



Legacy of Hope Foundation

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The Legacy of Hope Foundation (LHF) is a national, Indigenous-led, charitable organization that has been working to promote healing and Reconciliation in Canada for more than 20 years. The LHF's goal is to educate and raise awareness about the history and existing intergenerational impacts of the Residential and Day School Systems (R and DSS) and subsequent Sixties Scoop (SS) on Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, and Métis) Survivors, their descendants, and their communities to promote healing and Reconciliation.

Part of the LHF's goals are to provide needed resources for schools. The history and information about residual trauma and the links to current social and economic issues are rarely taught in schools, which can lead to misinformation and foster racism, all of which underlines the need for more public education and resources on the topics of the R and DSS. In schools today, there is little mentioned about the amazing contributions by Indigenous Nations to the fabric of our society. A comprehensive history highlighting the diversity of our Nations, the injustices faced and the beauty of our cultures, languages, traditions is lacking in the current curriculum. The LHF has created many resources to address this critical gap and help inject more perspectives and knowledge of these issues to foster healthy and informed dialogue and action.

The LHF honours Survivors and their families by taking direction from them to ensure that our initiatives consider their true and authentic voices, while providing Survivors with emotional support to ensure their work with us is an empowering and healing experience. We believe that by educating Canadians about both the rich histories of Indigenous Peoples prior to the disruption caused by colonial contact, and the subsequent pain and injustices inflicted on generations, we can highlight the strength and resilience of Survivors and learn from past mistakes. With this approach, we can build respect, understanding, and empathy, so that meaningful connections can happen and we can inspire positive action.

The LHF works to encourage people to address racism and discrimination so as to contribute to the equity, dignity, and just relationships among all. We will continue to work with teachers, school boards, universities, policing agencies, governments, officials, banks, unions, private businesses, and citizens to help meet these goals. The LHF offers a unique and comprehensive collection of curriculum and resources, exhibitions, workshops and training, podcasts, projects and research reports to anyone wanting to learn about Indigenous Peoples and willing to work toward change. We believe true Reconciliation requires consistent, positive, and informed effort and action by everyone. Our teaching tools include the following:

1. Curriculum Resources that:

Emphasize Indigenous voices and explore First Nations, Inuit, and Métis experiences; Provide comprehensive lesson plans, activity guides, and other resources; and Feature two new curricula: one for K-6 and a new Sixties Scoop curriculum for 7-12. We also have two podcast series for adults to learn more about Indigenous Peoples.

2. Exhibitions that are:

Stand-alone, mobile exhibitions that provide a unique, museum-like experience and include first-hand, Indigenous Testimonies of the R and DSS and SS. The exhibitions, which promote hope and healing and encourage acts of Reconciliation, can be hosted in schools, offices, parliaments, galleries, or in any public space.

3. Workshops and Training:

The LHF offers Workshops and training that fosters Reconciliation initiatives in your community, department, or organization by teaching about intergenerational impacts of the RS and DSS and the SS. We teach people how to be an ally and the steps needed to address racism and work for positive change.

4. Research Reports:

The LHF has research reports available on the impacts of Residential Schools in the areas of justice, domestic violence, suicide, inequality, health, and history of Indigenous Peoples; and research reports on best practices for supporting Indigenous well-being, culture, and economic prosperity are also available from the LHF for free, and some at a minimal cost to support learning within your organization.

5. Projects with Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors:

The LHF has projects where we bring Survivors, Elders and Knowledge-Keepers together with youth to learn about Traditional Knowledge, cultural revitalization, on-the-land healing and ceremonies, teachings, etc. so as to help restore some of what has been taken from generations of Indigenous Peoples. The most effective path to healing has been with the return to culture and the promotion of self-care and traditional practices to counter the damage that has been caused by generations of harms caused by all of the colonial acts of oppression.

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For more information, go to: www.legacyofhope.ca. Please check out our video at www.vimeo.com/352694516. For training or to request exhibitions, please call the LHF at: 613-237-4806 or email us at: info@legacyofhope.ca. To view our catalogue: <https://bit.ly/exhibcatalogue2020>