

The TRC Calls to Action: A Roadmap to Right Relationships

AVICC Convention Plenary Session with Women Transforming Cities

*“The Calls to Action are the survivors’
work plan for the nation.”*

*— Dr. Cindy Blackstock (Gitxsan),
First Nations Child & Family Caring Society*



The TRC Calls to Action: A Roadmap to Right Relationships

Introduction

Gundaynuxv Travis Hall, Director, Central Coast Regional District & AVICC Director at Large

Presenter & Moderator

Clara Prager, Campaign Lead, Women Transforming Cities

Panelists

Sayaačath John Alan Jack, Chief-Councillor, Huu-ay-aht First Nations & Chair, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

Reece Harding, Partner, Young Anderson

Trina Isakson, Councillor, City of Powell River

Agenda

- Key findings from WTC's report
- Panel discussion
- Moderated Q&A via Mentimeter
- Summary reflection



About WTC

Women Transforming Cities (WTC) is dedicated to advancing equity within local communities. For over ten years they have worked alongside people and movements who are excluded to create communities where everyone can belong, participate, and thrive.

WTC provides civic literacy training, promotes equitable community engagement, conducts research into barriers to participation, and collaborates with local governments to advance inclusive policies.



womentransformingcities.org

“The TRC Calls to Action in BC Municipalities: Progress, Barriers, & Opportunities to Accelerate Implementation”

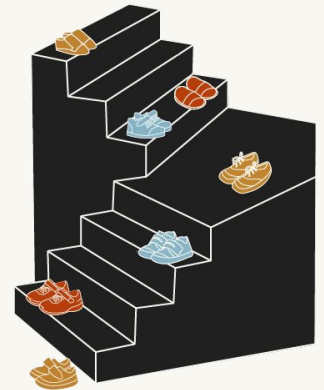


Gathered data to understand:

- The **progress** BC municipalities were making on ten of the TRC Calls to Action
- Common **barriers** local leaders encountered that stalled action
- Resources and **supports** municipalities need to advance the Calls to Action

What Are the TRC Calls to Action?

- Based on testimony from **6000+** residential school survivors, family, and former staff gathered over **five years**
- A **roadmap** to address the legacy of residential school and “advance the process of reconciliation” for **all sectors** of Canadian society
- Deeply intertwined with **UNDRIP**



Key Finding #1 - State of Progress

→ Slow progress since 2015, but not no progress – good work is happening

54% of respondents have *started* on fewer than **3** Calls to Action

10% have a *dedicated* role for Indigenous relations

19% have *not begun* work on Calls to Action

Key Finding #1 - State of Progress

→ **Slow progress since 2015, but not no progress – good work is happening**

*“I’ve worked in public service for 35 years, and right now advancing reconciliation is the **most important work I’ve ever done in my life**. I have a chance to work with local Chiefs and partner with them to **create something meaningful**.”*

– Survey Respondent



Key Finding #2 - Shared Barriers

→ **Local leaders understand the importance of reconciliation and want to make progress but face barriers**

1. Limited Resources and Staff Capacity

73%

2. Lack of Knowledge-Sharing & Education

49%

3. Lack of Clarity from Senior Governments

35%

4. Lack of Political Will & Prioritization

26%

Key Finding #3 - Solutions

→ **Local leaders are looking to the Province and UBCM for greater support including**

- **Guidance, clarity, and a clearer mandate to advance reconciliation**
- **Incentivizing and curating training aligned with Call to Action #57**
- **Facilitating peer networks to boost knowledge and resource sharing**
- **Funding staff positions to support this work**

“Specific funding and direction from the province would greatly benefit this work to ensure consistency in approach and drive implementation efforts.”

– Survey Respondent

Lessons Learned For Local Leaders



Focus on the spirit of the Calls to Action

Read each Call to Action in the **context** of the final report to understand

- What harms it is addressing
- What it aims to accomplish
- How it is relevant to you
- How you can opt into action

Lessons Learned For Local Leaders



Integrate the Calls to Action into existing operations

- The Calls to Action are relevant to every staff person in every department
- Governments who **embed** the Calls to Action into existing processes and operations see more progress
- Staff-wide training and leadership from council/directors makes this possible

Lessons Learned For Local Leaders



You already have permission to do this work

“The idea that this work should be Indigenous-led is often used by settlers to say ‘this isn’t our job.’ The work should be informed by Indigenous protocols and knowledge but it is settlers’ job.”

— Dr. Kisha Supernant

Chair, Unmarked Graves Working Group, Canadian Archaeological Association

Q&A via Mentimeter

Join at menti.com | use code **1159 8829**

- Scan the QR code on your tables or enter *menti.com* in your browser and use the access code above
- Type into the first field to share your wisdom with the room and press submit
- Scroll down to “Open Q&A” and click “Ask new question” to submit a question to the panel
- Ask those around you for support if you are having technical issues

Thank you

“This is not a spectator sport. We need you to be able to bring reconciliation to a reality in this country.”

— Senator Mizanaya Gheezhik (Murray Sinclair),
Chief Commissioner of the TRC



Access the report at: womentransformingcities.org/trc-calls-to-action

Contact: clara@womentransformingcities.org



10 Calls to Action for Local Governments



#17 Reduce Barriers to Name Reclamation

#23 Enable Access to Culturally Appropriate Healing

#40 Support Culturally Appropriate Services for Survivors of Violence

#43 Adopt and Implement UNDRIP

#47 Reject Concepts Used to Justify Residential Schools and Land Dispossession

#57 Provide Training for Public Servants

#75 Protect Burial Sites and Honour the Children

#77 Provide Records to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

#87 Celebrate Indigenous Achievements

#88 Support Indigenous Athlete Development