

# VURD



VICTORIA URBAN RECONCILIATION DIALOGUE

Hosted by Victoria Native Friendship Centre

# TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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We acknowledge the **Lekwungen** speaking peoples, known as the **Songhees** and **Esquimalt** Nations, for their gracious hospitality in allowing us to work towards reconciliation within their traditional territory.



# VICTORIA NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

*Mandate is to encourage and promote the well-being of urban Aboriginal people, by strengthening individuals, family, and community.*

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- Provides direct services, as well as referrals, to 17,000 Indigenous people living in the CRD
- Celebrating 50 years of uninterrupted service to the Vitoria area
- Diversified funding sources from federal, provincial, municipal, foundation and private funding streams



## VNFC TODAY

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Part of the largest set of servicing providing agencies in BC.

- 51 diverse programs spanning prenatal to Elder
- 112 staff, term staff and contractors
- 38,000 square feet of programming space
- 86 daycare spaces
- 25 seasonal shelter beds
- 3 apartment blocks plus a foster home
- 1st Friendship Centre public lending library
- New project areas include
  - Property Management and Housing
  - Community Based Participatory Research
  - Victoria Urban Reconciliation Dialogue



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## Victoria Urban Reconciliation Dialogue

- Completed **first year** of development
- **Core Values:** Truth, Justice, Education, Decolonization, Sustainability, Inclusivity
- Three (3) Key **Focuses:**
  - Support Urban Indigenous Voice
  - Enable Community Engagement
  - Generate Ideas for Tangible Action
- A **grassroots** approach where ultimate accountability is to urban Indigenous community and allies

# Urban Indigenous Community & Allies

## Advisory Panel

**Composition Pool:** Community agencies, First Nations, Métis Nation, school districts, police, health authority, post-secondary institutes, all levels of government, and Indigenous community including Elders and youth

## Steering Committee

**Composition:** Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Métis Nation of Greater Victoria, City of Victoria, Capital Regional District, Indigenous Services Canada, and Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

## Working Group

Technicians from Steering Committee agencies tasked to implement the directions of the Advisory Panel and Steering Committee

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## Governance

- Hosted by Indigenous Service Agency
- Four levels of non-Indigenous government: federal, provincial, regional and municipal
- Federal and provincial funding supports
- Community representation on Steering Committee through Elders, artists and youth
- Steering Committee **mandate**
  - Promote collaborative reconciliation in Victoria lead by the urban Indigenous community

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## Gatherings

- Seven (7) Steering Committee meetings hosted since March 2018
- Two Advisory Panel Gatherings hosted November 26, 2018, and February 25, 2019
- Eighteen (18) Working Group meetings
- Six (6) community presentations: Oak Bay Rotary, Fairfield Gonzales Community Association, Public Service Agency, Colwood Council Meeting, Metchosin Council Meeting, Saanich Council Meeting



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## Steering Committee

- Steering Committee membership includes representation from:
  - Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC)
  - Métis Nation of Greater Victoria (MNGV)
  - City of Victoria
  - Capital Regional District
  - Indigenous Services Canada
  - Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
  - Community Elder, Artist/Professor and Youth
- Terms of Reference allow for expansion

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## Advisory Panel

- 40 people participated in initial Advisory Panel Gathering, striving for 80 people for second Gathering
- Invitations are by the Steering Committee but agencies can self-select representation
- The Advisory Panel will:
  - Provide strategic direction on gathering the greater community
  - Direct the creation of meaningful grassroots reconciliation actions
  - Enhance shared linkages among participants

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## Community

- Term can mean different things
- Looking to Advisory Panel to say who, when and how to engage larger community
- Steering Committee will strive to provide access and opportunity for all community to be heard and contribute by
  - organizing community events
  - providing strong external communications
  - being accountable and transparent to the community they serve

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## Goals

- The central **goal** remains Dialogue, using a reconciliation framework to plan lasting socio-economical impacts for Indigenous peoples



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## Next Steps

- Social Repair vs. Systemic Change
- Relationship Building
- Education and Research
- SDGs, Act Locally Impact Globally



# VICTORIA URBAN

DIALOGUE ADVISORY

# RECONCILIATION

PANEL GATHERING

FEB 25, 2019

HOW DO WE MOVE  
victoria  
FORWARD  
towards  
Reconciliation?

