



Chilliwack  
School District

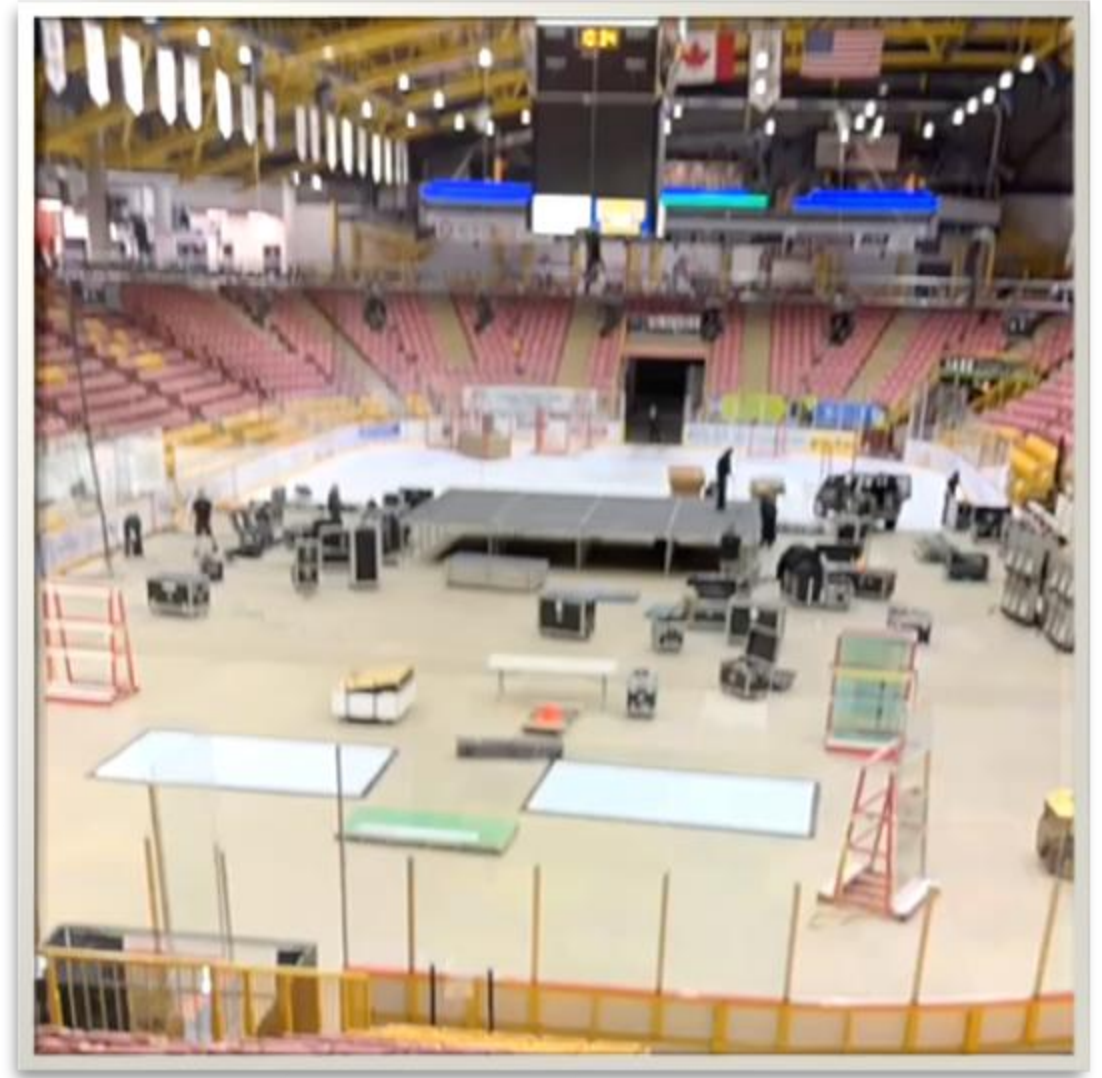
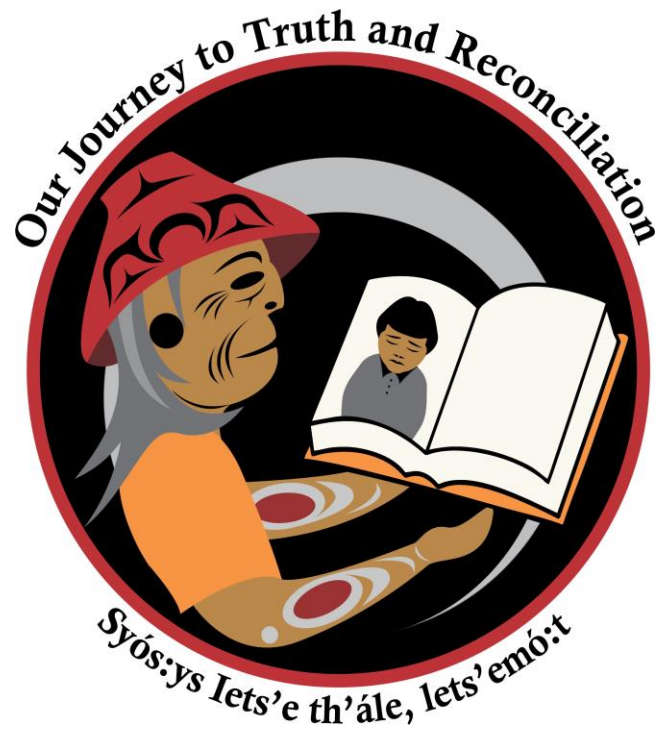
# Our Journey to Truth & Reconciliation

