

Truth and Reconciliation

City of Mississauga

November 10, 2021



Truth and Reconciliation in Mississauga

- Focus on Truth and raising awareness to residents about Indigenous Peoples and their history and presence in the City.
- Focus on upholding Treaty obligations through engagement and consultation.
- Focus on strengthening our relationship with the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Huron-Wendat Nation and our Indigenous Residents.

“Reconciliation cannot happen without truth-telling, and we are still very much in the truth-telling part of it” Jesse Wentle

And when I am asked what does Reconciliation mean to me

I will say I want their lives back, I want them to live, to soar

I want to hear their laughter, See their smiles

Grant me that, and I'll grant you Reconciliation

Reconciliation, Gimma Stacey Laforme, MCFN, 2021

Indigenous Peoples, Settlers and Treaties



The
Indigenous
Network



- **Indigenous Peoples** have occupied the lands which make up the City of Mississauga since time immemorial.
- **Indigenous Communities** have **specific and inherent rights under** Federal and Provincial Legislation- Aboriginal Rights-supported through Treaties and Section 35 of the Constitution Act and are the only people recognized as such.
- **Settlers** are all non-Indigenous Canadians and residents.
- The relationship between Indigenous Peoples and Canada are governed by Treaties; agreements in which land was opened for development with rights of access and ownership upheld and recognized.

Consultation and Engagement

There are multiple Federal and Provincial regulations and legislation which require consultation or engagement on projects such as;

- Infrastructure,
- Planning and development,
- Environment, including water and other climate initiatives,
- Heritage and archaeology,
- Corporate Policies and training.

Days of Significance and Placemaking



- National Indigenous Peoples Day,
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation,
- Canada Day,

Programming for each day involved engagement and partnerships with the Mississaugas of the Credit and saw over 20,000 unique engagements online and in person.

National Day
for **Truth and Reconciliation**



Indigenous Place making

City Initiatives over the past year have included partnering with MCFN on the Moccasin Identifier, public art projects in the Port Credit area, and leasing opportunities for the Peel Indigenous Network in Clarke Hall.



Renewed Land Acknowledgment and Statement of Reconciliation

The City's Indigenous Land Statement was introduced in 2017. In light of the City's continued commitment to reconciliation the statement has been renewed into a Land Acknowledgement and paired with a statement of reconciliation.

We acknowledge the lands which constitute the present-day City of Mississauga as being part of the Treaty and Traditional Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, The Haudenosaunee Confederacy the Huron-Wendat and Wyandotte Nations. We recognize these peoples and their ancestors as peoples who inhabited these lands since time immemorial. The City of Mississauga is home to many global Indigenous Peoples.

As a municipality, the City of Mississauga is actively working towards reconciliation by confronting our past and our present, providing space for Indigenous peoples within their territory, to recognize and uphold their Treaty Rights and to support Indigenous Peoples. We formally recognize the Anishinaabe origins of our name and continue to make Mississauga a safe space for all Indigenous peoples.

Reconciliation and Responsibilities- City of Mississauga

Calls to Action

There are **8 Calls to Action** specific to the mandates of the City of Mississauga and including:

#43 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

#45 Treaty Relationships,

#55 National Council for Reconciliation,

#57 Indigenous Education of Public Servants,

#80 Recognition of Indigenous Holidays,

#87& 88, Indigenous Athletes,

#92, Indigenous Business Opportunities

Recommendation to recognize the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in line with recent Federal Legislation.

Recommendation to submit the Reconciliation Report to the National Centre of Truth and Reconciliation.

Reconciliation and Responsibilities- City of Mississauga

Calls to Action

There are an addition **4 Calls to Action** specific to the mandates of the City of Mississauga and including:

#3 Jordan's Principle,

#20 Access to Health Services,

#41 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Children,

#94 Oath of Citizenship

Next Steps

Continuing on the Calls to Action:

- The City is continuing economic development and procurement work with MCFN.
- Continuing to create place making opportunities and raising awareness.
- Honouring the Treaties through engagement and consultation.

Master Plan:

- Creation of a Master Plan which will examine current policies and practices through engagement to better incorporate Indigenous perspectives in the City's practices.

Understanding:

- Indigenous Peoples have faced the greatest erasure in highly developed urban environments. Reconciliation is only possible through recognition of this erasure and seeking solutions.