ISAO Indigenous E-Learning: Tools and Resources

About This Document

With most AAFC employees working remotely due to the COVID-19 crisis and increased demands on our internal network, the Indigenous Support and Awareness Office (ISAO) has developed an interim, Internet-based training guide as a means of supporting at-home learning for AAFC employees looking to support the Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action #57 without putting additional strain on the network. This guide uses only a handful of selected materials from ISAO’s vast training collection on Knowledge Workspace, with additional materials available upon request. All resources here and on ISAO’s Knowledge Workspace have been kindly and thoroughly vetted by the Indigenous Network Circle.

ISAO always recommends in-person learning, but based on the current situation, this learner-driven resource will serve as an alternative education pathway. To ensure that the AAFC bandwidth remains free for those performing critical services, we ask that you engage with these training tools while you are not logged into the VPN. Bilingual resources have been included as much as possible under the short timeframe, with more to follow as needed.

Reconciliation

This section covers several facets of understanding reconciliation in Canada, with a special focus on the history and impact of residential schools. This section is ideal for those looking to understand the context behind the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.

General

- [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada - 2015](#) (Bilingual)
- [Deepening Knowledge: Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#)
- [Beyond 94](#)

History and Impact of Residential Schools

- [Where are the Children? Healing the Legacy of the Residential Schools](#)
- [Forgotten: The Métis Residential School Experience](#)
- [An Introduction of the Residential School System in the Canadian Arctic and Subarctic](#)
- [Project of Heart](Bilingual)
- [Alice Blondin-Perrin Residential School Experience](French Version) (Password: aafc2019)

Exploring Reconciliation

- [What Reconciliation is and What it is not](#)
- [Why Reconciliation? Understanding the Ugly Legacy of Residential Schools](#)
ISAO Indigenous E-Learning: Tools and Resources (Foundational Learning)

Indigenous Peoples 101

For those who are new to this subject and would like a starting point, please find below the following resources to address your learning needs.

Online Course Modules (Pick One)

- University of Toronto Aboriginal Worldviews and Education
- University of Alberta – Indigenous Canada
- University of British Columbia Indigenous Foundations

Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada (Bilingual) (Pick one from each volume below)

- First Nations
  - What is Indigenous?
  - Residential Schools
  - Reconciliation
  - Treaties
- Métis
  - Identity
  - Worldview
  - Métis Settlements and Farms
  - Adaptive Nature
- Inuit
  - Inuit Nunangat
  - Colonialism
  - Urban Inuit
  - Research

Treaties and Rights (Pick One)

- Trick or Treaty? | Ruse ou traité?
- Dancing Around the Table – Part 1 | Part 2 || L’Art de Tourner en Rond – 1re Partie | 2e Partie

Additional Reading

- Indigenous Peoples and Communities (Bilingual)
- Territory Acknowledgment
Crown-Indigenous Relations

This section contextualizes the broader relationship between the Government of Canada and Indigenous Peoples.

Key Documents

- Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples | Rapport de la Commission royale sur les peuples autochtones
- Manitoba Act 1870 (Bilingual)
- Nunavut Act 1999 (Bilingual)
- Treaties and Agreements (Bilingual)

Historical Moments

- Historica Canada Indigenous Perspectives Timeline
- History of Residential Schools (1830s-1990) (Bilingual)
- Sixties Scoop (1960s-1980s)
- White Paper (1969)
- 6 Landmark Rulings on Native Rights (1973-2009)
- Constitution Act 1982 – Section 35
- Oka Crisis Digital Archives (1990)
- Meech Lake Accord (1990) (Bilingual)
- Ipperwash Crisis (1995)
- Idle No More (2012) (Bilingual)
- Millennium Scoop (Ongoing)
- Wet’suwet’en Protests (Ongoing)

Indigenous Agriculture, AAFC and the Impact of Federal Activities

- Métis Settlements and Farms (Bilingual)
- Agriculture: The Relationship Between Aboriginal Farmers and Non-Aboriginal Farmers
- A Cup of Cold Water: Albert Kirkness and the Brandon Residential School Cemeteries
ISAO Indigenous E-Learning: Tools and Resources (MMIWG and Online Courses)

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit

Tied to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, this section provides resources pertaining to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit (MMIWG2S) Inquiry. This includes key documents related to the Inquiry, the history and impact of the MMIWG2S issue in Canada.

General

- Background on the Inquiry (Bilingual)
- MMIWG National Inquiry Video Series

History

- Stolen Sisters: A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada

Impact of MMIWG2S in Canada

- REDress Project
- Nipimit Nanisinig / Finding Voice
- What Does “Two Spirit” Mean?
- Being Two-Spirit: A Brief Explainer
- Fast Facts: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Online Course-Based Learning

This section is designed for those looking for a structured learning setting. These online courses and resources have been designed to provide a basic overview of Indigenous Peoples, worldviews and history. For those looking to understand the fundamentals about Indigenous history and affairs, or those looking to refresh their knowledge, this would be where to start.

- University of Toronto Aboriginal Worldviews and Education
- University of Alberta – Indigenous Canada
- University of British Columbia Indigenous Foundations
- Canadian Geographic Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada (Bilingual)
Indigenous-Led Research

This section is designed to provide insight into some of the key considerations that need to be taken into consideration when co-developing Indigenous research projects and activities. Useful for those interested in the research and science side of relationship-building.