## *Debrief & Next Steps*





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# THANKS

Hummingbird

Coliseum Staff: Barry Douglas, John McKerracher, Robbie Snooks

Go Audio: Mike Evans

Booths

PVP/Manager hosts

Student Volunteers (WEX facilitators)

Local First Nation Leadership

Leary choir

Hofstede's Country Barn





## What message are you taking away from this event?

I am mostly humbled. There was so much I didn't know. And knowing more and gaining knowledge and hearing what the speakers educated us in hurts my heart for what the indigenous people have had to endure. The more I learn the more I hurt for them. I am very thankful to work for a district that is putting into action the process of reconciliation and providing us as staff with learning opportunities and resources to make the changes in the classroom. I learnt more today than I can share in a short paragraph.

“Don't talk about us without us” really hit home. We need to make sure we are consulting as much as possible - not trying to make decisions as a 'saviour'!!

Knowledge! Tons of local facts. Myth breaking truths by Len Pierre. Humility from Keith Carlson. Laughter and gratitude from Honorable Steven Point. Hope for our future from the chief panel!

I understand the concept of "privilege" much better.



## **How will this message impact your work?**

Continuing to build relationships with our Indigenous learners and their families continuing to integrate Indigenous content into my classroom and overall life

I spread the message in every way, in every opportunistic moment, without swaying from the game plan of the teacher I am replacing. We have to take advantage of teachable moments and just open discussions and dialogue with our students, not just teach them lessons and give them tests about the Indigenous people. Those who don't know history are the most likely to repeat it

There are gaps in my knowledge of the true history of colonization, particularly in the local area we call home. The opportunity to better understand the past as well as the current challenges from different points of view helps greatly in my support of students and allyship to the indigenous community.

I will endeavor to be more sensitive to the feelings of other/all people.



## What questions do you have?

Not from today but in general with residential schools. Chief Mark Point said he was the first generation in his family to have not gone to a residential school. My mom recalls having Indigenous students in her schools in Victoria growing up in the 60s and 70s. What was the determining factor in which kids were taken to residential schools and which could attend public schools?

I am always curious about new and different ways to try and be an ally to the First Nations community.

When is the next opportunity for collaboration?

What does full reconciliation look like? Will there be a time where we can say that reconciliation is complete?



## What is your commitment to continue the learning?

To continue to have the perhaps uncomfortable conversations with friends and family. Additionally, do my own research and to continue to learn about the injustices faced by Indigenous people in Canada.

Continue to believe that reconciliation will be possible someday

I liked how one of the chiefs near the end of the event spoke about how educators shouldn't be afraid to think outside the box and try new things. If it's coming from a place where there is no ill will then educators can try new approaches without fear. Authenticity and broader collective strategies for support in the classroom is the way forward.

