

OPHO Foundational Commitments to Indigenous Peoples Series (Fall 2022)

Series Lead

Jorden Hendry (Settler/Tsimshian, Lax Kw'alaams Band)
Graduate Research Assistant on the Unlearning & Undoing White Supremacy Project

Background

Clear foundational directions to address Indigenous-specific racism that require disrupting systemic white supremacy. Indigenous voices have rung loud and clear with foundational directions about how we must reset relationships and move towards a desired future. Testimonies of thousands of (intergenerational) survivors of settler colonial harms informed recommendations laid out in the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples¹, the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action², and the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls Calls for Justice³. BC's provincial government has made commitments to uphold the TRC Calls to Action and MMIW&G Calls for Justice, and provided 10 Draft Principles that Guide the Province of BC's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples.⁴ We have received 335 recommendations across two reports, many which are relevant to public health. In BC, we have three additional foundational directions: The BC Declaration Act⁵ and the related Action Plan⁶, and the In Plain Sight⁷ recommendations. Instructions have been provided; now it is the work of BC institutions to follow them.

Findings from the first round of the OPHO's Action on Foundational Commitments Self-Assessment. Results from the Action on Foundational Commitments Self-Assessment baseline survey in June 2022 indicate significant variability in awareness of and engagement with Foundational Commitments across the OPHO. Survey responses demonstrated that OPHO team members are at various stages of developing the muscles to hardwire foundational commitments into their everyday work. To build those muscles, OPHO teammates shared that they require: enabling leadership, access to dedicated people who can help with the how, and consistent systems and procedures.

Rationale. The OPHO Foundational Commitments to Indigenous Peoples Series aims to ensure all OPHO team members are familiar with each of these sets of instructions, are able to identify the instructions within their sphere of influence, and have the required tools and direction to uphold them in their day-to-day work.

Session Content

Session	Topic
September 20, 2022 10:00am-12:00pm	Intro & UNDRIP
October 18, 2022 10:00am-12:00pm	National Commitments (TRC & MMIWG)
November 15, 2022 10:00am-12:00pm	In Plain Sight
December 13, 2022 10:00am-12:00pm	OPHO Accountability
February 21, 2022 11:00am-1:00pm	BC Cultural Safety & Humility Standard

Session 1: UNDRIP	
Our Teacher(s)	We recognize the monumental efforts Indigenous Peoples worldwide displayed to make their voices and rights heard, and to attest to the oppression, marginalization, and exploitation they continue to experience. Indigenous Peoples globally have been and will continue to be our teachers and experts when learning about Indigenous rights, law, and policy.
Preparation Task	Identify at least one action you can do, or currently do, to uphold UNDRIP Article 24 in your specific OPHO work
Quick Dip	REPORT (32pages) UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf · (Hard copies of this report can be found at the Indigenous Rights, Racism & Reconciliation Lending Library)
Deep Dive	ACTION PLAN (40pages) BC Declaration Act Action Plan https://declaration.gov.bc.ca/
Additional Resources	<p>PROVINCIAL UNDRIP LAW (BC DRIPA) https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/19044</p> <p>FEDERAL UNDRIP LAW (BILL C-15) https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/U-2.2/page-1.html#docCont</p> <p>YOUTUBE (5m12s) https://www.cigionline.org/multimedia/how-undrip-changes-canadas-relationship-indigenous-peoples/</p> <p>WEBSITE & VIDEO about federal UNDRIP law (national perspective) https://www.afn.ca/implementing-the-united-nations-declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples/</p> <p>FACT SHEET (3pages) UNDRIP and In Plain Sight https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/613/2021/03/UNDRIP-and-IPS-FINAL.pdf</p> <p>DISCUSSION PAPER SERIES (8 articles) Implementing UNDRIP in BC: A Discussion Paper Series https://irshdc.ubc.ca/implementing-undrip/</p>

Session 2: National Commitments TRC & MMIWG	
Our Teacher(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential school survivors and their descendants who generously and courageously shared their stories during the Truth & Reconciliation hearings Family members, survivors experts and Knowledge Keepers who shared their truths regarding violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people Truth and Reconciliation Commissioners Senator Murray Sinclair, Dr. Marie Wilson and Chief Wilton Littlechild.
Preparation Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify at least one instruction from each report relevant to your specific OPHO work Identify a self-care activity that you can do to wrap yourself in love and care to help you bear witness to these hard truths and respond to the Calls to Action <3.
Quick Dip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CALLS TO ACTION: Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: 94 Calls to Action https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/indigenous-people/aboriginal-peoples-documents/calls_to_action_english2.pdf CALLS FOR JUSTICE: National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls: 231 Calls to Justice https://www.kairosCanada.org/missing-murdered-indigenous-women-girls/213-calls-for-justice#3 (condensed version) <i>Both available in hardcopy at the PHO Indigenous Rights, Reconciliation, and Anti-Racism Library.</i>
Deep Dive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REPORT: Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Executive_Summary_English_Web.pdf REPORT: National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls: Executive Summary https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Executive_Summary.pdf
Additional Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VIDEO (3min): from Justice Murray Sinclair on why the TRC was created https://youtu.be/wBtncs1YVf4 REPORT: TRC 'What We Have Learned' (10 Principles of Reconciliation) https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Principles_English_Web.pdf VIDEO(2m51s): MMIWG walk along the highway of tears https://youtu.be/t7keWQ5oF0U REPORT: Sacred & Strong - PHO/FNHA report on the health and wellness of BC First Nations women and girls https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-PHO-Sacred-and-Strong.pdf WEBSITE & VIDEOS: Key moments from the MMIWG testimonies https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/video-clips/ INTERACTIVE MAP: explore language, arts, and heritage of Indigenous Peoples in BC. https://maps.fpcc.ca/splashscreen VIDEO: Livestream of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report Event https://youtu.be/mZoLgdzrw7c (Mentioned by Teresa Dobmeier at the Sept 29 Ministry of Health National Truth & Reconciliation Day event)

