

# WALK WITH US

## MMIWG2S ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY



*DefendDignity*

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### BOOKS & BOOK CHAPTERS

#### [21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act](#)

Author: Bob Joseph

Based on a viral article, *21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act* is the essential guide to understanding the legal document and its repercussion on generations of Indigenous peoples. Joseph explains how Indigenous peoples can step out from under the Indian Act, which after 141 years continues to shape, control, and constrain the lives and opportunities of Indigenous peoples.

#### [Betty: The Helen Betty Osborne Story](#)

Author: David A. Robertson

Dreaming of becoming a teacher, Betty left home to attend residential school and then high school in The Pas, Manitoba. On November 13, 1971, Betty was abducted and brutally murdered by four young men. Initially met with silence and indifference, her tragic murder resonates loudly today. Betty represents the nearly 1,200 Indigenous women in Canada who have been murdered or gone missing. This is her story.

### **Carnival Lights**

Author: Chris Stark

Blending fiction and fact, *Carnival Lights* ranges from reverie to nightmare and back again in a lyrical yet unflinching story of an Ojibwe family's struggle to hold onto their land, their culture, and each other. *Carnival Lights* is a timely book for a country in need of deep healing.

### **Decolonizing Evangelicalism: an 11:59 p.m. Conversation**

Authors: Randy S. Woodley and Bo C. Sanders

This book introduces key aspects, prevailing mentalities, and major figures to consider in understanding postcolonial theologies. Woodley and Sanders provide a unique combination of indigenous theology and other academic theory to point readers toward the way of Jesus. *Decolonizing Evangelicalism* is a starting point for those who hope to change the conversation and see that the world could be lived in a different way.

### **Decolonizing Trauma Work: Indigenous Stories and Strategies**

Author: Renee Linklater

In *Decolonizing Trauma Work*, Renee Linklater explores healing and wellness in Indigenous communities on Turtle Island. Drawing on a decolonizing approach, which puts the “soul wound” of colonialism at the centre, Linklater engages ten Indigenous health care practitioners in a dialogue regarding Indigenous notions of wellness and wholistic health, critiques of psychiatry and psychiatric diagnoses, and Indigenous approaches to helping people through trauma, depression and experiences of parallel and multiple realities.

### **Forever Loved: Exposing the hidden crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada**

Authors: D. Memee Lavel-Harvard and Jennifer Brant

Linking colonial practices with genocide, this book explores the current statistics, root causes and structural components of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada. Including conversations on policing, media and education, the authors illustrate the resilience, strength, courage, and spirit of Indigenous women and girls as they struggle to survive in a society shaped by racism and sexism, patriarchy and misogyny.

### **[From the Ashes](#)**

Author: Jesse Thistle

Once a high school dropout and now a rising Indigenous scholar, Jesse Thistle chronicles his life on the streets and how he overcame trauma and addiction to discover the truth about who he is. *From the Ashes* is a remarkable memoir about hope and resilience, and a revelatory look into the life of a Métis-Cree man who refused to give up.

### **[If I Go Missing](#)**

Authors: Brianna Jonnie with Nahanni Shingoose

This young adult graphic novel serves as a window into one of the unique dangers of being an Indigenous teen in Canada today. The text of the book is derived from excerpts of a letter written to the Winnipeg Chief of Police by fourteen-year-old Brianna Jonnie. In her letter, Jonnie calls out the authorities for neglecting to immediately investigate missing Indigenous people.

### **[Indigenous People and Jesus: Making the Bible Come Alive](#)**

Author: Parry Stalter

Parry Stalter gives us a book that offers a deeper, better grasp of an Indigenous worldview that embraces Jesus Christ. Few of us understand the complicated culture, history and faith journey of First Nations peoples. Parry relies on his personal experience to explain and explore his complete confidence in the love of God and the application of God's grace to Indigenous lives.

### **[Indigenous Women and Girls and the Canadian Anti-Human Trafficking Approach](#)**

Author: Rachele Lamont

This Masters of Slavery and Liberation dissertation, submitted August 23, 2021 at the University of Nottingham, explores how the colonial structures and patterns of control, oppression, sexism, patriarchy, and sexual violence have been reproduced and sustained within Canada's current national antitrafficking approach, thus placing Indigenous women and girls in high-risk positions of being overlooked, becoming, and remaining victims of domestic sex trafficking within this country.

### **[Indigenous Writes: A Guide to First Nations, Metis and Inuit Issues in Canada](#)**

Author: Chelsea Vowel

In *Indigenous Writes*, Chelsea Vowel initiates conversations about the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canada. An advocate for Indigenous worldviews, the

author discusses the fundamental issues: the terminology of relationships; culture and identity; myth-busting; state violence; and land, learning, law and treaties along with wider social beliefs about these issues.

### [KAIROS MMIW Books](#)

KAIROS recommends 20 books on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. KAIROS is an ecumenical organization of 10 churches and religious organizations that work together in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights. Their work is for the public, rooted in theological reflection and faith.

### [Legacy](#)

Author: Waubegeshig Rice

In the winter of 1989, Eva Gibson is a university student in downtown Toronto. She's homesick and anxious to finish her education and return home to serve her Anishinaabe community. Then tragedy strikes. Eva's brothers and sister struggle to cope with their losses and redefine "their legacy." Some turn to ceremony; others to vice. All contend with a creeping sentiment of revenge.

### [Legacy: Trauma, Story and Indigenous Healing](#)

Author: Suzanne Methot

Five hundred years of colonization have taken an incalculable toll on the Indigenous peoples of the Americas: substance use disorders and shockingly high rates of depression, diabetes, and other chronic health conditions brought on by genocide and colonial control. With passionate logic and chillingly clear prose, author and educator Suzanne Methot uses history, human development, and her own and others' stories to trace the roots of Indigenous cultural dislocation and community breakdown in an original and provocative examination of the long-term effects of colonization. But all is not lost. Methot also shows how we can come back from this with Indigenous ways of knowing lighting the way.