**General**

- Decolonizing Methodologies by Linda Tuhiwai Smith (eBook)
- International Indigenous Policy Journal – Volume 10
- How Institutional Metrics for Success and Merit Risk Perpetuation the (Re)production of Colonial Relationships in Community-Based Participatory Research Involving Indigenous Peoples in Canada

**Ethics**

- Ethics in First Nation Research | Éthique de la recherche sur les Autochtones
- Negotiating Research Relationships with Inuit Communities
- Ethical Principles for the Conduct of Research in the North
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent (Bilingual)

**Indigenous Research Strategies and Key Documents**

- National Inuit Strategy on Research | Stratégie nationale inuite sur la recherche
- Setting New Directions to Support Indigenous Research and Research Training in Canada 2019-2022 (Bilingual)

**Indigenous-Led and Co-Developed Science – Case Studies**

- This Greenhouse in a Sea Can in Gjoa Haven is Powered by Wind and Solar Energy
- Year-Round Garden Provides Free Fresh Vegetables to Hundreds on Manitoba’s Opaskwayak Cree Nation
- How Native American Tribes are Bringing Back the Bison from Brink of Extinction
- Growing Traditional Medicinal Plants Eyed in Tribal Council-Federal Greenhouse Project
ISAO Indigenous E-Learning: Tools and Resources (Indigenous Reads)

Sorted by topic, these books are available through the Canadian Agriculture Library.

History

- The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America – Thomas King
  - An exploration of the relationship between Natives and Non-Natives since the fifteenth century and how popular culture has shaped our notion of Indigenous identity.
  - The story of a community whose residents existed unofficially in the cracks of municipal bureaucracy, while navigating the legacy of settler colonialism and the demands of modernity and urbanization.

Residential Schools

- My Heart Shook Like a Drum: What I Learned at the Indian Missions Schools, Northwest Territories – Alice Blondin-Perrin
  - This books depicts Alice’s lived experiences going through four different residential schools, and the impact on her life as a direct result of the Grey Nuns and the Government of Canada.
- Broken Circle: The Dark Legacy of Indian Residential Schools: A Memoir – Theodore Fontaine
  - The memoir examined the impact of Theodore’s experience in residential schools and post-traumatic stress on his adult life.

Science and Research

- Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants – Robin Wall Kimmerer
  - Robin Wall Kimmerer intertwines biology and the teachings of the Potawatomi Nation to reveal a path towards healing the rift between people and nature.
- Native American DNA: Tribal Belonging and the False Promise of Genetic Science – Kim TallBear
  - Kim TallBear shows how DNA testing is a powerful and problematic scientific process for Indigenous Peoples, and the consequences attached to land, resources and sovereignty.

Agriculture

- Clearing the Plains: Disease, Politics of Starvation and the Loss of Aboriginal Life – James Daschuk
  - Looks at the roles of Old World diseases, climate and Canadian politics, and how a policy of starvation against Indigenous People was used to clear the way for settlement.
- Lost Harvests: Prairie Indian Reserve Farmers and Government Policy – Sarah Carter
  - A historical look at Indigenous agriculture in the Prairies, and how government policies made farming virtually impossible for Plains Indians.
ISAO Indigenous E-Learning: Tools and Resources (Welcoming Workplaces)

Indigenous Public Servants: Context

A look at the type of issues faced and the lived experiences of Indigenous public servants.

- Many Voices, One Mind Report (Bilingual)
- Indigenous Perspectives with Todd Lyons

Indigenous Perspectives

This section offers an opportunity for AAFC staff members to hear First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspectives on historical and contemporary issues. Topics include political events, discussions of identity, examining pop culture from an Indigenous lens and lived experiences- there is something for everyone.

- All My Relations
- Red Man Laughing
- Métis in Space
- Coffee with My Ma by Kaniehtiio Horn
- Life is an Expedition: Travelling Wemindji Eeyouch Lands and Waters (Virtual Museum)
- National Film Board: Indigenous Cinema (Bilingual)
- Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture

Languages

The International Decade of Indigenous Languages will begin in 2022, and as part of Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action #57 and #14, a number of resources have been gathered to introduce you to some of the languages spoken by Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

- First Voices
- Endangered Languages Project
  - Learn one of 73 different languages in Canada, including sign language
- Indigenous Languages Resource Portal – Heritage Canada (Bilingual)
- Inuktit Tusaalanga
- Learn Michif
- Learn Anishinaabemowin
ISAO Indigenous E-Learning: Tools and Resources (Learner’s Checklist)

Checking In

Feel free to use this checklist as a way to track your progress with the E-learning toolkit. Sending in your responses to ISAO will enable us to offer more tailored, accessible training based off of your learning needs. All questions, comments and responses can be sent to AAFC.ISAO-BSSA.AAC@canada.ca.

E-Learning Kit Checklist

- Reconciliation
  - General
  - History
  - Exploring Reconciliation
- Indigenous Peoples 101
- Crown-Indigenous Relations
  - Key Documents
  - History
  - Indigenous Agriculture
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit
  - General
  - History
  - Impact of MMIWG2S
- Online Course-Based Learning
- Indigenous-Led Research
  - Ethics
  - Indigenous Research Strategies and Key Documents
  - Indigenous-Led and Co-Developed Science – Case Studies
- Indigenous Reads
- Indigenous Public Servants
- Indigenous Perspectives
- Languages