

# *Advancing the TRC Calls to Action.*

*"Reconciliation 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 Truth and Reconciliation Commission*





## *Land Acknowledgement*

We are gathered on the shared unceded territories of the Skwxúmesh Úxumíxw (Squamish) and Lil'wat7úl (Lil'wat) Nations.

We acknowledge the leadership of Indigenous women for time immemorial, and seek to learn and unlearn our own colonial practices as we work in cities as sites of resistance.

# *Who We Are*

**Women Transforming Cities** works to dismantle intersecting systems of oppression with equity-deserving genders and movements to transform where we live into places where everyone can belong, participate, and have social, economic and political equity.



***Ash Peplow-Ball***  
Executive Director

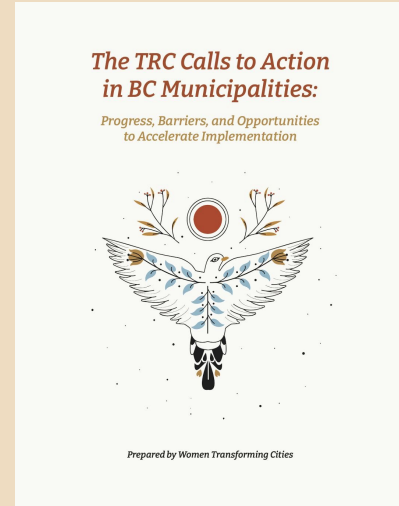


***Clara Prager***  
TRC Project Lead

# *Our Research: The TRC Calls to Action in Local Government*

Women Transforming Cities conducted research to understand:

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



*Sign up on our website to receive the full report when it's released.*

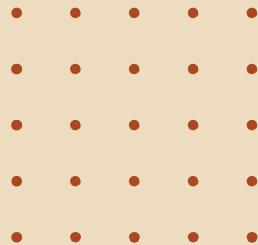
*Thank you to our funders for their support.*



Canadian  
Race Relations  
Foundation

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# Agenda



## *The Calls to Action*

What they are and municipalities' role in implementing them



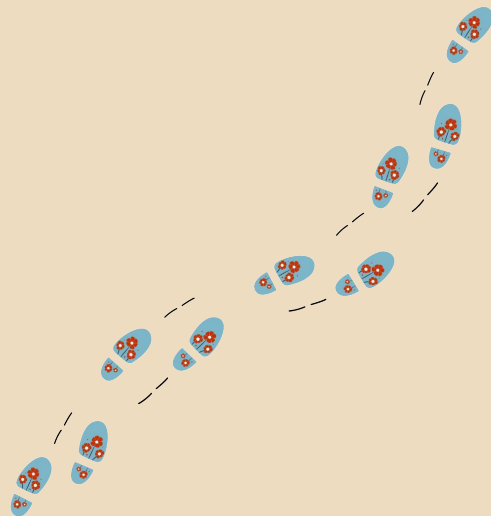
## *On the Ground*

What they look like in practice and lessons learned from Mission and Chetwynd



## *Q&A*

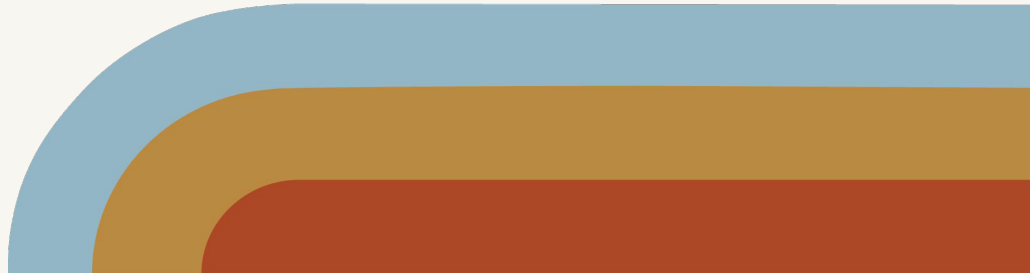
What would you like to hear about?





# *The Calls to Action*

What they are and  
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# *The TRC Calls to Action Were Designed:*

*By*

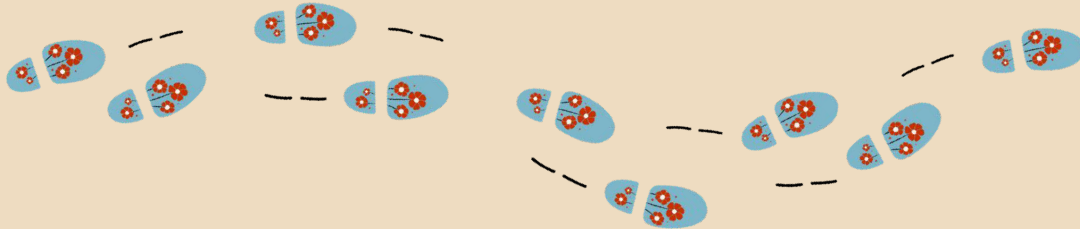
Residential School  
survivors

*For*

All sectors of  
Canadian Society

*To*

Repair harms & provide a  
roadmap to reconciliation





# *10 Calls to Action for Local Governments*

**#17** Reduce Barriers to Name Reclamation

**#23** Enable Access to Culturally Appropriate Healthcare

**#40** Support Culturally Appropriate Services for Indigenous 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 Athletes in History

**#88** Support Indigenous Athlete Development



An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that snakes through a densely forested, hilly landscape. The road has multiple lanes and curves, with some vehicles visible. The surrounding area is covered in green trees and vegetation, with a few small buildings or structures visible on the lower slopes.

