

Historical Timeline of Relationship Between the Government of Canada and Indigenous People

1620-1629	First missionary operated school established near Quebec City.
1812	First Nations are key contributors to defend against American invasion
1831	Mohawk Indian Residential School opens in Brantford, Ontario; it will become the longest-operated residential school.
1842	Bagot Commission recommends agriculture-based boarding schools, placed far from parental influence
1847	Egerton Ryerson's study of Indian education recommends religious-based, government-funded industrial schools
1850's-1860's	Assimilation of Aboriginal people through education becomes official policy
1857	Gradual Civilization Act
1860's-1870's	Macdonald's National Policy; Homestead Act; RCMP established to facilitate government control of West
1860	Management of "Indian Affairs" transferred from Imperial Government to Province of Canada
1867	British North America Act
1869	Act for the Gradual Civilization of the Indian
1869	HBC abandons land in MB, and Metis establish provisional government
1873	Only historic treaty which includes "Halfbreeds", in Fort Frances, Canada fails to adhere with ongoing attempts to recognize Metis as FN
1876	First treaty that specifies a medicine chest shall be kept at the house of each Indian agent for the use and benefits for Indians
1876	First Indian Act
1879	Nicholas Flood Davin Report, submitted to Sir John A. Macdonald, makes 13 recommendations concerning the administration of industrial boarding schools
1884-1885	Metis resist land encroachment in the Northwest Resistance
1892	Federal government and churches enter into formal partnership in the operation of Indian schools
1904	First medical superintendant appointed
1907	Indian Affairs' Chief Medical Inspector P.H. Bryce reports numerous deficiencies of the school
1909	Bryce Report on TB epidemics in residential schools
1914	First Indian hospital under construction, in File Hills, SK
1919	4,000 Aboriginals estimated to die from influenza outbreak
1920	Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs Duncan Campbell Scott makes residential school attendance compulsory
1923	First hospital built and managed by First Nations
1928	Medical Superintendent declares that TB epidemics are not due to the lifestyle of Indians
1928	First land-based health service in the Arctic at Pangnirtung
1930	First federally managed nursing station opened (in Fisher River, MB)
1938	Metis secure only land base in Alberta
1939	Supreme Court of Canada rules that, under the British North America Act, Inuit are Indians
1940's-1950's	Government begins efforts to integrate Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal education
1944	Senior Indian Affairs officials argue for policy shift from residential to day schools
1945	Department of Health created

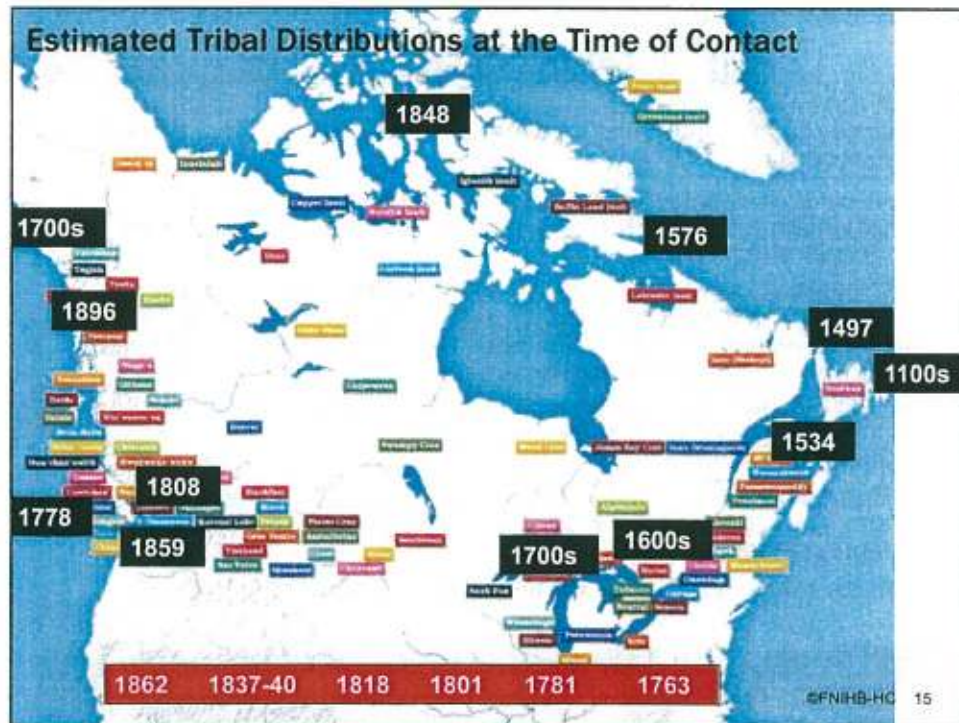
1998	Government's Statement of Reconciliation Gathering Strength—Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan includes a \$350 million healing fund; AHF established to manage fund
1999	Territory of Nunavut created out of land claims settlement
2002	Romanow report on national health care system
2002	Auditor General report on reporting burden on First Nations
2002	Davis Inlet moved, a decade after the first stories of crisis
2002	Government announces an Alternative Dispute Resolution Framework to provide compensation for residential school abuse
2003	First Ministers' Accord on funding health care
2003	R. v. Powley recognized and affirmed the existence of Métis as a distinct Aboriginal people with existing rights
2004	First Canada-Aboriginal Peoples Roundtable (CAPR) session held in Ottawa
2005	Kelowna, B.C. First Ministers meeting with aboriginal leaders announces \$5.1 billion to eradicate aboriginal poverty and improve health
2006	Government signs the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement with legal representatives for Survivors, AFN, Inuit representatives, and church entities
2008	Government launches the Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission
2010	Canada signs on to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Stability of communities