I am committing to keeping an open heart and an open mind while I continue to work on building connections with students and parents, and while starting to build connections with indigenous leaders.



## **Any other comments about this day?**

Hauntingly Beautiful. In the sense of recognizing what life long learning we have to do but also having a sense of the impacts. Having the whole district there was pretty incredible!

The speakers were excellent. Steven Point's speech was very moving. I learned many new facts about local history. I felt that the panel of chiefs answered the questions thoughtfully and thoroughly.

I think the day was very well executed and that everyone who attended left with a better understanding of truth and reconciliation and indigenous history and culture.

It was great! Speakers were excellent and engaging. Even though the subject was heavy at times, I left feeling like I had learned a lot and had a better understanding of why we need to do this work.





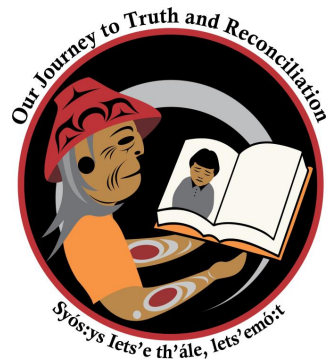
*“A system is only as strong as the people within. Across the organization, people need to be supported and nurtured not only as individuals but as leaders who influence, affirm and nurture those around them”.*

**Growing the Capacity of Self and Others**

**Leading Self**

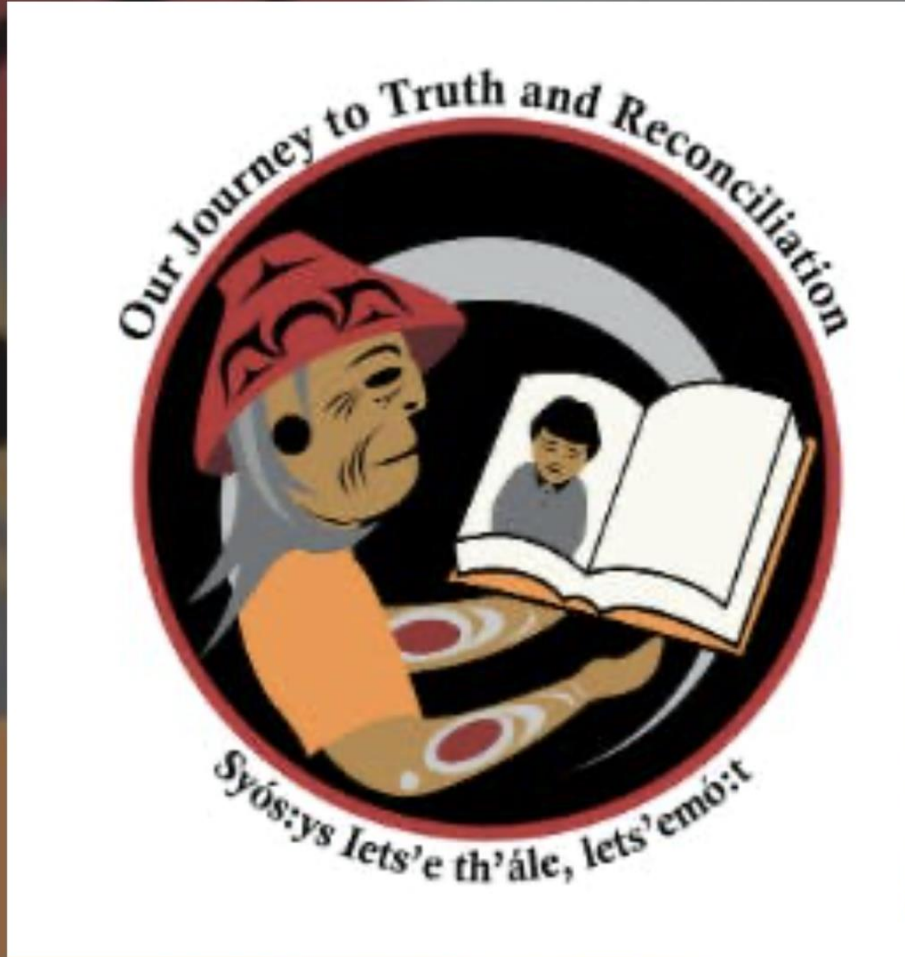
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**Leading Organizations**



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