### [Lightfinder](#)

Author: Aaron Paquette

*Lightfinder* is a YA fantasy novel about Aisling, a young Cree woman who sets out into the wilderness to find her runaway younger brother, Eric. The story follows the paths of Aisling and Eric, siblings unwittingly thrust into a millennia old struggle for the future of life on earth. It deals with growing up, love and loss, and the choices life puts in our path.

### **#Not Your Princess**

Authors: Lisa Charleyboy and MaryBeth Leatherdale

*#Not Your Princess* presents an eclectic collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that express the experience of being a Native woman. Stories of abuse, humiliation, and stereotyping are countered by the voices of passionate women speaking out and demanding change. The women in this book give teen readers insight into the lives of women who, for so long, have been virtually invisible.

### **Obstruction of Justice: The Search for Truth on Canada's Highway of Tears**

Author: Ray Michalko

Fueled by frustration with the police's inability to solve the murders of Aboriginal women on British Columbia's "Highway of Tears," ex-RCMP turned private eye Ray Michalko embarked on a life altering journey to unlock the secrets of these cases and, in the process, discovered as much about the crimes as he did the reasons they've gone unsolved.

### **One Night**

Author: Melanie Florence

Luna Begay is as studious and serious about her Aboriginal heritage as her sister, Issy, is outgoing and fun. Issy persuades Luna to attend a party, where a charming and sophisticated guy drugs and rapes Luna. She feels guilty and ashamed that she will be perceived as an "Indian slut," so doesn't tell anyone until she discovers she is pregnant and has to deal with the consequences.

### **Remembering Vancouver's Disappeared Women: Settler Colonialism and the difficulty of Inheritance**

Author: Amber Dean

From the late 1970s to the early 2000s, at least sixty-five women, many of them Indigenous, were found murdered or missing in Vancouver. Driven by the urgency of this ongoing crisis, Amber Dean offers a timely, critical analysis of the public representations, memorials, and activist strategies that brought the story of Vancouver's disappeared women to the attention of a wider public.

## **Rescuing The Gospel From The Cowboys: A Native American Expression of the Jesus Way**

Author: Richard Twiss

In this book, Twiss provides a contextualized Indigenous expression of the Christian faith among the Native communities of North America. He surveys the painful, complicated history of Christian missions among Indigenous peoples and chronicles more hopeful visions of culturally contextual Native Christian faith. For Twiss, contextualization is not merely a formula or evangelistic strategy, but rather a relational process of theological and cultural reflection within a local community.

## **Rez Runaway**

Author: Melanie Florence

Raised on an Indian reserve, seventeen-year-old Joe Littlechief tries to be like the other guys, but he's more interested in guys than girls. One night Joe makes a drunken pass at his best friend and soon everyone rejects him. Joe thinks about killing himself, but instead runs away to the city. Alone and penniless, Joe has to come to terms with who he really is.

## **Seven Fallen Feathers**

Author: Tanya Talaga

Over the span of eleven years, seven Indigenous high school students died in Thunder Bay, Ontario. They were hundreds of kilometres away from their families, forced to leave home because there was no adequate high school on their reserves. Tanya Talaga delves into the history of this northern city that has come to manifest Canada's long struggle with human rights violations against Indigenous communities.

## **Strategies to Restore Justice for Sex Trafficked Native Women**

The Palgrave International Handbook of Human Trafficking pp 1219-1240

Author: Christine Stark

This chapter historicizes the sex trafficking of Indigenous women in Central and North America beginning with Christopher Columbus, extending through the contemporary prostitution, and trafficking of Native and First Nation women. After analyzing prostitution and sex trafficking as central to colonization historically and contemporaneously, a strategy is outlined using civil litigation legal remedies in conjunction with developing a support system for the victims.

### [The Missing](#)

Author: Melanie Florence

After a girl from school is found dead, Feather is shocked when the police dismiss it as suicide. Then when Feather's best friend vanishes and her brother is accused of the crime, Feather's investigation leads her into terrible danger. This fictional thriller set in Winnipeg explores one teenager's response to a system that has long denied and misrepresented the problem of missing and murdered Aboriginal women.

### [The Outside Circle](#)

Author: Patti LaBoucane-Benson

In this graphic novel, two brothers surrounded by poverty, drug abuse, and gang violence try to overcome centuries of historic trauma in very different ways to bring about positive change in their lives. Powerful, courageous, and deeply moving, *The Outside Circle* is drawn from the author's twenty years of work and research on healing and reconciliation of gang-affiliated or incarcerated Indigenous men.

### [The River of Tears](#)

Author: Robert Christmas

Dani Taylor and Detective Jack Bondar battle the clock to overcome barriers and conflict as they become immersed in the dark underworld of sex trafficking in Canada. In *River of Tears* you will gain deep insights into police challenges and psyche, Indigenous perspectives and issues, and what families experience when loved ones go missing.

### [Unsettling the Word: Biblical Experiments in Decolonization](#)

Author: Steve Heinrichs (Editor), Jonathan Dyck (Illustrator)

For generations, the Bible has been employed by settler colonial societies as a weapon to dispossess Indigenous and racialized peoples of their lands, cultures, and spiritualities. Given this devastating legacy, many want nothing to do with it. But is it possible for the exploited and their allies to reclaim the Bible from the dominant powers? Can it serve as an instrument for justice in the cause of the oppressed? Even a nonviolent weapon toward decolonization? In *Unsettling the Word*, over 60 Indigenous and Settler authors come together to wrestle with the Scriptures, rereading and re-imagining the ancient text for the sake of reparative futures.