## *Key Findings*

- **54%** of municipalities have made progress on fewer than 3 Calls to Action.
- The **top 3 barriers** were
  - Limited staff capacity
  - Lack of funding
  - Lack of knowledge & education
- **Small towns** face the most barriers, making up 77% of all municipalities who have not started any of the calls to action.
- **10%** of municipalities have a role dedicated to this work; this is the most significant indicator of more progress

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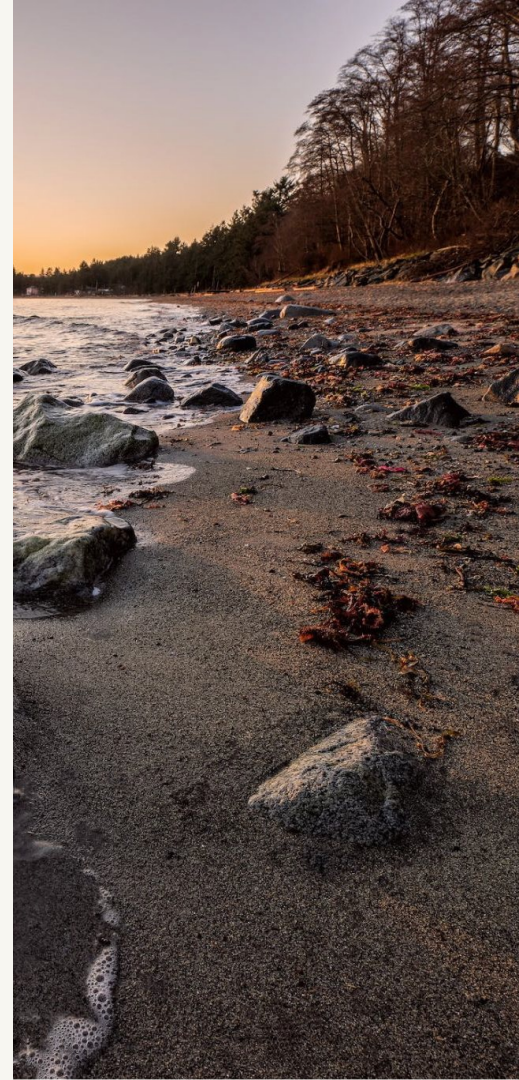
3. "We need to rely exclusively on our own resources for this work"

→ *We can share resources and knowledge to further this critical work*



# *Helpful Reminders*

- Focus on the *“spirit”* of the Call to Action
- Start with *what we’ve all been asked to do* by Indigenous communities—the Calls to Action are our roadmap; Include Urban Indigenous and off-reserve communities
- Share *knowledge and resources* between municipalities





## *On The Ground*

What action looks like in practice  
and lessons learned from Mission  
and Chetwynd



# *On the Ground*

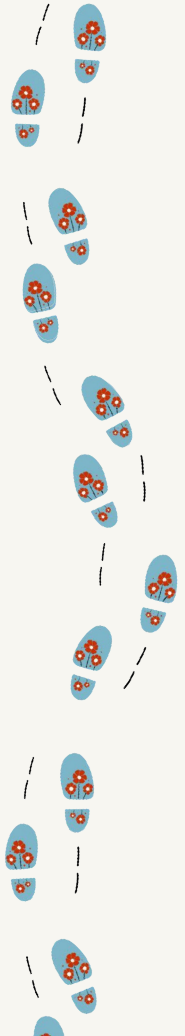


*Janet Wark*

Councillor, District of Chetwynd

*Barclay Pitkethly*

Deputy CAO, City of Mission



# *District of Chetwynd and the Tansi Friendship Centre: Providing Safe Shelter*

## **#40 Support Culturally Appropriate Services for Indigenous Survivors of Violence**

"We call on all levels of government, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, to create adequately funded and accessible Aboriginal-specific victim programs and services with appropriate evaluation mechanisms."



# Call to Action #40 in Context

What does the *TRC Report* say about Call to Action #40?

- Residential Schools “involved the **largest single recognition of criminal victimization** in Canadian history.”

→ *Call to Action #40 includes intergenerational survivors of residential schools crimes*

- Victim services include residential shelters, medical care, and emotional support for survivors. But there is a **lack of emergency shelters and other services for Indigenous people**, especially Indigenous women who are survivors of violence.

