

# Resources for continuing reconciliation dialogue and learning

## Jess Bolduc 4R's

This Resource list of many resources was created for participants in the Toronto Summer Institute who wished to take a deeper dive into the ongoing work of Truth and Reconciliation. Choose your own adventure.

Jess Bolduc

### For Individuals

1. Find out what Indigenous territory you live in and the history of that Nation(s) before Canada became a country. Reflect on your own ancestral journey which led you to be able to call Canada your home. What is your relationship to colonization? To reconciliation?
2. Read the TRC final report, at a minimum the [Executive Summary](#). Don't start and end at the Calls to Action and learn about the Metis and Inuit experiences which were under-represented in this process and unique. Check out the Inuit Truth & Reconciliation process, [Moving Toward Saimaqatigiingniq](#).
3. Check out [150 acts of reconciliation](#), as well as the TRC Calls to action and think about what acts/actions resonate for you, as well as what other questions/conversations you might need to have in order to take action in a good way.
4. Read more Indigenous perspectives on reconciliation to understand the complexity of the word and process. For example, [12 step program to reconciliation](#), or this [powerful poetry/image](#) video about Indigenous peoples and reconciliation.

### For broader community conversations:

1. Read the [4Rs Framework for Cross-cultural dialogue](#). Within it you will find a model, developed by young people, as an approach to reconciliation which was co-created through our experiences hosting dialogue and conversation with young people about reconciliation. There is lots in there about what we've learned, and also what needs to be at the centre of

conversations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people when it comes to reconciliation, diversity and inclusion.

2. I've attached a program created by one of the Unitarian Churches in Toronto which outlines what they have incorporated into their church wrt to reconciliation. They put together an Aboriginal Awareness group to foster internal learning about the issues which is very straight forward and includes different pathways for different people to get involved in the conversation. Here's the [link](#) to more info, and a [sermon](#) from that month:

3. Here is a [link](#) to the format and approach to a conversation in Winnipeg following the racist comments towards First Nations people there and the [Maclean's article](#) that came out. 4Rs uses this methodology in our gatherings (World Cafe).

## **For Organizations and Committees looking for a place to start:**

There are many things that organizations and committees can do internally to develop readiness to be taking action in support of reconciliation. You can also help to inspire others in the community to start their own similar initiatives. Some examples are listed here:

1. Participate in/host the Blanket Exercise. 4Rs Youth Movement uses the Blanket exercise (an experiential learning tool) to teach about Canada's history for groups who have spent time and have already developed a trusting relationship. Here is more information about the Blanket Exercise. <http://kairosblanketexercise.org> - People can contact 4Rs, Canadian Roots Exchange and Kairos directly to schedule an opportunity for facilitating the exercise. Note: this can be a very traumatizing exercise so we only recommend this with experienced facilitators and with great care taken to ensure that Indigenous and other racialized people

Kairos also has some great links to deeper learning: <http://kairosblanketexercise.org/resources/supporting-resources>

2. Reconciliation Canada has developed a number of reconciliation action plans that individuals, groups and organizations can check out: <http://reconciliationcanada.ca/staging/resources/toolkits/>

3. A book club might be a simple first step. I've attached an annotated bibliography from Rotary with a great list of book recommendations. It's through their Honoring Indigenous Peoples initiative. Carolyn Bennet for example organized a [book club](#) last summer encouraging folks to pick up an Indigenous author. Here is a [list of female Indigenous authors](#), and some cool [graphic novels](#), as well as [children's books written by Indigenous people](#), and about [residential schools](#).

4. Alternate to a book club is to hold movie screenings or watch Indigenous films/theatre. [ImagiNative](#) film fest happens in Toronto and has a list of great Indigenous pieces, [Cinema Politica](#), the National Film Board and [Reel Canada](#) are also great resources to gain access to films. Check out the [Decolonizing Lens project](#) in Winnipeg for inspiration.