## [Unsettling Truths](#)

Authors: Mark Charles and Soong-Chan Rah

You cannot discover lands already inhabited. Injustice has plagued American society for centuries. And we cannot move toward being a more just nation without understanding the root causes that have shaped our culture and institutions. In this prophetic blend of history, theology, and cultural commentary, Charles and Rah reveal the far-reaching, damaging effects of the "Doctrine of Discovery."

## [Will I See?](#)

Author: David A. Robertson

May, a young teenage girl, traverses city streets, finding keepsakes in different places along her journey. When May and her kookum make these keepsakes into a necklace, it opens a world of danger and fantasy. A story of tragedy and beauty, *Will I See* illuminates the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

## [Wolf Woman: A Search for Identity](#)

Author: Beatrice Wolfe

Beatrice Wolfe's story is one of rejection, deceit, abuse and shame. It's the story that many of her friends, family members, and her beautiful mom could never tell because their lives were cut short. She tells her story so that people can watch out for those who are exploited, not by choice, but because life dealt them a bad hand.

## [Wrongs to Rights](#)

Editor: Steve Heinrichs

In *Wrongs to Rights*, over 40 authors from diverse backgrounds tackle key questions that the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* raises: What are its potential implications? How does it connect to Scripture? Can it facilitate genuine decolonization, or is "rights talk" another form of imperialism? And what about real life relationships? Can the Declaration be lived out – collectively and personally – on the ground?

## INDIGENOUS BOOKS FOR KIDS

### [ᐱᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ Nattiq And The Land Of Statues](#)

Author: Barbara Landry, illustrated By Martha Kyak

A ringed seal, known in Inuktitut as ᐱᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ nattiq, has returned to his Arctic home from a long trek south in ᐱᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ Nattiq And The Land Of Statues. His friends — a polar bear, caribou, raven, walrus and narwhal — gather to hear about the amazing sights he saw on his journey. The book also includes a glossary of Inuktitut words.

### [Bear for Breakfast](#)

Author: Robert Munsch, illustrated by Jay Odjick

Children's author Robert Munsch and illustrator Jay Odjick team up for a second picture book called Bear for Breakfast. In this tale, a boy named Donovan decides to catch a bear to eat for breakfast, just like his grandfather used to eat. When he goes hunting, Donovan discovers the bear might have other plans.

### [Birdsong](#)

Author: Julie Flett

In Birdsong, a lonely girl becomes friends with her new neighbour, an elderly woman. Together, they watch the seasons change, but as they both grow older, the young girl learns to cope with her friend's declining health. Birdsong was a finalist for the 2019 Governor General's Literary Award for young people's literature — illustration.

### [Dakwākāda Warriors](#)

Author: Cole Pauls

Two Earth Protectors are charged with saving the planet from evil pioneers and cyborg sasquatches in Dakwākāda Warriors. The comic, translated into two dialects of Southern Tutchone, serves as an allegory for colonialism.

### [Fire Song](#)

Author: Adam Garnet Jones

Following his sister's suicide, Shane, a gay Indigenous teenager in Northern Ontario, struggles to support his family. Shane is eventually forced to choose between his family's home and his own future. Fire Song is an adaptation of Adam Garnet Jones's award-winning film. Fire Song is for ages 13 and up.

## **Ghosts**

Author: David A. Robertson

Ghosts is the third book in David A. Robertson's Reckoner series following an Indigenous teen named Cole Harper, who returns home after many years away. In Ghosts, Cole is dead and time is running out for Wounded Sky First Nation as Mihko Laboratories, which manufactured an illness that once afflicted the community, has reopened its research facilities.

## **I Lost My Talk**

Author: Rita Joe, illustrated by Pauline Young

This children's book shares Rita Joe's iconic poem I Lost My Talk with a new generation. I Lost My Talk is about how Joe, a Mi'kmaw elder and poet, lost her language and culture after she was sent to residential school.

## **In My Anaana's Amautik**

Author: Nadia Sammurtok, illustrated by Lenny Lishchenko

An amautik is a pouch inside a parka where you can carry children. The picture book In My Anaana's Amautik is told from the perspective of a baby safely nestled in their mother's amautik. In My Anaana's Amautik is for ages 3-7.

## **I Will See You Again**

Author: Lisa Boivin

I Will See You Again is an illustrated memoir that chronicles Lisa Boivin's journey through her grieving process following her brother's death. When Boivin learns of his passing overseas, she sets out to bring him home. She finds comfort and strength through memories and dreams of all the moments she and her brother shared together and through her Dene traditions. The lyrical art and story offers a universal message of hope and love.

## **Life Cycles of Caribou**

Author: Monica Ittusardjuat, illustrated by Emma Pedersen

Life Cycles of Caribou is a bilingual book, featuring text in Inuktitut syllabics, Inuktitut Roman orthography and English. It shares six Inuktitut terms for caribou throughout their life cycles, giving the young readers an understanding of the rich Inuktitut terminology for these important animals.

### [Nibi is Water](#)

Author: Joanne Robertson, translated by Shirley Williams and Isadore Toulouse

*Nibi is Water*, written and illustrated by Joanne Robertson, looks at the importance of Nibi—which means water in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe) — and our role to thank, respect, love and protect it. Babies and toddlers can follow Nibi as it rains and snows, splashes or flows, drips and sips. The picture book is written from an Anishinaabe water protector's perspective and is in dual language — English and Ojibwe.

### [Northwest Resistance](#)

Author: Katherena Vermette, illustrated by Scott B. Henderson, colour by Donovan Yaciuk

The next chapter in Katherena Vermette's graphic novel series follows time-travelling teen Echo Desjardins as she witnesses the return of Louis Riel. The first two books in the *A Girl Called Echo* series were *Pemmican Wars* and *Red River Resistance*.

