



SURREY
LOCAL IMMIGRATION
PARTNERSHIP

Fording the River

Indigenous Engagement with Newcomer Communities

**Plenary – Inclusive Collaboration Across Sectors When
Collaboration is Not a Given**
November 27, 2024
Vancouver





LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Surrey Local Immigration Partnership is on the ancestral, traditional and unceded territories of the SEMYOME (Semiahmoo), qícəy (Katzie), kʷikʷəłəm (Kwkwetlem), qʷɑ:nλən (Kwantlen), qiqéyt (Qayqayt), xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam) and scəwaθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen) First Nations.

The knowledge and traditions of these communities are significant in providing context to the work we do, and we recognize the importance that reconciliation has in building truly inclusive and strong communities.



Surrey LIP

- 35+ council members
- **leveraging** perspectives, expertise and resources to **develop** and **deliver** on strategies that prepare the community to welcome and fully include new immigrants and refugees
- **Collaborate** on community-driven initiatives through dialogue and research to meet evolving needs of one of the fastest-growing cities in B.C.

Bridging Indigenous and Newcomer Communities

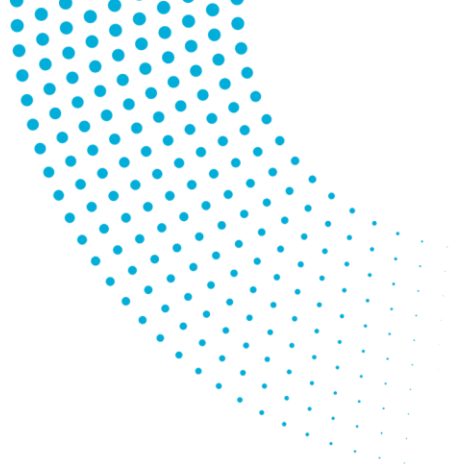
Reconciliation is about forging and maintaining respectful relationships. There are no short cuts. – *Senator Murray Sinclair*

- 'letsémot- One heart, One mind
- Engagement 101: Six Core Engagement Principles

Stories from the Land- responding to the call



'letsémot- One heart, One mind



Mental	Respecting and validating Indigenous knowledge systems through decolonization in which values and procedures that raise Western ideals and peoples above Indigenous ones are reviewed, redone
Physical	Actions that build good relations
Spiritual	Relationship with Indigenous Peoples through Indigenization , where space is made for Indigenous worldviews
Emotional	Values and protocols to bolster our spaces, committees and initiatives

Strategic Priorities

Through comprehensive community consultation and engagement, five priorities were identified as critical for the Surrey LIP to address over the next five years.



Goal: The Surrey Local Immigration Partnership has a meaningful relationship with local Indigenous communities and through listening and collaboration we have integrated Indigenous knowledge, culture, and perspectives into our work.



Barriers to Engagement

- Systemic under resourcing of First Nations and Indigenous organizations
- Community priorities
- Trust
- Fear of doing harm
- Staff turnover

Engagement 101: Six Core Engagement Principles



Motivations

Investigate personal and organizational motivations to engage Indigenous Peoples



Learning and Unlearning

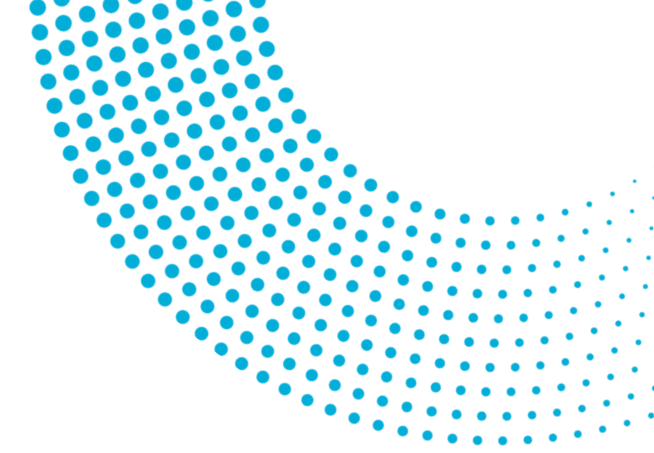
Tackle the false narratives of our colonial education about Indigenous history, cultures and traditions, grow knowledge of historical legacies and intergenerational effects of the Indian Act and Residential Schools



Actively Listen

Listen with an open heart and mind to Elders, Traditional Knowledge Keepers and Warriors to understand and do better





Trauma-Informed Approach

Creating consenting and safe space for dialogue and sharing lived experiences, supporting Indigenous, newcomer and refugee partners



Reciprocity to Build Right Relations

Collective interest, cooperation, understanding, transparency and accountability, think about how the engagement can benefit local First Nations and urban Indigenous organizations



Find Common Ground

Walk together for a shared purpose





Stories From the Land

1. 'letsémot
2. Study, discussions, Surrey First People's Guide for Newcomers
3. Go to community events, offer to help out, connection to First Nation and knowledge keepers
4. Cultural safety workers, cultural protocols, take the lead from Elders and Knowledge Keepers
5. Work with Knowledge Keepers to co-develop event and apply for grant, budget to adequately compensate Indigenous people for their time, Indigenous consultant and vendor, take care of all the details
6. Neighbours getting to know each other, working towards allyship

Learning Together



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What does Reconciliation mean to you?



- NO MORE SLEEP
- Listen
- Land Back
- DECOLONIZE! LAND BACK!!!
- Learning Along relation
- To learn to Live together It's not too late
- Learn + Respect + Love + Community
- Learning + Listening
- Land Back
- Reconciliation
- WALK FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



WALK FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



SURREY
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Let's connect



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