→ *Call to Action #40 includes emergency shelters and wellbeing support programs*

- Many victim services are provided by police and “given the historic strains in the relationship between Aboriginal people and the police, the police may not be the best service provider for Aboriginal crime victims. There is a **danger** that victim services will focus on supporting victims **only in the formal criminal justice system.**”

→ *Call to Action #40 includes services outside of the criminal justice system*

# *District of Chetwynd and the Tansi Friendship Centre: Providing Safe Shelter*

This initiative is also aligned with:

- *Call to Action #21*, which asks the federal government to “provide **sustainable funding** for existing and new Aboriginal **healing centres** to address the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual **harms caused by residential schools.**”
- *Call to Action #23*, which is intended to enable **culturally appropriate health services.**



# *Mission, BC: Towards Reconciliation*



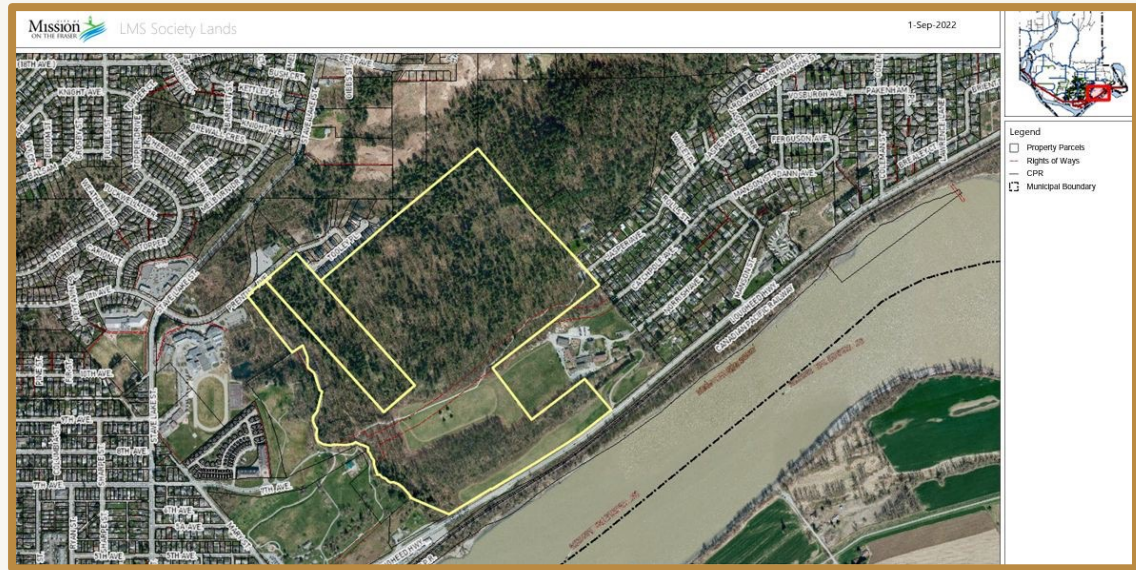
1. Relationship Building
  - Government to Government Relations
  - Community to Community Tables
2. TRC Calls to Action
3. Principles of Reconciliation
  - #43 Adopt and Implement UNDRIP
  - #47 Reject Concepts Used to Justify Residential Schools and Land Dispossession
  - #57 Provide Training for Public Servants
4. Leq'á:mel, Mathexwi, Semá:th (LMS) Society
  - #47 Giving the Land Back



# *City of Mission and the Leq'á:mel, Mathexwi, Semá:th (LMS) Society: Giving Land Back*

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

"We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous peoples and lands, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, and to reform those laws, government policies, and litigation strategies that continue to rely on such concepts."



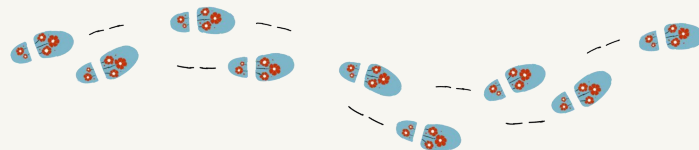
# *Mission, BC & LMS Society Highlights*

- ***1<sup>st</sup> Tripartite Agreement in BC*** (*LMS Society x City of Mission x Province of BC*)
  - Outside of lengthy Treaty Process
  - 60 hectares of land back to First Nations people
  - Fee Simple transfer to Society
- Benefits to ***LMS Society:***
  - Economic development opportunities ~10 hectares
  - Direct oversight over park management
- Benefits to ***City of Mission:***
  - Economic development
  - Continued park use ~50 hectares

# Q & A

*“Reconciliation 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 Truth and Reconciliation Commission



# Thank You!



Scan the QR on your printout code to receive the report.



Email [clara@womentransformingcities.org](mailto:clara@womentransformingcities.org) with additional questions.

**Visit [womentransformingcities.org](https://womentransformingcities.org) or find us on social media:**



@womentransformingcities



Women Transforming Cities



@womentransformingcities

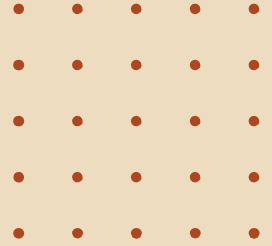


@womentcities

For Further Reflection  
& Discussion:

***“Which Call to Action  
can I progress in my  
municipality?”***





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