### [Surviving the City](#)

Author: Tasha Spillett, illustrated by Natasha Donovan

High school students Miikwan, who is of Anishinaabe descent, and Dez, who is of Inninew descent, are best friends in Winnipeg. Both have experienced loss, as women in their lives have gone missing or been murdered. In *Surviving the City*, Miikwan and Dez lean on each other and their communities for support and strive to change the devastating trend of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

### [The Case of the Missing Auntie](#)

Author: Michael Hutchinson

In *The Case of the Missing Auntie*, the latest instalment of *The Mighty Muskrats Mystery* series, the four cousins from the Windy Lake First Nation head to the city to visit the Exhibition Fair. There, they learn about their grandfather's little sister, who was scooped up by the government and adopted out to strangers without her parents' permission many years ago. They launch a search for their auntie and, along the way, they learn about the treatment of First Nations people in Canada.

### [The Ghost Collector](#)

Author: Allison Mills

*The Ghost Collector* by Allison Mills is about a young girl named Shelly with an important job. She catches ghosts in her hair and helps them transition to the afterlife. But when Shelly's mom dies, she stops helping the ghosts and starts hoarding them, as she

waits for her mother's ghost to arrive. The Ghost Collector is inspired by Mills's great-grandmother's life and influenced by her Cree heritage.

### **The Girl and the Wolf**

Author: Katherena Vermette, illustrated by Julie Flett

In this picture book, a little girl gets lost in the woods while picking berries. A large grey wolf is able to tell where she is from by smelling her and helps her get home. In the meantime, the girl realizes she had the skills to find her way back all along.

### **Those Who Dwell Below**

Author: Aviaq Johnston, illustrated by Toma Feizo Gas

Those Who Dwell Below is a sequel to Aviaq Johnston's debut novel, *Those Who Run in the Sky*. After being trapped in a spirit world, a young shaman named Pitu returns to his life in the Arctic. When Pitu gets wind of a nearby community that is starving, he realizes he must travel to the depths of the ocean to meet with the sea goddess Nuliajuk.

### **Una Huna**

Author: Susan Aglukark,

In musician Susan Aglukark's first picture book, Ukpik loves her life at camp in the North with her family, friends and puppy. When a trader from the south arrives, Ukpik learns how to use forks, knives and spoons and is excited to teach other children as well. But then Ukpik wonders if the new tools will change her community's way of life and turns to her grandmother for guidance.

### **What the Eagle Sees**

Author: Eldon Yellowhorn & Kathy Lowinger

What the Eagle Sees is a follow-up to 2017's *Turtle Island*. It looks at historical events to reflect an underrepresented Indigenous perspective of our collective past and how to move on in the present and future. Academic Eldon Yellowhorn again works with author Kathy Lowinger to continue an examination of the lasting impact of settler culture on the Indigenous community

## REPORTS

### [2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ People National Action Plan](#)

Author: National Action Plan

Drawing upon the experience and expertise of family members and survivors, the National Action Plan is an overarching plan which identifies the necessary activities that must be taken by governments (federal, provincial/territorial, municipal, Indigenous), organizations, and communities across the country to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

### [A Place Where it Feels Like Home: The Story of Tina Fontaine](#)

Author: Daphne Penrose, Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth

This report explores the tragic death of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine. It is structured in two main parts: 1) the chronology of Tina's life, which includes the time before she was born to the time after she died, and 2) analysis of the information and interactions, and recommendations.

### [Changing the Story to Upholding Dignity and Justice: Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-spirit+ People Strategy](#)

Author: The Yukon Advisory Committee

This report addresses violence against Indigenous women, girls and two spirited individuals in Yukon. It states the vision of healthy, safe and violence-free communities where Indigenous women, girls and Two-spirit+ Yukoners are respected, inherently valued, and treated equitably with dignity and justice, and it includes four paths to change: 1) strengthening connections, 2) community safety and justice, 3) economic independence and education, and 4) community action and accountability.

### [Fact Sheet: Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and Girls](#)

Author: Native Women's Association of Canada

This Fact Sheet includes summary statistics and information based on the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC)'s database of 582 cases of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls. Of the cases, 67% are murdered, 20% are missing, 4% are suspicious deaths, and 9% are uncertain. Most of the cases occurred in urban areas of western provinces.

## **[Journey to Safe Spaces: Indigenous Anti-Human Trafficking Engagement Report 2017-2018](#)**

Author: Ontario Native Women's Association

This report presents the findings from ONWA's Indigenous Anti-Human Trafficking Liaisons (IAHTL) Project under Ontario's Strategy to End Human Trafficking. The IAHTL project supported Indigenous communities by providing survivor-focused and localized responses to human trafficking. The project accomplished its goals to: a) Build survivor, community, and agency capacity, b) Support proposal and program development, and c) Support Indigenous-specific prevention and awareness.

## **[Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview](#)**

Author: RCMP Canada

This report summarizes an RCMP-led study of reported incidents of missing and murdered Aboriginal women across all police jurisdictions in Canada, and it will guide Canadian Police operational decision-making on a solid foundation. It will mean more targeted crime prevention, better community engagement and enhanced accountability for criminal investigations. It will also assist operational planning from the detachment to national level.

## **[Pathways to Safety: Ontario's Strategy in Response to the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#)**

Author: Government of Ontario

This report describes Ontario's focus on the safety and security of all Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ people, with the goal of building pathways enabling them to live freely, fully and safely in all spaces in the province. The pathways include: 1) prevention and healing, 2) education and language, 3) renewal and restoration, 4) justice transformation, (5) responsibility and accountability, and (6) identifying and addressing systemic anti-Indigenous racism.

