DISCLAIMER:
This presentation may contain themes that you find distressing.

If you need to leave the Chambers during our presentation to take some personal space, please do so.

A national 24-hour Indian Residential School Crisis Line is available at: 1-866-925-4419.
A note on terminology!

- In this presentation we will be using various terms to refer to different things.
First Residential School opens

The Mohawk Institute in Brantford, Ontario, accepted its first boarding students in 1831.

The creation of the Indian Act

The Indian Act is was used to to administer Indian status, local First Nations governments and the management of reserve land.

Residential Schools start in the West

“In order to educate the children properly we must separate them from their families. Some people may say this is hard, but if we want to civilize them we must do that.”

Attendance is now mandatory

An amendment to the Indian Act made it compulsory for Status Indian children to attend either an Indian Residential school or a Day School.

Last Residential School closes

After 166 years, the last school is shut down in 1997 in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut.
Ground penetrating radar work at Cowessess First Nation locating more unmarked gravesites.
The Search Continues

- No Search for Graves
- Search planned or in progress
- Search completed

Former Residential Schools in Canada
Why here?

- The University of Alberta operates on lands that were not theirs to begin with.
How many flags?

7509

- Orange Flags: 3200
  - Officially recognized by the Truth and Reconciliation
- Red Flags: 4309
  - Additional unmarked graves that have been discovered
ARRC

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee

What is ARRC?

- ARRC is a Standing Committee of the UASU
- We act as a link between Students' Council and Aboriginal students;
- We assist in the SU's implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action.

Where are we on this process?

- 57 ARRC Recommendations
  - 29% (17) are listed as 'complete'
  - 14% (8) are listed as 'on going'
  - 45% (26) are listed as 'in-progress'
  - 5% (3) are listed as 'initial planning'
  - 5% (3) are listed as 'not started'
What is the TRC?

- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada operated from 2008 to 2015;
- Was tasked with documenting the history and lasting impacts of the Indian Residential School System.

TRC Calls to Action

94 Calls to Action
Little Progress
- Justice (25-42)
- Royal Proclamation & Covenant of Reconciliation (45-47)
- Settlement Agreement Parties & the United Nations Declaration (48-49)
- Equity in the Legal System (50-52)
- National Council for Reconciliation (53-56)
- Church Apologies and Reconciliation (58-61)
- Education for Reconciliation (62-65)
- Business & Reconciliation (92)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (77-78)

Moderate Progress
- Child Welfare (1-5)
- Education (6-12)
- Health (18-24)
- United Nations Declaration (43-44)
- Youth Programs (66)
- Commemoration (79-83)
- Missing Children (71-76)
- Newcomers to Canada (93-94)

Significant Progress
- Language and Culture (13-17)
- Training for Public Servants (57)
- Museum & Archives (67-70)
- Media & Reconciliation (84-86)
- Sports & Reconciliation (87-91)
Why are we doing this?

- The conversations have slowly been dying out.
- Reconciliation is not a "once-a-year" event.
- Many Indigenous students still continue to be effected by Residential Schools today.
Our Calls for Action

What can you do to help?
- Share our graphics
- Participate and RSVP at our memorial and get your friends to!
- Engage in personal acts of reconciliation/decolonization
- Support Indigenous organizations
- Seek out further resources
- Join us for Indigenous Celebration Week
- Engage with Indigenous media
Graphics

Please post these on your social medias!

Link can be found here
RSVP

https://bit.ly/2YP0gst
Resource Page

Indigenous Organizations at the UofA

First Peoples' House

The Indigenous Business Students Association

Aboriginal Student Council

Indigenous Law Students Association

Indigenous Medical and Dental Association

Indigenous Nursing Students Association

InSA

Native Studies Student Association
Comments
Questions?
References:

- https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524504501233/1557513602139
- https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/20575c9b2cf241c8be7d17803eac76f1
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