

**Reconciliation Canada receives funding as a result of
Truth and Reconciliation Commission report**
Group seeks additional support

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Vancouver, B.C. -- Reconciliation Canada has received \$768,000 in funding from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). The announcement was made by the Honorable Minister Bernard Valcourt in response to the summary report by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) delivered on June 2 in Ottawa.

“This AANDC funding creates a good starting point for Reconciliation Canada to advance the work laid out in the TRC report. We will continue our commitment to bringing Canadians from all walks of life together in a process of healing and reconciliation, ” said Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, founder and ambassador of Reconciliation Canada.

“In terms of fundraising, this is just the beginning. We will require additional resources so we can continue to create the safe space to facilitate dialogue that leads to deeper understanding, renewed relationships and a new way forward,” said Chief Joseph. Reconciliation Canada will use the AANDC funding to bring together leadership across the nation – elders, youth and adults -- to begin to define reconciliation from a national perspective.

“The final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission squarely confronts the disparity between typical Canadian historical perspectives and Aboriginal reality,” said Chief Joseph. “The TRC report brings light to the Aboriginal truth in Canada -- a truth of harm experienced for generations in the Indian residential school system.”

“We all owe the TRC commissioners a huge debt of gratitude,” added Chief Joseph. “The report creates an opportunity for real change for all Canadians. It provides the potential to educate and provide context for dialogue among governments, private institutions and citizens alike.”

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About Reconciliation Canada

Born from the vision of Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, Gwawaenuk Elder, Reconciliation Canada is a charitable nonpartisan, national initiative that promotes reconciliation by engaging Canadians from every part of society in open and honest dialogue and transformative experiences that revitalize relationships among Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians. Its initiatives include reconciliation dialogue workshops, reconciliation-based leadership training, economic reconciliation dialogues, and public awareness activities. More information can be found at www.reconciliationcanada.ca.