## **[Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#)**

Author: The National Inquiry Into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

The National Inquiry's Final Report reveals that persistent and deliberate human and Indigenous rights violations and abuses are the root cause behind Canada's staggering rates of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA people. The two

volume report calls for transformative legal and social changes to resolve the crisis that has devastated Indigenous communities across the country.

**[Stolen Sisters: A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence against Indigenous Women in Canada](#)**

Author: Amnesty International

Through nine case studies, this report examines the role of discrimination in acts of violence carried out against Indigenous women in Canadian towns and cities. This discrimination has played out in policies and practices that have helped put Indigenous women in harm's way and in the failure to provide Indigenous women the protection from violence that is every woman's human right.

**[Their Voices Will Guide Us: Student and Youth Engagement Guide](#)**

Author: Charlene Bearhead

This guide is a resource for educators at all levels to introduce the value of Indigenous women's and girls' lives into the classroom and into the minds and hearts of young people. It will prepare educators to use a decolonizing pedagogy and a trauma-informed approach in their teaching. This guide's purpose is to assist in the development of curricula, courses, programs, and learning modules.

**[Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action](#)**

Author: Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

This is a report of the calls to action made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation. These calls to action include action in child welfare, education, language and culture, health, and justice; and calls for reconciliation in many different areas.



## ARTICLES

### [Communal Spirituality for Churches and Christian Nonprofits: How can we make our organizations healthier?](#)

Faith Today

Rod Wilson says “Churches and nonprofits would be healthier if their leaders mobilized their organizations to:

- understand both the individual and communal nature of cruelty and its capacity to negate compassion
- participate in the sacrificial spirit of presence, being with rather than the pragmatism of solving and fixing.”

### [Fish](#)

Dignity

Christine Stark, an Indigenous author and visual artist, poignantly describes the horrors of her life as a young child when her father and his friend forced her to pose naked with a fish to create child pornography. She learned to dissociate from reality to survive the pain.

### ['If She Was White, She Would Still Be Here': Canada's Murdered Women and Girls](#)

Aljazeera

In this six-part series, Al Jazeera tells the stories of some of the Indigenous women and girls who have gone missing or been murdered along the Highway of Tears in British Columbia, Canada. Eighteen-year-old Jessica was found dead off an embankment in 2018. Ginny disappeared near a bridge in 1971 and was never found. These and other stories highlight the tragedies on the Highway of tears.

### [“Joy in Lament: Singing the Lord’s Song in a Strange Land”](#)

Faith Today

In her regular job, Renee is the communications director for Canadian Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec and the editor of its award-winning magazine LIVE. She's also a regular contributor to Today's Christian Woman. She concludes her essay with this: Jesus' death and resurrection invite us to face the world's pain – and ours – and move toward that pain, knowing that we will never be overcome by it. On the cross, Jesus' lament cry became ours, both its grief and its joy. It is finished.

### **Larry Hurst, “What’s on Your Playlist? Why our churches need to include lament.”**

Faith Today

Larry Hurst of Regina is transitional lead pastor at Trailview Alliance Church, Swift Current, Sask. Larry Hurst writes, “Lament is risky – to be so honest with God that we are willing to let our words question our relationship with Him.”

### **Red River Women**

BBC

“Each year, dozens of Canadian Aboriginal women are murdered or disappear never to be seen again. Some end up in a river that runs through the heart of Winnipeg...” This article tells stories of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Manitoba, especially in Winnipeg, which some have nicknamed “Murderpeg” for its high rate of violence.

### **Unresolved: Case Closed or Murder?**

CBC News

CBC News looked into 34 cases across Canada which involved the death or disappearance of Indigenous women, but which authorities say were not due to foul play. They found evidence in many of the cases that points to suspicious circumstances, unexplained bruises and other factors that suggest further investigation is warranted. This website includes these, and more than 300 profiles of other missing or murdered Indigenous women.

### **What Indigenous Youth Want the Pope to Know**

Globe and Mail

This article describes the anticipated visit of 32 delegates of residential-school survivors, elders, youth and knowledge keepers, who wished to meet privately with the Pope to discuss the negative impacts of residential schools on Indigenous peoples. They sought an apology from the Pope, as well as more concrete actions.

## **WEBSITES**

### **[Aura Freedom: Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation](#)**

Aura Freedom's counter-trafficking work stresses the importance of empowering people to make safe and healthy decisions in their lives and reach out for support when they need it. Aura Freedom does not engage in 'rescue industry' activities. Their work aims to prevent human trafficking by advancing equity and addressing root causes.

### **[Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops](#)**

Canada's Catholic Bishops are establishing a new registered charity to support and advance healing and reconciliation initiatives. The charity is expected to manage the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, which will accept contributions from 73 dioceses across Canada in order to fulfill the \$30 million financial commitment made by Canada's Bishops in September.

### **[Evangelical Fellowship of Canada: Indigenous Relations](#)**

Reconciliation Through Relationships (RTR) connects Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together to build friendships and strengthen cross-cultural understanding. RTR was launched in 2021 by Indigenous leaders Jimmy Thunder and Diane Campeau in partnership with Joel Gordon, a non-Indigenous convenor from the EFC. The initiative is a response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's call to bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples to engage in meaningful conversation and interaction.

### **[Indigenous and Foreign Affairs Canada](#)**

This website takes you to two different sites. The Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada gives information such as Indigenous peoples and communities, Treaties and agreements. Delivering on Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls to action, Indian Residential Schools, Reconciliation, and National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Indigenous Services Canada provides information on various services.

### **[It Starts With Us](#)**

The intention of this page is a space for family members of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans and Two-Spirits to honour the lives of their loved ones through personal stories, photos or other important aspects of someone's life. The hope is that this will balance the death related details the media tends to over focus on.

