processed through the Na-mi-quai-ni-mak Community Healing funding streams (for a total of \$64,812.50).

## Imagine A Canada

### THE PROMPT WAS SIMPLE: "IMAGINE A CANADA."

Youth from across the country rose to the challenge, submitting their ideas of what truth and reconciliation in Canada could look like.

*"These honourees embody the spirit of reconciliation at a crucial time, demonstrating remarkable creativity, leadership and commitment to building a more just and equitable future. We are inspired by their vision and dedication."*

-STEPHANIE SCOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NCTR

Fifty-six different schools participated in the program this year. Fifteen art and essay projects and 16 reconciliation projects addressing a wide range of topics—including cultural revitalization, creating safe spaces, remembering the past, connecting with the environment and envisioning a better future—were chosen for their vision, creativity and contribution to Canada's truth and reconciliation journey. The chosen submissions

will be displayed in an art booklet, and project recipients will receive grants up to \$1,500.

In April, youth from both streams participated in a day of Indigenous cultural teachings. And, at the end of May, the NCTR honoured these young minds at the 2025 Imagine a Canada National Celebration and Honouring Gathering. These future leaders and change-makers gathered both online and at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights alongside their parents, teachers and special guests.

The Imagine a Canada program asks youth from kindergarten to grade 12 and CÉGEP to envision a reconciled Canada. Since 2016, we have received more than 1,500 submissions and worked with thousands of students to realize their hopes and dreams of a Canada they wish to see.

*Since 2016, the NCTR has received more than 1,567 Imagine a Canada submissions.*

For more information, visit [nctr.ca/education/educationalprograms/imagine-a-canada](https://nctr.ca/education/educationalprograms/imagine-a-canada)

*Imagine a Canada is presented with the generous support of IG Wealth Management and Power Corporation of Canada.*



## Public outreach

In 2025, the NCTR engaged with over 15,000 people through 144 in-person and virtual tours, workshops, visits, conferences and presentations, including audiences from corporate groups to government sectors, universities to schools, professional associations to churches, and more. The bulk of presentations were connected to learning about residential school history and its impacts, but NCTR's Education unit can also present on a variety of closely related subjects.

### NCTR DIALOGUES

The popular NCTR Dialogues series presents lectures and discussions that explore diverse perspectives on truth and reconciliation. Over the years, discussions with Elders, Survivors, Indigenous leaders and subject matter experts have tackled a variety of topics that encourage continued dialogue. They are streamed live on the NCTR Facebook and YouTube channels, where viewers can also find an archive of past presentations.

#### *The 2025 Dialogues included sessions on:*

- February 19: *Spotlight on Métis Identity* (with Jean Teillet and Andrea Menard)
- April 22: *How to use the Digital Archives* (with Elizabeth-Anne Johnson and Jesse Boiteau)
- June 19: *O Canada: Discussing Canadian Pride with Nuance* (with Emma Battell Lowman and Adam Barker)

### RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS 101

Open to all, our Residential School History and Legacy 101 webinars continued to walk participants through the truth of residential schools, outlined the impacts still felt today and explained why we need reconciliation. Nearly 500 people attended the 12 sessions in 2025. Each session covered relevant topics, associated Calls to Action and practical, meaningful steps groups could take to advance their truth and reconciliation efforts.

### DECOLONIZING LENS

Sparked by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Final Report in 2016, the *Decolonizing Lens* is a film and discussion series that features the work and words of Indigenous artists from Winnipeg and beyond. It provides a space to celebrate the work of Indigenous filmmakers in Canada and the incorporation of Indigenous actors, directors, producers and narratives in film.

Over the past nine years, the *Decolonizing Lens* has grown substantially. 2025 marked one of our busiest years yet, with six events held, 12 films screened (with 24 guest speakers) and over 800 people in attendance.

February 12: *Singing Back the Buffalo*

February 13: *Poplar River, River Poetics, This River*

October 20: *Inkwo for When the Starving Return, Three Feathers*

October 22: *Cherries, Chatterbox, Organza's Revenge, The Great Cherokee Grandmother*

November 12: *#skoden*

December 10: *Levers*

### UNDERSTANDING THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM

In September, our Education team also put together a special three-part learning series: *Understanding the Residential School System: From Historical Legacy to Ongoing Impacts, Reconciliation, and Resilience*. Designed primarily for businesses and organizations to educate their staff, this series was delivered virtually by Zoom.

