

Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action at Sudbury Catholic District School Board

In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission made 94 Calls to Action. In response to these Calls to Action, The Ministry of Education has worked in collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners and other education stakeholders to move forward on a plan to respond to these Calls to Action. The Sudbury Catholic District School Board is responding to Action 62 and 63 through our Strategic Pathways.



We are called to strengthen our faith-based, inclusive and equitable community.

As a Catholic community we are called to live by the Gospel values of respect and love; to live Mino Bimaadiziwin (The Good Life). In building respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students and staff "We are all called to action to become fully human and live in solidarity with each other." (eoccc.org)

Action:

1. **Create** a safe and accepting cultural space for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to learn and participate in teachings and ceremony (smudging, Women's Teachings, Men's Teachings, feasts) in order to build an understanding of Anishinabe culture.
2. **Provide** comparative religious education which includes Indigenous spiritual beliefs (eg: Seven Grandfather Teachings, Medicine Wheel Teachings). (Call to Action 63-64)



We are called to promote innovation.

As a Catholic community we are called to live by the Gospel values of truth, honesty and wisdom which begin with a recognition that all that we have and all that we are is a gift from God our Creator.

Action:

1. **Provide** opportunities for Land Based Learning with the support of local community members so that teachers and students can develop a shared understanding of history, land and culture while providing an equitable opportunity for all learners to grow, learn and flourish.
2. **Indigenous Support Workers** in schools offer teachers and students the opportunity to enhance their cultural understanding through teachings, traditions, ceremonies and language.
3. **In partnership** with local community members, Elders and traditional Knowledge Carriers, we are building capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect. (Call to Action 62)



We are called to advance leadership and learning for all.

As a Catholic community we are called to live by devotion and awaken the God given potential to lead with courage and humility.

Action:

1. **Consult** with our Indigenous Educations Advisory Committee, local communities, school staff, colleges, universities and community organizations to strengthen partnerships that support leadership and learning for our students and explore ways to deepen our collective understanding.
2. **Decolonize** teaching and promote holistic learning in order to integrate Indigenous world views into all aspects of the curriculum.
3. **Support** educators in building their intercultural understanding, empathy and mutual respect. Identify training needs related to best practices in Indigenous education, history and culture. (Call to Action 62)