## **[KAIROS MMIW Documents](#)**

This MMIWG Information Hub on the KAIROS website is focused on providing information, resources and updates related to the national inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada. The hope is to create a hub, where allies can come together to strengthen solidarity and support for victims and their families, be informed about the inquiry, and be inspired by stories and testimonies.

## **[Manitoba Justice: Supports for Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#)**

This province of Manitoba website includes information on supports for families of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. These supports include help from the Manitoba Family Information Liaison Unit in gathering information about the loved one's death or disappearance, culturally appropriate trauma counseling, and information on the Compensation for Victims of Crime Program.

## **[Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls \(MMIWG\): What You Need to Know](#)**

This webpage from the Ontario Native Women's Association includes a placemat that is a companion to Ontario's response to the *Pathways to Safety* report, ONWA's recommendations for the *National Action Plan to Address Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls*, a visual representation of *Indigenous Gender-Based Analysis*, and 13 Recommendations from the *Reconciliation with Indigenous Women* Report.

## **[MMIWG & Violence Prevention](#)**

This is the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC)'s MMIWG & Violence Prevention webpage. NWAC is committed to developing concrete actions to end the cycle of violence that affects Indigenous communities – particularly violence which may lead to the disappearance or death of Indigenous women, girls and gender diverse people. This webpage provides information, links and documents on violence against Indigenous women, girls and gender diverse people.

## **[Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls](#)**

On this webpage, the Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability describes femicide in light of murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls. They state that In Canada, official statistics have consistently documented that Indigenous women are eight times more likely to be killed by male partners than non-Indigenous women in Canada, and they are even more often killed by male acquaintances and strangers than by intimate partners.

### **[Native Women's Association of Canada: MMIWG & Violence Prevention](#)**

This Native Women's Association of Canada website provides a vision statement for the organization, a summary of the needs of Indigenous women, a description of the *Honouring Indigenous Women Toolkit*, a description of *You Are Not Alone: A Toolkit for Aboriginal Women Escaping Domestic Violence*, an explanation of Sisters in Spirit, and an understanding of the *Final Report of Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*.

### **[Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice](#)**

In this website, the United Church of Canada provides a wide variety of videos and documents on reconciliation and indigenous justice. They say, "We now stand at a crucial time... when we can see the journey through. For more than thirty years, the United Church and Indigenous peoples have been on a journey towards mutuality, respect and equity. Towards reconciliation. Towards justice."

### **[Red Clover](#)**

Catalyzing right, just and whole relationships between the church and First Peoples in Canada.

### **[Speak Out: Stop Sex Trafficking](#)**

The Speak Out: Stop Sex Trafficking campaign aims to raise awareness about sex trafficking in Ontario and help end the trafficking of Indigenous women, children, youth and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals. Intended for Indigenous youth, caregivers, service provider organizations and communities, the campaign provides resources to help build awareness and prevent human trafficking through information sharing and discussion.

### **[The Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto \(NWRCT\)](#)**

The Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto is a gathering place in Toronto where Indigenous women share resources, support one another, and practice their traditional ways. It provides a safe and welcoming environment for all Indigenous women and their children in the Greater Toronto Area. This website describes many of their services.

### **[The Sound of My Heart Collective](#)**

The Sound of My Heart Collective's mandate is to carry out the *Honouring Indigenous Women* campaign, which focuses on publishing the productions of Indigenous women and their allies through the arts of storytelling, poetry, painting, drawing,

photography, and sound. Its objective is to raise awareness about protecting and honouring Indigenous women and strives to put an end to all forms of violence.

### Word of Hope Ministries

Word of Hope Ministries, whose purpose is to bring hope by showing the truth of the Bible to Indigenous people and people of the north across Canada. They show how the Bible can come alive for study and for everyday living through the internet, printed publications, videos, and public speaking engagements in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

## **PRAYER, WORSHIP & COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

### **Community Resource Guide**

The Native Women's Association of Canada's Sisters In Spirit initiative presents this guide to accompany the great work that you or your organization does in the Aboriginal community to help prevent violence against Aboriginal women and girls. This information is based on family gatherings which included some of the family members and relations of the 582 missing and murdered Aboriginal women to hear their recommendations and requirements for support and safety.

### **Month of Prayer Surrounding the Stories of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada**

This month of prayer program, from the Christian Reformed Church, is broken into 4 weeks. This guide looks at the story of the Good Samaritan and the 7 sacred teachings of Love, Honesty, Humility, Wisdom, Respect, Courage and Truth. It considers stories of missing or murdered women and encourages us to pray for healing, justice, and reconciliation for all those involved in each story.

### **Truth and Reconciliation Prayer Guide**

The Alliance Canada developed this learning and prayer guide to help raise awareness for the impact of residential schools on Indigenous Peoples in Canada, and to offer the opportunity for intentional prayer as you are guided through the TRC's 94 Calls to Action and 94 Calls to Prayer. Make note of #41 (MMIW) and #59 (Speaks to churches educating congregations).

### **Worship, Prayer and Sermon Resources**

The United Church of Canada provides a wide array of worship ideas, prayers and sermon ideas related to reconciliation with the Indigenous communities. They say, "Indigenous leadership is vital to the life of the United Church, and this is a crucial time of journeying together toward reconciliation."

## **COURSES & EXERCISES**

### **[Four Seasons of Reconciliation](#)**

The First Nations University of Canada offers this three hour multimedia online course on history and culture. It is designed to dismantle colonial thinking and move towards reconciliation. With this course, members of your community can learn about the history and culture of Indigenous communities in Canada, the history of residential schools, and treaties around the country.

### **[Indigenous Canada](#)**

The Faculty of Native Studies of the University of Alberta offers this free 12-lesson online course that explores the different histories and contemporary perspectives of Indigenous peoples living in Canada. From an Indigenous perspective, this course explores complex experiences Indigenous peoples face today from a historical and critical perspective, highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations.

