

WHO WE ARE!

The class of Peter Dawson, HR/EQ 1960 6.0 (Indigenous Resistance in Global Contexts), has been working to raise awareness of the rights of Indigenous peoples around the world.

The class proudly welcomes Marie Wilson for a discussion on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and we urge you to come and help raise awareness about the tragic human rights violations that took place in Canada's Residential Schools.



Marie Wilson
will be speaking
July 9th at York
University,
4700 Keele St.
Vari Hall B,
4 pm.

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Class of HREQ 1960
Dr. Peter Dawson

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Centre of Human Rights
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THE CLASS OF HREQ 1960 PRESENTS:

COMMISSIONER
DR. MARIE
WILSON

Commissioner of the Truth & Reconciliation
Commission of Canada



INFO
PAMPHLET



MORE INFORMATION ABOUT

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Indigenous population represent three percent of Canada's total population. The residential school system was in effect between 1800 and 1990 all across Canada.

The effect of the residential school system has been revealed to be intergenerational; hence, the system not only had negative implications for the attendees, but also their family members, community members and future generations.

Indigenous people's mental health has been influenced by traumatic experiences in residential schools, a long history of colonization, oppression, discrimination and loss of land.

Indigenous people have inferior health status compared to non-indigenous. They have higher infant mortality, shorter life expectancy (68.9 years for males and 76.6 years for females) and more chronic health conditions. Poverty levels and unemployment rate is also higher in indigenous population, and they are likely to experience higher food and housing insecurity.

For instance, every year, indigenous communities experience a shortage of 20,000 housing units. Many communities do not have clean drinking water.

The primary contributor of youth death in indigenous communities is suicide and self-injury as a result of the Residential School System.

Depression, suicide and substance abuse are much higher in indigenous population compared to the general population.

Sources: Stats Canada & Canadian Mental Health Association



Above is an image from a Residential school classroom.

THE TRUTH & RECONCILIATION COMMISSION OF CANADA (TRC)

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada has a mandate to learn the truth about what happened in the residential schools and to inform all Canadians about what happened in the schools. The Commission will document the truth of what happened by relying on records held by those who operated and funded the schools, testimony from officials of the institutions that operated the schools, and experiences reported by survivors, their families, communities and anyone personally affected by the residential school experience and its subsequent impacts.

The Commission hopes to guide and inspire First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and Canadians in a process of truth and healing leading toward reconciliation and renewed relationships based on mutual understanding and respect.

The Commission views reconciliation as an ongoing individual and collective process that will require participation from all those affected by the residential school experience. This includes First Nations, Inuit, and Métis former students, their families, communities, religious groups, former Indian Residential School employees, government, and the people of Canada.