

**Response by Campion College
to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action
(December 2, 2016)**

Campion College acknowledges that it is located on Treaty 4 territory and homeland of the Métis. The College recognizes the contributions of First Nations and Métis peoples to our community. Inspired by a commitment to the truth of the findings of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), and together with the Jesuits of English Canada, we seek to move toward reconciliation by building and deepening relationships with Indigenous and Métis peoples, as outlined in our strategic plan (2015-2018), "A Path Forward: Connecting our Communities".

Completion of this document is intended to mark a starting point and an opening for renewed relationships between the College and Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

On November 18, 2015, Campion College and the Jesuits of English Canada announced three initiatives in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) "Calls to Action."

1. *Formation of an Advisory Circle on Indigenous Relations*

The Circle will serve as an ongoing College-specific body responding to the TRC report. The approach of this Circle will not be dictatorial; rather, members of the Circle seek to recognize Campion College's existing relations with Indigenous peoples, and will act as advocates within the College for re-building trust and deepening relations with Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis people and communities.

The creation of this Advisory Circle does not respond directly to any one of the Recommendations of the TRC report. Yet it serves an essential role in maintaining an ongoing recognition of the historical and current relationships that exist between post-secondary institutions, the Catholic Church in Canada, settler people, and the diverse Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Canada. The formation of the Circle is moreover a sign of Campion's commitment to ensuring that the College will continue to attend to, care for, build, re-build, deepen, change, and honour those relationships.

2. *Creation of a scholarship fund for graduates of the Mother Teresa Middle School*

Mother Teresa Middle School is the Nativity school in Regina. This scholarship fund is currently being developed in preparation for the arrival of the first graduates of MTMS at university in 2018, the year of our 100th anniversary.

3. *Support for Indigenous Learning Experience for Jesuit Scholastics*
TRC Recommendations 59 & 60

Recommendation 59: "We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church's role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary."

Recommendation 60: "We call upon leaders of the church parties to the Settlement Agreement and all other faiths, in collaboration with Indigenous spiritual leaders, Survivors, schools of theology, seminaries, and other religious training centres, to develop and teach curriculum for all student clergy, and all clergy and staff who work in Aboriginal communities, on the need to respect Indigenous spirituality in its own right, the history and legacy of

residential schools and the roles of the church parties in that system, the history and legacy of religious conflict in Aboriginal families and communities, and the responsibility that churches have to mitigate such conflicts and prevent spiritual violence.”

Response to Recommendations 59 & 60:

On a continuing basis, there will be an Indigenous Immersion Experience for Jesuits in training beginning in May-June 2016. This responds directly to Call to Action 60 on the formation of clergy in Indigenous spirituality, history and legacy of residential schools. The program includes courses at First Nations University, service at Mother Teresa Middle School and other agencies in North Central Regina, ceremonies and teachings from First Nations and Métis Elders and Knowledge Keepers on reserves, and other events and participation in the Indigenous community to learn about the diversity of First Nations realities in Canada.

In addition, Campion College commits to the following actions:

4. *Providing Opportunities for Deepening Faculty and Staff Relationships with Indigenous Knowledge, Practices, and Communities*

TRC Recommendation 62(ii)

“We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in consultation and collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal peoples, and educators, to: ...

(ii) Provide the necessary funding to post-secondary institutions to educate teachers on how to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms.”

Campion’s Responses to Recommendation 62(ii):

(1) The College will encourage and enable faculty and staff to participate in workshops on Indigenous knowledge and pedagogy organized by First Nations University of Canada and the University of Regina. We will explore ways of including faculty and staff in the future in the Indigenous immersion experience for Jesuits in formation.

5. *Including Indigenous Spirituality and Colonial History in Religious Studies, Catholic Studies, and Pastoral Studies Curricula*

TRC Recommendation 64

“We call upon all levels of government that provide public funds to denominational schools to require such schools to provide an education on comparative religious studies, which must include a segment on Aboriginal spiritual beliefs and practices developed in collaboration with Aboriginal Elders.”

Campion’s Responses to Recommendation 64:

(1) We will work with Indigenous and Métis Elders and Knowledge Keepers to incorporate Indigenous spirituality into our courses in Religious Studies, particularly at the introductory level.

(2) Campion College will include in its curriculum, particularly in Catholic Studies and Pastoral Studies, courses and content on the Church’s role in colonization as well as the historic role of Jesuit relations with First Nations peoples.

Members of the 2016-2017 Campion College Advisory Circle on Indigenous Relations are:

Dr. Katherine Arbuthnott, Professor of Psychology

Dr. Allison Fizzard, Dean and Associate Professor of History

Joanne Kozlowski, Director of Communication and Marketing

Joanna Landry, First Nations, Inuit and Métis Education Coordinator, Regina Catholic Schools

Sr. ReAnne Letourneau, Facilitator, Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Relations Community (ANARC)

Randy Lundy, Assistant Professor of English (term)

Dr. John Meehan, SJ, President & Professor of History

Dr. Anna Mudde, Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Stephanie Molloy, Campus Minister & Director of Pastoral Studies

Dr. Tom Phenix, Associate Professor of Psychology, Assistant Dean

Ruth Robillard, Coordinator, Friends on the Outside (FOTO)