### **[KAIROS Blanket Exercise](#)**

The KAIROS Blanket Exercise uses Indigenous methodologies to build understanding about our shared history as Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada by walking through pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance. Everyone is actively involved as they step onto blankets that represent the land, and into the role of First Nations, Inuit and later Métis peoples. By engaging on an emotional and intellectual level, the Blanket Exercise effectively educates and increases empathy.

### **[Walking in a Good Way With Our Indigenous Neighbours](#)**

The Indigenous Working Group of the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada designed this free online course to help Christians learn from Indigenous voices and begin to walk as good neighbors and treaty people. The course consists of about 20 hours of reading, video, and audio material curated from the vast amount of quality resources available online. It includes a 50 minute video on MMIW.



## VIDEOS, FILMS & DOCUMENTARIES

### [Caribou Legs, The Film](#)

TSU's documentary short "Caribou Legs" follows Gwich'in Nation ultra marathoner, Bradley Firth across Canada. Since 2012 he has run more than 15,000 km, most recently embarking on a cross country run to raise awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. The film is a simultaneous look into Bradley's courageous journey and a chilling perspective of the MMIW in our country.

### [Finding Dawn](#)

Acclaimed Métis filmmaker Christine Welsh brings us a compelling documentary that puts a human face on a national tragedy – the epidemic of missing or murdered Indigenous women in Canada. The film takes a journey into the heart of Indigenous women's experience, from Vancouver's skid row, down the Highway of Tears in northern BC, and on to Saskatoon, where the murders and disappearances of these women remain unsolved.

### [Highway of Tears](#)

This is a documentary looking into the missing or murdered women along a 724 kilometer stretch of highway in northern British Columbia. None of the 18 cold-cases since the 1960's had been solved, until project E-Pana (a special division of the RCMP) managed to link DNA to Portland drifter, Bobby Jack Fowler with the 1974 murder of 16 year-old hitchhiker, Colleen MacMillen, and the investigation continued.

### [KAIROS MMIW Films & Documentaries](#)

KAIROS offers a collection of 14 films and documentaries on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. KAIROS is an ecumenical organization of 10 churches and religious organizations that work together in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights. Their work is for the public, rooted in theological reflection and faith.

### [KAIROS MMIW Videos](#)

KAIROS offers a playlist of over 20 videos on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. KAIROS is an ecumenical organization of 10 churches and religious organizations that work together in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights. Their work is for the public, rooted in theological reflection and faith.

### [On the Farm \(Trailer\)](#)

Based on a true story, a powerful study of the dysfunction and disorder in the police and criminal justice systems that allowed a wily psychopath to murder nearly 50

marginalised women from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, many of whom were Indigenous.

### **Shades of Our Sisters**

Shades of Our Sisters is an exhibit and online experience co-created by the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women to share the memory of their loved ones and what the loss of their life means. Audiences are transported into the grief, laughter and love of these families; challenging Canadians to realize the injustice of this national tragedy.

### **Taken**

APTN and CBC present Taken, a true crime documentary series focusing on solving the mysteries behind Canada's missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls by sharing their stories as told by their loved ones, and following the search for justice, and the clues that link these stories.

### **This River**

This short documentary offers an Indigenous perspective on the devastating experience of searching for a loved one who has disappeared. Volunteer activist Kyle Kematch and award-winning writer Katherena Vermette have both survived this heartbreak and share their histories with each other and the audience. While their stories are different, they both exemplify the beauty, grace, resilience, and activism born out of the need to do something.

### **Who Killed Alberta Williams?**

In 1989, 24-year-old Alberta Williams was found dead along the Highway of Tears near Prince Rupert, B.C. Police never caught her killer. Twenty-seven years later, her unsolved murder continues to haunt her family — and the retired cop who says he knows who did it. This is an eight-part podcast and slideshow produced by CBC News about the story.

## PODCASTS

### [KAIROS MMIW Podcasts](#)

KAIROS offers a playlist of over 25 podcasts on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. KAIROS is an ecumenical organization of 10 churches and religious organizations that work together in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights. Their work is for the public, rooted in theological reflection and faith.

### [Lee Maracle, Connection between Violence against the Earth and Violence against Women](#)

This is a lecture by Lee Maracle, a writer, activist and performer from the Stó:lō nation located in the area now known as British Columbia. She believes there is a direct connection between violence against the earth and violence against women: looking to the past to restore our future. This lecture is part of First Voices! First Women Speak! teach-in and community gathering hosted by KAIROS Canada and IPSMO.

### [Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls, a Canadian Responsibility](#)

Sophie Kiwala gives a Queens University TEDx talk advocating that true reconciliation can only be achieved when it exists in the hearts and minds of every Canadian. Why that matters is related to Canada's heart-wrenching history of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Kiwala is former MPP for Kingston and the Islands, where she served as Assistant to the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.

### [Return of the Buffalo Podcasts](#)

Return of the Buffalo is the name given to the work of fostering family wellbeing at Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre. It means returning to the land, returning to Indigenous lifeways and returning to the teaching of respect for ALL our relations. In this collection of podcasts you can hear stories from the Return of the Buffalo community and wisdom from the inspiring knowledge-keepers.

## **VISUAL ART, THEATRE, DANCE, MUSIC & SPOKEN WORD**

### **Betty Albert's Artwork**

Betty Albert-Licenz was adopted and raised by French Canadian parents in Northern Ontario. Later she reunited with her Indigenous father, discovering her birthright as a Cree. Her art allows the viewer to experience tradition, action, and a deep spirituality, and her use of vibrant acrylic colors begs us to view creation in a new way. Her paintings of women and girls remind us of those who are missing.

