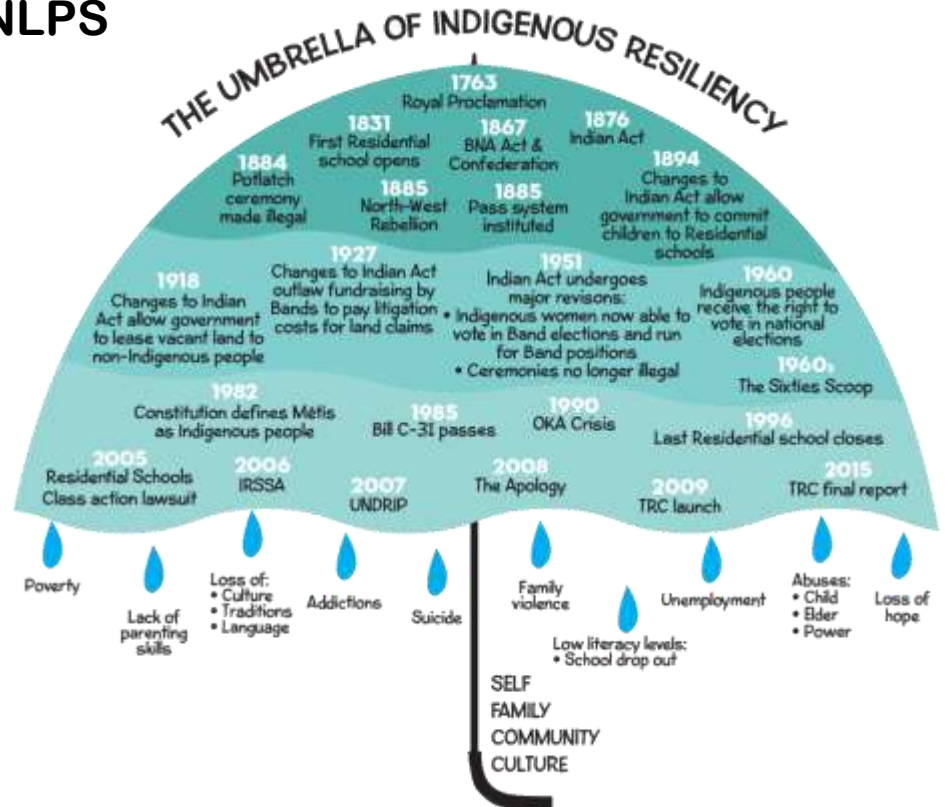


Reconciliation in NLPS

Starting with the Truth

Referenced from
Speaking Our Truth by Monique Gray Smith



Colonial History of Canada

1763 – Royal Proclamation

- Britain wins Seven Year War and official claims territory for Britain in North America.
- Clearly states that all land would be considered Indian land until ceded by treaty.

1867 – BNA Act & Confederation

- Canada becomes a country and the treaty-making process begins.
- Treaty process includes promise to provide education.
- Day schools open.

1879 – Indian Act

- Legal distinction between First Nations people and other Canadians.
- Traditional systems of governance abolished, Band Councils implemented – woman not allowed to participate.
- Determines “Indian status” through male lineage. Women’s status conditional on husbands.
- 1884 – Potlatch ceremony made illegal. Sun Dance made illegal in years to come.
- 1885 – North West Rebellion led by Louis Riel.
- 1885 – Indians Affairs implements the “pass system”.
- 1894 – Changes makes it mandatory for Indian children ages 7-16 to attend Residential Schools.

- 1908 – Changes make it mandatory for Indian children ages 6-15 to attend Residential Schools. Mandatory attendance in effect until 1948.
- 1927 – Changes prohibit Indians from raising money to hire legal counsel to fight for land claims. Remains in effect until 1951.
- 1951 – Major revisions. Women now allowed to vote in and run for Band elections. Ceremonies are no longer illegal. Indigenous people can wear regalia without permission from an Indian Agent.
- Still in place today.

1960 - Indigenous people receive the right to vote in national elections.

1960s – The Sixties Scoop: Indigenous children removed from their families by child-welfare, adopted out far from their home communities into majority Non-Indigenous families.

1973 – Last Residential School on Vancouver Island closes (Port Alberni Residential School).

1979 – Last Residential School in BC closes (St. George's (Lytton) Indian Residential School).

1982 – Changes to Canada's constitution include recognition of Indian, Inuit and Metis as Aboriginal peoples with existing rights.

1985 – Bill C3 reinstates status to women and children who lost status due to previous discriminatory legislation.

1996 – Last Residential School in Canada closes (St. Michael's (Duke Lake) Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan).

2005 – Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA)

- Largest class action settlement in Canada
- Five billion dollars allocated as a compensation fund for Residential School survivors.
- No compensation for survivors' families if they are deceased

2007 – Canada votes against the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. 143 countries voted in favour, 4 voted against.

2008 – Prime Minister of Canada delivers a public apology for the governments role in Indian Residential Schools.

2009 – Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) launched.

- Took 6 years
- The report found there was a 90% Cultural Loss, 84% Loss of Language, 93% Physical Abuse, 64% Sexual Abuse and over 6000 Children Deaths.
- 94 Calls to Actions

2016 – Canada finally joins UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.