

Session 5: Anti-Indigenous Racism

Re-evaluating Canadian History



The goal of this session is to develop a narrative that places Indigenous history at the starting point and central to the story we tell ourselves about Canadian history.

Pre-Workshop

1. Locate the 2 websites [Native Land interactive map](#) and [First People's Map of BC](#) and have them ready on a device that can be brought to the workshop
2. Read or watch **at least 1 item from each of the 2 sections below**, or as many as you can.

Suggested Reading & Viewing:

Section 1: Treaties & Relationship

- [We are All Treaty People](#) (Video, 13:03 min.) Illustrates the joint commitment from the Mi'kmaw community and the Province of Nova Scotia to deliver Treaty Education to all schools, the general public, and all public servants across Nova Scotia.
- [Trick or Treaty?](#) (NFB, YouTube, 1hr.24 min.) Covering a vast swath of northern Ontario, Treaty No. 9 reflects the often contradictory interpretations of treaties between First Nations and the Crown.
- [Canadians have been breaking their promises to Indigenous people](#) (Animated video, 6:00 min.) Filmmaker Tasha Hubbard narrates a history of Indigenous peoples in the Prairies and their relationship with the government, focusing on the events of the late 19th century.
- [BC Treaty 101](#) (Video, 3:39 min.) What is the made-in-BC treaty negotiations process? Why do we have it? This animated video explains the basics of treaty negotiations in BC.
- [BC Treaties Negotiation Update, BC Treaty Commission](#) (website) There are 65 First Nations that have entered, participated in, or have completed treaties through the treaty negotiations process in British Columbia.

- [Sharing the Experience, BC Treaty Negotiations](#) (Video, 22:11 min.) In 2000, the Final Agreement between the Nisga'a, Canada and BC came into effect and became the first modern treaty signed in BC.
- [Government of Canada, Indigenous History](#) (links to several resources) The modern-day perspective of the Government of Canada

Section 2: Diverse Resources

- [Siksika Nation hosts the Blanket Exercise](#) (3:39 min.) One community's experience
- [Blanket Exercise Website](#), and [Blanket Exercise Workshop](#) pdf (2 hours) Group participatory exercise 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.
- [Understanding Aboriginal Identity](#) YouTube (20:48 min.) BearPaw Media & Education Aboriginal identity remains inextricably linked with past government legislation and the continued stereotyping of Aboriginal people in the media and Canadian history.
- [The Seven Sacred Laws](#), series of 4 min. videos, Turtle Lodge or YouTube. The Seven Sacred Laws is a colourful and imaginative animated web series that follows a young boy on an Indigenous rite of passage: a vision quest. On his spiritual journey, he meets seven sacred animals that teach him the laws of respect, love, courage, honesty, wisdom, humility and truth.
- [Why aren't there more Native American Restaurants?](#) TED talk, Sean Sherman, 2021 (18 min.) History through the lens of food & culture.
- [From Bad Law to Restorative Justice with John Reilly](#), Raven, 2021, podcast (27:10 min.) Also see: [book review of Bad Law: Rethinking Justice for a Post-Colonial Canada](#)
- [TVO interview with Bob Joseph on the Indian Act](#) (25:35 min.) Since 1876, the Indian Act has structured the relationship between Canada and Indigenous Peoples with profound repercussions.
- [Aboriginal Peoples Television Network \(APTN\)](#) Our Stories. Our Voices. Award-winning television programming by, for and about Indigenous Peoples to share with all Canadians. Also see: [APTN National News](#)
- [12 CBC Docs on Indigenous Life in Canada](#) Indigenous storytellers with incredible tales and activists who are advocating for change
- [Toronto Star article: A History of Missteps](#) Timeline of Canadian political history of Indigenous relations from 1763 to 2007.
- [Wiigwaasabak – the Tree of Life](#) (22:08 min.) Generations of Anishinaabe women passing on traditions and ways of life