## For people telling stories about Indigenous people:

Indigenous Style Guide: <http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/journalists-for-human-rights-launches-indigenous-style-guide-662802233.html>

On TVO's Organizational policy shift to capitalize I in Indigenous: <http://tvo.org/article/current-affairs/shared-values/why-we-decided-to-capitalize-black-aboriginal-and-indigenous->

Media makes slow gains in reporting on Indigenous issues and are still underreporting: <https://www.thestar.com/amp/news/canada/2016/10/07/media-make-slow-gains-in-reporting-on-indigenous-issues-and-are-still-underreporting-them-study.html>

Buried Voices: Changing tones report - <http://www.jhr.ca/en/publications/buried-voices-changing-tones/>

Reporting in Indigenous communities guide: <http://riic.ca>

Indigenous reporters program at JHR: <http://www.jhr.ca/en/category/northern-ontario/>

Examples of Indigenous media content:

[RedX](#)

[Indian & Cowboy](#)

CBC Aboriginal

APTN

[Indian Country Media Network](#)  
[Chelsea Vowel blog](#)  
Red Rising Magazine

Discourse Media (example of a way forward for a non-Indigenous org to report Indigenous content): <http://www.towardreconciliation.discoursemedia.org>

## Further resources on Reconciliation:

1. Here is a link to the First Nation Caring Society (Cindy Blackstock)'s framework for reconciliation: <https://fncaringsociety.com/touchstones-hope> as well as the Inuit Truth & Reconciliation process, [Moving Toward Saimaqatigiingniq](#).
2. Of course the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation which now houses all of the records, testimonies and further research on the TRC is an excellent source of resources and from time to time holds events/campaigns: <http://nctr.ca/map.php>
3. For education resources for classrooms and other kinds of learning, refer to the great work of the [Legacy of Hope Foundation](#).
4. Keep connected to the [www.4rsyouth.ca](http://www.4rsyouth.ca) website and our [Facebook](#) group which are full of events, articles, resources and opportunities for capacity building.
5. Dig into the Indigenous discourse around Canada 150.
6. Read the ITK Inuit Suicide Prevention Strategy: <https://www.itk.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/ITK-National-Inuit-Suicide-Prevention-Strategy-2016.pdf>
7. Don't enjoy reading? Watch some videos! Here are some to start:

[Dene a Journey](#)  
[A Revival and Reclamation of Identity | Sage Petahtegoose](#)  
[Frozen Bridges "Kick a racist in the balls!" | Tanya Tagaq](#)  
[Rebel Music | Native America: 7th Generation Rises](#)  
[Reconciliation Begins with You and Me](#)  
[The Immigrant Settler is Not an Oxymoron | Anubha Momin](#)

7. Don't enjoy reading? Watch some videos! Here are some to start:

[All Nations Rise | Lyla June](#)

Hope this helps!

**Jessica Bolduc**

**Executive Director**

e: [jessica@4rsyouth.ca](mailto:jessica@4rsyouth.ca) | c: [705 987 1505](tel:7059871505)

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Website](#) | [Video](#)



**4Rs YOUTH MOVEMENT**

Two additional pdfs:

\* Honouring Indigenous People Annotated Full Bibliography

\* NNewsletter- People of Reconciliation – First Unitarian  
Congregation - Toronto

And there are events much like this poster.. Join in when the opportunity arises.



# The Voices of our Grandmothers: Responsibility, Relationship and Reconciliation

Join us in a community gathering to emerge a powerful voice, the voice of our grandmother's telling their stories about their time living on N' Daki-Menan, a voice to inspire and to remember the people, the place and the land.

**Date: Saturday October 8, 2016**  
**Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm**  
**Place: LMLC School Gym on Bear Island**  
**Snacks Available**

As part of a Truth & Reconciliation initiative the Gathering of the Grandmothers is a continuation from the local discussion held in Temagami in August 2016. The purpose is to create safe spaces for Teme-Augama Anishinabai to restory our version of our history through oral traditions. Stories of resilience and survival as a form of truth-telling that is fundamental in teaching our families and communities to remember who we are and with the intention to lead us toward inner-peacebuilding action to strengthen our community.

For more info contact: Vicky Grant