### **Indigenous Prayers**

Artwork is available for sale from the Christian Reformed Church Indigenous Family Centre in Regina. The collection on prayer would be beautiful for use in Sunday School classes. Prayers for Bravery, Love, Humility, Honesty, Truth Respect, Wisdom and Acceptance. Worthwhile to check out some of their other prints - useful teachings for church families.

### **KAIROS Visual Art, Theatre, Dance, Music and the Spoken Word**

KAIROS offers a collection of over 30 representations of visual art, theatre, dance, music and spoken word on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. KAIROS is an ecumenical organization of 10 churches and religious organizations that work together in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights. Their work is for the public, rooted in theological reflection and faith.

### **Maxine Noel**

Maxine was born in Manitoba of Santee Oglala Sioux parents. She spent her early childhood on her mother's reserve but at the age of six she left to attend an Indian residential school. Maxine uses shape and line to suggest movement in her artwork. She has mastered the skills of painting and drawing plus the processes of serigraphy, etching and stone lithography.

### **MMIWG Gallery of Artistic Expressions**

Art is a powerful tool for commemoration. Public commemorations, through art, can help bring forward personal stories of colonial violence. Art as commemoration bears witness to injustice, recognizes human dignity of victims and survivors, and calls institutions, systems and structures to account. In this website the National Inquiry is honoured to share some of the hundreds of artistic expressions gifted throughout the Truth Gathering Process.

### **Porchlight**

Jaaji and Chelsea June of Twin Flames made this music video of their song “Porchlight” for a Campaign on Missing and Murdered Inuit Women by the Pauktuutiit Women’s Association. They call for awareness that Inuit and Indigenous women and men are going missing and the government needs to be more vigilant in this heartbreaking issue. One missing or murdered sister, mother or child is one too many.

### **The Highway**

This song was written, recorded and filmed with students of 'Na Aksa Gyilak'yoo School in Kitsumkalum First Nation, British Columbia. It commemorates the many cases of missing and murdered indigenous women and men on the Highway of Tears.

### **This River Runs Red**

The Red River, which runs from Winnipeg, Canada to northern South Dakota, has become known as a place where the bodies of women are regularly recovered making its name (Red River) heartbreakingly fitting. Included on the front of this basket is a red-lined map of this river, a visual gash to serve as a reminder of this place where native women have been discarded and seemingly forgotten.

## **SISTERS IN SPIRIT**

### **National Sisters in Spirit Vigil**

Sisters In Spirits (SIS) is an education, policy and research initiative funded by the Status of Women Canada (SWC) and driven by Aboriginal women with the purpose of conducting research and raising awareness of violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada. October 4th is the day to honour the lives of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls, to reflect on all aspects of violence in our lives and to advocate for policy to prevent it.

### **Native Women's Association of Canada: Sisters in Spirit**

Sisters in Spirit (SIS) began as a research, education and policy initiative led by Indigenous women. Through developed databases, SIS tracks and investigates the causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people. SIS also works closely with families to document their lived experiences, adopt their recommendations, and help restore the memory of their loved ones.

### **Sisters in Spirit Day**

Sisters in Spirit Day honours the memories of the more than 1,200 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls across Canada. A red dress from Awo Taan Healing Lodge is on public display at the Edmonton Federal Building in their memory. On October 4, vigils and events are also held across the country to support family members and loved ones.

## **RED DRESS DAY**

### **[Beyond Red Dress Day: Seven calls to action for Indigenous allies](#)**

This National News article says Non-Indigenous people have a role to play in the fight for justice for missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and gender diverse people in this country. It presents seven calls to action for Red Dress Day, to mark this time of remembering and honouring the Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit and gender diverse people who have been victims of gender-based and racialized violence.

### **[Family and Children's Services: Red Dress Day](#)**

This website describes Red Dress Day and provides help for those triggered by MMWUG2S+ loss through connecting with the MMWIG2S+ support call line at 1-844-413-6649 or through the Indigenous-specific Hope for Wellness Helpline at 1-855-242-3310, which offers Indigenous crisis counselling including in some Indigenous languages.

### **[Indigenous groups in Canada mark Red Dress Day, raising awareness of MMIWG](#)**

This CTV News article explains how Indigenous groups from across the country held grieving ceremonies on May 5, 2011 to remember the nearly 1,200 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada. May 5 in Canada and the U.S. marks the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), which coincides with "Red Dress Day," which was started over 11 years ago.

### **[MMIWG sewing project ties community closer together, aims to support families](#)**

This CBC news article describes a small group of volunteers who met several Saturdays in a downtown Edmonton library to fabricate red ribbon skirts for families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The Red Ribbon Skirt Project is a movement aimed at bringing attention to the violence against Indigenous women.

### **[Mr. PG waves Red Dress Campaign flag leading up to official day of awareness](#)**

This Prince George Citizen article shows Mr. PG waving the Prince George Red Dress Society's flag to raise awareness leading up to May 5 which is the "Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-spirit People." The City of Prince George officially proclaimed May 5 as a day of awareness as an act of solidarity with the community of Ladysmith B.C. where a red dress installation was vandalized.

### **[Red Dress Day Alberta](#)**

On May 5, red dresses and ribbons are hung in windows and from trees, representing the many Indigenous women and girls who are missing, or have been murdered. Métis artist Jaime Black helped inspire the red dress movement with her

REDDress art installation, made up of 600 community-donated red dresses, which were later placed in public spaces throughout Winnipeg and across Canada as a reminder of the staggering number of Indigenous women who are no longer with us.

### **What is Red Dress Day?**

This article describes Red Dress Day and explains that the dresses are empty, so that they evoke the missing women who should be wearing them. The colour red was chosen after Jamie Black had a conversation with an Indigenous friend who shared with her that Red symbolizes our lifeblood and that connection between all of us and both vitality and violence.