Canada Day: Resources for learning and engaging with Indigenous communities

As National Indigenous History Month comes to an end, and in the wake of the horrifying discovery of 215 murdered children at the Kamloops residential school site, many people are asking the question: How can I or my organization celebrate Canada Day while respecting the communities that have been harmed throughout Canadian history?

July 1st offers an opportunity to acknowledge, educate, remember, and take action. We have compiled a broad range of resources to inspire you to consider your own role in reconciliation this Canada Day.

Perspectives to consider:

- 7 Ways to Celebrate Canada Day By Giving Back (Flare Magazine)
- “Canada Day” Is Not a Celebration (feminuity)
- Cancel Canada Day (Idle No More)
- Celebrating Canada Day Doesn’t Erase Its Ugly History. So, What Can We Do? (Huffington Post)
- Non-Indigenous people — here’s what you can do, right now (Indiginews)
- Opinion: For healing, Canada Day 2021 needs to be set aside for Indigenous ceremony (Regina Leader-Post)
- The case for — and against — cancelling Canada Day (Toronto Star)

Articles, reports and books to read:

Articles and reports

- A history of residential schools in Canada (CBC News)
- Indigenous Ally Toolkit (Montreal Indigenous Community Network)
- Indigenous history in Canada (Government of Canada)
- Whose Land Is It Anyway? A Manual For Decolonization (Peter McFarlane and Nicole Schabus)
Books

- #IndigenousReads (Government of Canada)
- 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act: Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a Reality (Bob Joseph)
- A Mind Spread Out On The Ground (Alicia Elliott)
- Blanket Toss Under Midnight Sun (Paul Seesequasis)
- Five Little Indians (Michelle Good)
- Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips & Suggestions to Make Reconciliation a Reality (Bob Joseph)
- Peace and Good Order (Harold R. Johnson)
- Seven Fallen Feathers (Tanya Talaga)
- The Inconvenient Indian (Thomas King)
- The North-West is Our Mother (Jean Teillet)
- Treaty # (Armand Garnet Ruffo)

CCDI encourages you to check with your local bookstore or municipal library for availability of these publications.

Podcasts to listen to:

- All My Relations
- Coffee with My Ma
- Métis in Space
- Missing and Murdered
- Native Opinion
- New Fire with Lisa Charleyboy
- RAVEN (De)Briefs
- Red Man Laughing
- Secret Life of Canada
- The Henceforward
- The Red Nation
- This Land
- Unreserved
Films and videos to watch:

Please note: There is a cost related to watching this content and CCDI is not responsible for those costs.

- **Angry Inuk** (CBC Gem)
- **Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner** (CBC Gem)
- Ted Talk: **Canada’s State of Emergency** by Pamela Palmater (free on YouTube)
- **Indigenous Made Film Catalogue** (Reel Canada)
- **Maina** (CBC Gem)
- **Mohawk Girls** (CBC Gem)
- **nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up** (free from the National Film Board of Canada)
- **Rhymes for Young Ghouls** (CBC Gem)
- **RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World** (Amazon, iTunes, Google Play and Vudu)
- **The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open** (CBC Gem)
- **The Lesser Blessed** (CBC Gem)
- **Uvanga** (CBC Gem)

Things to do:

- Donate to **Indigenous charities**
- Request a **KAIROS Blanket Exercise** for your organization
- Learn the history of the land you live on, or the closest residential schools

Accounts to follow on Instagram:

**CCDI is not responsible for the content posted by any of these accounts.**

- @anishinaabekwe
- @aylelum
- @gcindigenous
- @indigenous_baddie
- @indigenouscanada
- @indigenouspeoplesmovement
- @inuktitut_iinniaqta
- @jeremy_ratt
- @kentmonkman
- @notoriouscree
- @officialsherrymckay
- @shayla0h
- @shinanova