**HOUSING**  
LONGTERM PLANNING beyond 3 years  
HELP PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE  
COMMUNITY HOUSING ie longhouses  
TRANSPORTATION ACCESS  
100yr mortgage  
NEED OF DIVERSITY IN HOUSING OPTIONS  
ADDRESSING POVERTY  
COMMITMENT PLANS & RESOURCES NEEDED FROM MUNICIPALITY  
ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES  
we are on without taking PAN Indigenous approach  
START with CONSULTATION with INDIGENOUS GROUPS EARLY ON



**COLLABORATIVE Governance**

Leadership is done Together  
Value Indigenous Knowledge  
CLOSED LEADERS create OPEN LEADERS BRIDGE SILOS  
RESPECT FOR HISTORICAL LEGACY & CULTURAL SAFETY  
- RESPONSIBILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY -

**SYSTEMIC RECONCILIATION**  
EQUITY IN DECISION-MAKING  
STEWARDSHIP BASED TIMELINE  
LISTENING TO COMMUNITIES  
CO-CREATION  
TRUST Transparency  
MUTUAL INCLUSION  
VALUES & PRINCIPLES IN THE ROOM  
DECOLONIZE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE  
CHALLENGE POWER STRUCTURES  
OPPORTUNITY FOR BRAND NEW GOVERNANCE WITH NEW BOUNDARIES

EFFECTIVE LEADERS  
OPEN TO DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY  
BIO-REGIONAL APPROACH  
FOCUS ON LOCAL/REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCES FOR TEACHING & EMBEDDING INTO PRACTICE

**Healing**  
Meaningful & sincere  
Listening to stories  
Inviting you for stories  
DEMONSTRATION OF PRACTICES  
PERSONAL HEALING JOURNEY  
UNIQUE, not time bound, personal reflection continuous  
Everyday Healing can happen  
personally and within communities



**\$ Funding**  
FOR A COMMUNITY LIAISON/WORKER FOR EVERY FIRST NATION FIRST NATION COMMUNITY  
RECOGNIZING LOCAL PEOPLE LANGUAGE LAND/WATER ENVIRONMENT culture & relationship

**TRUTH**  
Acknowledging TRUTH IS KEY & IMPORTANT TO RECONCILIATION

**EDUCATION & AWARENESS**  
RECONCILIATION FOR EVERYONE AT EVERY LEVEL (NOT JUST POLICY AT INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL)  
MYTH BUSTING ADDRESSING COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS  
ESPECIALLY IN THE MEDIA  
ADDRESS RACISM & STEREOTYPES  
HAVE HARD CONVERSATIONS  
CONTINUE TO CHALLENGE PERSONAL BIASES  
EXAMINE BEHAVIOUR

**Engage**  
LARGER POPULATION?  
DIFFERENT AUDIENCES NEED DIFFERENT VEHICLES FOR LEARNING!  
WELL CURATED ONLINE LIBRARY OF RESOURCES

**REDEFINE OUR DEFINITION OF SUCCESS**  
LAND BASED LEARNING & KNOWLEDGE PROTOCOL  
TARGETED TRAININGS FOR VARIOUS AUDIENCES  
BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING  
Cultural awareness  
Anti-oppression  
Equality  
Education of academics & institutions  
Child welfare systems  
IMPORTANCE OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING as a way to help people understand the world

**BRINGING RESOURCES INTO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES**  
Be genuine or humble  
BE PREPARED TO BE BRAVE IT ISN'T THE MISTAKES YOU MAKE BUT THE WAY YOU RESPOND THAT WILL DEFINE YOU  
RECOGNIZE DIVERSITY WITHIN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES  
BUILDING LONGTERM RELATIONSHIPS  
MAKE LONGTERM COMMITMENTS  
USE TRAUMA INFORMED PRACTICE  
CREATING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SPACE SHARING & GRANT WRITING  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

**UNDERSTANDING HISTORY**  
CAUSED effects IMPACTS ON COMMUNITIES  
NOT JUST A BOX TO TICKER REQUIRES ONGOING RESPONSIBILITY  
LIVING RESOURCES

**CREATE SPACE FOR GATHERING**  
PROMOTE



# VICTORIA URBAN RECONCILIATION DIALOGUE

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(Website Launch February 11, 2019)

