

SPORT CULTURE & RECREATION

WALK FOR RECONCILIATION GUIDE

Your community can take action to engage in reconciliation!

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SASK LOTTERIES



Land Acknowledgement

South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District would like to acknowledge the First Nations, the Métis and all of the peoples across southeastern Saskatchewan who share a history and deep connection with this land. We dedicate ourselves to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

WALK FOR RECONCILIATION OVERVIEW

The South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District is pleased to launch ***Walk for Reconciliation.*** This guide aims to provide sport, culture and recreation groups the information and resources needed to host a reconciliation walking event.

It is important to note that each municipality and/or organization will be at a different point in its journey to support reconciliation and that this guide should not be considered as the only option, but a resource of suggestions for those groups that are starting out. It is a tool meant to help share and grow reconciliation efforts.

What is Reconciliation?

"Reconciliation is about exploring the past and choosing to build a better future. It's understanding each other and building trust. It's recognizing that We Are All Treaty People."
(Source: ayisiyiniwak: A Communications Guide; July 2019, City of Saskatoon/OTC)

Disclaimer

All information provided in this guide is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to provide individual advice and should not be relied upon for such purposes. You should assess whether you require additional information, where appropriate, seek independent professional advice. Although the South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District believes that the information is reliable as presented, we do not guarantee that the information will always be accurate or current. We and any of our employees, directors or agents are not legally liable to any person for damages arising out of or related to the use of the contents of this guide and the information contained within it.



WHY ORGANIZE A WALK?

Walk in the spirit of reconciliation! Reconciliation events in your community serve an essential role in raising awareness and demonstrating community support for reconciliation.

Every community and situation is different, and we invite you, as the expert in your own community, to use this guide in a way that is appropriate, impactful and safe in your respective environments and situations.

Walk for Reconciliation:

- is for any sport, culture or recreation group or community wanting to take action in promoting or engaging in reconciliation.
- is a way to participate in Orange Shirt Day or **National Indigenous Peoples Day.**
- is a way to acknowledge and honour the land and the Treaties, as well as Indigenous history.
- helps to build capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect.
- is an opportunity to work with community partners, and Indigenous communities and organizations to learn and build.
- can happen anytime; or can be held in June in conjunction with *Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21),* or in September *{Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth & Reconciliation on September 30}.*

WHO CAN ORGANIZE A WALK EVENT?

Anyone is welcome to organize a ***Walk for Reconciliation***. Municipal governments and local sport, culture and recreation organizations (i.e. museums, recreation boards, libraries, sport clubs, etc.) can play an important role in Truth and Reconciliation recommendations (Refer to 94 Calls to Action). All municipalities are located on treaty land.



WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?

South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District has compiled a list of resources and ideas in this guide that can help you get started with planning your own community reconciliation event. Sport, culture and recreation organizations and groups in the south east may apply for funding to support an "educational component". We can also help promote your event on social media and in our electronic newsletter - so send us your event promotion! Contact us at ed@southeastdistrict.ca for details.

ABOUT NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

National Indigenous Peoples Day takes place on the summer solstice, June 21. It's a special occasion to learn more about the rich and diverse cultures, voices, experiences and histories of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

Learning about Indigenous Peoples, places and experiences is a step forward each Canadian can take on the path to reconciliation. **Learn more:** https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/celebrate-canada/indigenous-peoples-day.html.

ABOUT NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day honours the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process. **Learn more:** https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html.



THINGS TO CONSIDER

These tips are intended to provide you with some ideas and inspiration to help you get started on planning your own ***Walk for Reconciliation***. Of course, every event will look different depending on your interests, capacity and resources available.

Things to consider:

- Decide on the scale and scope of your event based on your interests, capacity and resources available.
- Take into consideration protocol, prayers, land acknowledgement.
- Build a volunteer team to support you on implementing your initiative.
- Determine any insurance and liability needs.
- If necessary, contact your municipality to ensure that you are in compliance with bylaws
- If necessary, contact local law enforcement. Ensure that they are aware of the event to ensure the safety of participants.
- Ensure that your event is easily accessible for elders and those with limited mobility.
- If necessary, seek sponsors to provide support to your event.
- Create communications materials and a distribution timeline that will ensure enough notice for participants to attend your event.
- Ensure that the language, imagery and delivery of your communications materials are culturally sensitive and appropriate.
- Visit www.otc.ca or www.reconciliationcanada.ca for more information on appropriate language and key messaging; ayisiyiniwak: A COMMUNICATIONS GUIDE: {http://www.otc.ca/resource/purchase/ayisnowak_a_communications_guide.html}.

"Reconciliation includes anyone with an open mind and an open heart who is willing to look into the future with a new way" – **Chief Joseph**

WALK FOR RECONCILIATION IDEAS

Here are some ideas if you wish to add some educational components to your community reconciliation walk event. The possibilities are endless, so be creative!

Film Night
Host a film night after your walk event where individuals gather to watch educational movies or documentaries on the topic of reconciliation.

Speakers Series
Invite distinguished speakers, including but not limited to Indian Residential School Survivors, community leaders and dignitaries, to educate your community on reconciliation in conjunction with your walk event.

Community Art Project
Engage an Indigenous Artist and start a collaborative art project in your community to express commitment to reconciliation while building meaningful relationships.

CONTACT US

For inquiries or to learn more contact:
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"Collective efforts from all peoples are necessary to revitalize the relationship between Aboriginal peoples and Canadian society – reconciliation is the goal. It is a goal that will take the commitment of multiple generations but when it is achieved, when we have reconciliation – it will make for a better, stronger Canada". – **TRC Final Report**

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Here are some key resources that may help you when planning your event.

Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC)

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner is working to support a provincial movement for Truth and Reconciliation in the Treaty territory of Saskatchewan. By creating common language around Reconciliation, the OTC is sending a message that says, "You too can be part of Reconciliation. Take a chance. Join the movement." If you are interested in starting this journey with your community or organization, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner has materials to help you get started. Visit www.otc.ca.

Two fundamental reports that are paving the way for reconciliation in Canada include:

-United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
-The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) issued its 94 Calls to Action Report in 2015

ALLYSHIP

Allyship is a way to facilitate and engage in reconciliation. Education is key to becoming an ally. Check out the Indigenous Ally Toolkit.

ARTISTS LISTS

OSAC
Storytellers

TREATY TIMELINE

Saskatchewan has a Treaty history that has led us to the Treaty relationship we have today. The OTC Treaty Timeline is a great way to learn more about that history.

4 SEASONS OF RECONCILIATION

A three-hour online course that educates about the history and culture of Indigenous communities in Canada, the history of residential schools, and treaties around the country.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

-https://teaching.usask.ca/curriculum/indigenous_voices/land-acknowledgements/module.php
-https://southeastdistrict.ca/resources/inclusion-diversity

Visit the South East District website for more resources:

https://southeastdistrict.ca/blogs/post/national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation

Document Reference:
Community Action Toolkit, https://reconciliationcanada.ca/resources/toolkits/, Retrieved March 2022.