

May 30, 2023

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**Bulletin**

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## **Universities Canada's Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation**

### **Thunder Bay , Orillia**

As a Canadian university that deeply values its longstanding and rich relationships with the various Indigenous leaders and communities in the territories around our campuses, our University community applauds and supports Universities Canada's recent adoption by its 90 member universities of its new [Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation](#).

These commitments build on Universities Canada's Principles on Indigenous Education released in 2015, and further recognize the responsibilities member universities endorse regarding:

- truth and reconciliation,
- respectful partnerships with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples,
- breaking down barriers to university education faced by Indigenous students,
- providing equitable employment opportunities for Indigenous faculty, staff, and administrators, as well as
- centering the needs of Indigenous Peoples in teaching and research.

Our University thanks the members of Universities Canada's Advisory Group on Indigenous Higher Education, leaders across member universities, and Indigenous communities and organizations that spent recent years developing the new Commitments, including Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, Lakehead's Chair on Truth & Reconciliation. The result is a document that helps member universities find creative ways to, among other commitments, ensure Indigenous students are provided the same opportunities as other students to complete their unique post-secondary journeys.

Lakehead's support of Universities Canada's Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation are a critical part our University's Strategic Plan and its priority to social responsibility.

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