



Saturday, April 24, 2021

Chinook Winds Region - Proposal 2021

Name of person submitting this proposal

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Proposal Name

Perspective on Indigenous Curriculum

Source

Ralph Connor United Church Canmore and Being Good Relations Network/Circle Chinook Winds and Northern Spirit

Type of Proposal

For Decision (I want the council to make a decision or take an action)

Proposal

We call on the Chinook Winds Region to inform the Government of Alberta that the new K to 6 Social Studies Curriculum violates the agreement made between Alberta and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on April 14, 2014.

Background

Promises made were to implement the TRC calls numbers 62 and 63. These promises were:

- **implement Indigenous curriculum in all grades**
- **train teachers**
- **provide materials about Indigenous history and culture and**
- **teach about Residential Schools**

Murray Sinclair, Chairman of the TRC, stated that “Education is what got us here and education is what will get us out.” Schools have such an important role to play in reconciliation with the Indigenous people of Alberta. It is through age appropriate curriculum that students are given the tools and knowledge to understand our collective history and current identity. Understanding Indigenous culture, the history of treaties and how Indigenous people were mistreated and continue to be misunderstood must be prominently included in all grade levels. This knowledge will build the foundation for future relationships.

The concepts introduced must be age appropriate. For example, it is unrealistic to expect Grade 1 children to learn and understand that First nations and Inuit Culture are rooted in the land and patterns nature, which were believed to have spiritual roots. The Social Studies Indigenous K to 4 content occupies only 10% of what is taught. Residential schools are only briefly mentioned.

Funding Implications

No funding but some time to write to the Government

Community of Faith (if applicable)

Concurrence (agree with proposal)

Cluster or Networks Comments (if applicable)

A proposal similar to this will be presented at the Northern Spirit AGM by the Being Good RelationsNetwork/circle.

Confirmation

Proposal is complete and I am ready to submit it.