- Prior to colonization, Indigenous intelligence, culture and knowledges maintained First Nations and Inuit communities:
 - Stable roles and responsibilities of individuals and families in community
 - Stable and accountable governance and shared leadership
 - Extensive economic relationships across Turtle Island and beyond maintained ties
 - Health promotion and prevention *
- *Colonization experiences and policies has disrupted the stability of communities and their role in wider society.*



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...federal policies

- 1869 Act for the gradual enfranchisement of Indians
- 1876: The Indian Act
 - Explicit agenda of assimilation of Aboriginal people into Canadian society.
 - "The transition from tribal nation in the tripartite imperial system to legal incompetent in the bilateral federal/provincial system was now complete. While protection remained a policy goal, it was no longer collective Indian tribal autonomy that was protected: it was the individual Indian recast as a dependent ward — in effect, the child of the state" (RCAP).
- 1884 amendment to protect Indians from their own cultures, prohibiting ceremonies such as the Potlach and the Tamanawas dance, and later the Sundance.

AHF.



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No. 4

DUCK LAKE AGENCY Department of Indian Affairs

NOV 12 1932

Agency: Duck Lake

November 1932

Edward Yahyahkee Root No. 125

at Beardsp

is permitted to be absent from his Reserve for Two Weeks days from date hereof. Business Hunting Big Game for Food and is permitted to carry a gun.

Edw. Johnson
Indian Agent

25.

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and Discharged Pupils of Indian Industrial and Boarding Schools.

Present Condition of all Pupils.						Present Condition of Ex-Pupils.					
Good.		Sick.		Dead.		Good.		Sick.		Dead.	
Number of pupils.	p.c.	Number of pupils.	p.c.	Number of pupils.	p.c.	Number of pupils.	p.c.	Number of pupils.	p.c.	Number of pupils.	p.c.
112	60	58	9	87	30	9	29	1	3	21	69
99	65	29	15	32	30						
89		8	9	26	30						

"It is readily acknowledged that Indian children lose their natural resistance to illness by habitating so closely in these schools, and that they die at a much higher rate than in their villages. But this alone does not justify a change in the policy of this Department, which is geared towards the final solution of our Indian problem."

Dr. Duncan Campbell Scott, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in 1910.



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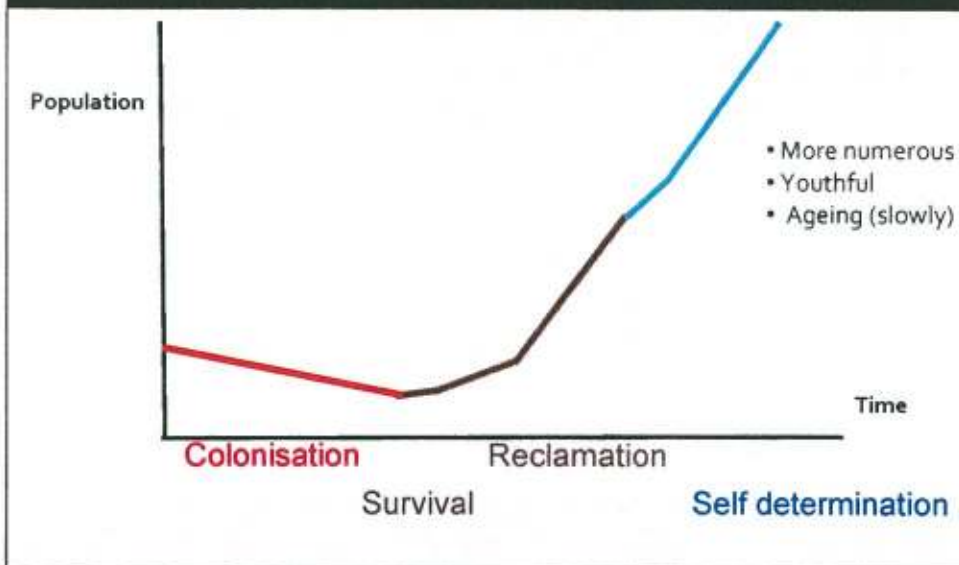
History of Health

- Complaints about residential schools (unqualified teachers, abuse allegations, divisive religious instruction) were of no legal consequence -- but tuberculosis outbreaks forced a response from the government.
- Dr. Peter Bryce, medical inspector for Indian Affairs investigated and documented in 1909 the epidemic as "a 'national crime' ... [and] the consequence of inadequate government funding, poorly constructed schools, sanitary and ventilation problems, inadequate diet, clothing and medical care."
- The report was suppressed, and funding for basic health needs in residential schools was denied. Then Scott fired Bryce.



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Exploring the Future Indigenous Demographic Transitions



Resistance and Reclamation

- 1960s: American Indian Movement, National Indian Brotherhood (Canada) agitated for social change
 - Amendments to Indian Act removed prohibitions on cultural expression – ceremony
 - Revival of cultural healing practices – sweat lodge, sacred pipe, smudging, fasting
 - Sobriety movement – Alcoholics anonymous and later National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program
 - 1982: Four Worlds Elders Conference brought together 40 different tribal groups to discuss strategies to treat addictions
 - Healing our Spirit Worldwide
 - WHO declaration of Alma-Ata – holistic approach to health
 - Aboriginal Healing Foundation – funded community-based healing initiatives by Aboriginals for Aboriginals
 - Legacy of Hope Foundation and many other groups – raising awareness and educating public
 - Settlement and Apology for residential schools
 - UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- LOH.

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