Participants heard about how the residential school system came to be, what the experience was like, the impacts, what truth and reconciliation can look like through the lens of Indigenous legal rights, allyship and confronting residential school denialism.

## DONORS

The NCTR would like to thank and acknowledge the generous donors who supported us in 2025. Many donors chose to support the NCTR Fund, which provides important support for the Centre's highest priority projects and initiatives, as determined by the NCTR leadership.

Other gifts provide support for specific priorities like Truth and Reconciliation Week and Imagine a Canada.

### GIFTS RECEIVED IN 2025

Gifts	1,312
Donors	514
Total	\$38,689,627

### MAJOR AREAS OF SUPPORT

NCTR Permanent Home Building Fund	\$12,972,889
NCTR Fund	\$217,595
Truth and Reconciliation Week	\$258,027
Imagine a Canada	\$175,983
NCTR Mastercard Foundation Fund	\$25,000,000



*Twice, as Caroline Delany was returning to Canada after working overseas, the news changed the way she chooses to give back.*



The first time, Canadian headlines were filled with the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, before the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) had even been established. She found herself paying

closer attention, researching and giving to like-minded organizations that support Indigenous communities.

And, having spent significant time in countries grappling with ongoing conflict and the effects of colonization, she began to see her home country through a different lens. "I had thought of reconciliation as something that took place in other countries. The Commission showed me the need for reconciliation here," she says.

During another international placement, she visited home shortly after the discovery of unmarked graves in Tkémlúps te Secwépemc. Like many Canadians, she was shaken. But for Delany, the moment also clarified a responsibility. She began learning more about the NCTR and soon became a regular donor.

"Where I grew up in southern Ontario, my education treated Indigenous history as pre-European contact," she says. "I've since realized how limited that [education] was, and have tried to think carefully about my role, as a non-Indigenous person in Canada, to understand the true history and how to support the reconciliation process going forward."

As a public servant, she is especially interested in the Calls to Action and their ongoing implementation. "There is still a lot of work to do. I want to support an institution that will ensure the process is not just one that identifies actions with no follow-through," she says. "[Giving to the NCTR] is an opportunity to support the long-term reconciliation process. It is truly a multi-generational challenge, and there is a role for all of us in terms of supporting the institutions that are doing this important work."

For Delany, giving to the NCTR is not just about responding to headlines. It is about helping to build the infrastructure for truth: preserving Survivors' experiences, safeguarding records and ensuring future generations inherit both knowledge and accountability.



## REVENUE

March 31, 2025 General Funds

Donations	\$ 744,929
Advanced Education and Training (AET)	\$ 1,123,273
Other Province of Manitoba	\$ 200,000
Federal and Other Government Grants	\$ 8,121,404
Sales of Goods and Services	\$ 889,937
Other Income	\$ 183,705
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 11,263,248</b>

## EXPENSE

March 31, 2025 General Funds

Salaries	\$ 2,836,439
Staff Benefits and Pay Levy	\$ 518,941
Materials, Supplies and Services	\$ 3,277,936
Professional and Other Services	\$ 3,626,100
Travel & Conferences	\$ 644,312
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 28,831
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 10,932,559</b>

Inter-Fund Transfers	(\$ 583,766)
NET	(\$ 253,077)
Fund Balances Beginning of Year	\$ 6,363,910
<b>FUND BALANCES END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 6,110,833</b>

Carla Buchanan, B.Com., CPA, CA, CIM®  
 Director, Financial Reporting, Financial Services

February 23, 2026

Date





## National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

The NCTR is a place of learning and dialogue, where the truths of the residential school experience will be honoured and kept safe for future generations.

### NCTR.CA



Canada Post recently released a new series of truth and reconciliation stamps in partnership with the NCTR Survivors Circle. Each stamp features the Bentwood Box, a sacred vessel carved by Coast Salish artist Luke Marston that traveled with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to every national event, carrying photographs, letters, gifts and sacred offerings from Survivors and families.

Now, through this partnership, the Bentwood Box travels once more. Every letter that bears these stamps carries the memory of those who attended residential schools, the children who never came home and the generations who continue to uphold truth and healing.