Session 3: In Plain Sight	
Our Teacher(s)	Indigenous Peoples from BC who shared their experiences of the health care system to inform this report
Preparation Task	Identify one <i>In Plain Sight</i> recommendation related to your work and one action you are or will do to uphold it
Quick Dip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RECOMMENDATIONS: 24 In Plain Sight Recommendations https://static1.squarespace.com/static/573e02ab62cd943531b23633/t/616a06c9ac6777487f75748c/1634338505150/24+Recommendations+-+IPS.pdf SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-Specific Racism and Discrimination in B.C. Health Care https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/613/2021/03/UNDRIP-and-IPS-FINAL.pdf
Deep Dive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REPORT: In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination in B.C. https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/613/2020/11/In-Plain-Sight-Summary-Report.pdf
Additional resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WEBINAR (1h6m): In Plain Sight Report and the Implications for Health Leadership by Harmony Johnson https://www.royalroads.ca/webinar-recordings/plain-sight-report-and-implications-health-leadership WEBSITE: Pushing for Inclusion: Two-Spirit Experiences in BC's In Plain Sight Investigation https://www.cbrc.net/pushing_for_inclusion_two_spirit_experiences_in_bc_s_in_plain_sight_investigation WEBSITE: In Plain Sight Task Team https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0059-001870 CASE STUDY: Remembering Keegan https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-Remembering-Keegan.pdf REPORT: Joyce's Principle https://principedejoyce.com/sn_uploads/principe/Joyce_s_Principle_brief_Eng.pdf PAPER: Brian Sinclair, "Ignored to Death: Systemic Racism in the Canadian Healthcare System" https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/IPeoples/EMRIP/Health/UniversityManitoba.pdf

Session 4: OPHO Accountability

Preparation	This session will allow us to have a deeper dive in to some of the foundational commitments by working with our peers to create an action plan. The attached document outlines 5 clusters of commitments that we at the OPHO are hoping to zoom in and work towards. The U&U team has come together to review all the commitments that the OPHO team put forward during the homework sharing in the sessions, and think about which we believe the OPHO could make the biggest impact on. During the accountability session you will be asked to name your top 2 clusters you feel you could make an impact on, and we will make working groups based on that.
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Session 5: BC Cultural Safety & Humility Standard for Health Organizations

Our Teacher(s)	<p>The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) and Health Standards Organization (HSO) released the BC Cultural Safety & Humility Standard for Health Organizations in June 2022.</p> <p>The Standard was developed with the goal of designing, implementing, and evaluating culturally safe systems. The Standard provides guidance for governments and organizations to implement cultural safety within their policies and practices, as well as address Indigenous-specific racism. Indigenous thought leaders and health professionals from across the province contributed to the Standard’s development.</p>
Preparation Task	<p>Identify a <i>Cultural Safety and Humility Standard Criteria</i> connected to your work at the OPHO.</p> <p>You can access these either in the attached PDF (the Standard) or the attached EXCEL SHEET (CS&H Self-Assessment Tool).</p>
Quick Dip	<p>WEBINAR (85 mins): Transformative Change: Advancing Cultural Safety Across BC https://peoplepowered.info/content/cultural-safety-humility-webinar</p>
Deep Dive	<p>STANDARD (120 pages): BC Cultural Safety & Humility Standard for Health Organizations</p>
Additional Resources	<p>FNHA Cultural Safety & Humility Standard Press Release https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/fnha-and-hso-release-bc-cultural-safety-and-humility-standard</p> <p>HSO Cultural Safety & Humility Standard Press Release https://healthstandards.org/news/fnha-hso-release-bc-cultural-safety-humility-standard/</p> <p>Cultural Safety & Humility Standard Self-Assessment (attached)</p>

References

1. RCAP, Erasmus G, Dussault R. Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples: Ottawa: The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples; 1996.
2. TRC. Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Winnipeg: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada; 2015.
3. National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Girls. Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry Into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: Privy Council Office; 2019.
4. Government of British Columbia. Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples. n.d. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/careers/about-the-bc-public-service/diversity-inclusion-respect/draft_principles.pdf.
5. Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. Bill 41 - Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act 2019 [Available from: <https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/legislation-debates-proceedings/41st-parliament/4th-session/bills/first-reading/gov41-1>].
6. Government of British Columbia. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan 2022-2027. 2022. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/government/ministries-organizations/ministries/indigenous-relations-reconciliation/declaration_act_action_plan.pdf.
7. Turpel-Lafond ME. In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination in B.C. Health Care. 2020. <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/613/2020/11/In-Plain-Sight-Full-Report.pdf>.