

Voices of Truth and Reconciliation

TEXT ON SCREEN

At Co-operators, we are committed to our journey of Truth and Reconciliation and being a catalyst for sustainable and inclusive societies.

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This year makes 10 years since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission issued 94 calls to action. We sat down with leaders connected to Indigenous communities to reflect on our ongoing journey towards Truth and Reconciliation.

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Reflections

Cadmus Delorme
Founder of One Hoop

In order to get to reconciliation, think of a relationship like two canoes going down a river. One canoe is the Canadian worldview. And that's what we all are comfortable in. That's what makes Canada a developed country. We're not perfect, but we're a developed, moving forward country. But there's also an Indigenous worldview on this land, an Indigenous worldview that has rich history and lessons and tools that we can all learn and use as Canadians as well. We don't compete with one another. We coexist together. We can walk in each other's canoe at any time to make sure that you get the best of that ideology, and we can walk back. When you truly understand what is in that Canadian worldview, but you also understand what's in the Indigenous worldview, you'd be amazed at what you can learn at your own kitchen table and in your work environment.

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Opportunities

Carol Anne Hilton
CEO & Founder, Indigenomics Institute

Reconciliation has to create positive outcomes, and those positive outcomes have to reflect the lived realities of our people today, whether they live in our communities, whether they live on the land or whether they live within urban cities. From my perspective, in the work that I operate and focus within, is call to 92 around creating meaningful relationships and outcomes within the corporate sector with Indigenous peoples and businesses. And I think there has been tremendous development and a trend specifically around building

corporate reconciliation action plans and seeing this across many sectors and many industries and even small medium enterprises.

Ann Perry

Executive Director, The Circle Project

Corporations have a responsibility. We all have a responsibility. But the corporations, especially, to take a leadership role and, really going into the actions around, the, the calls to action. Another change that's occurred is, the amount of engagement, that corporate sponsors and corporate partners, and I, you know, the difference between a sponsor and a partner is a sponsor brings, resources, money, sometimes supplies, sometimes, different donations and, then you don't see them again. Co-operators, it's a true partnership. So not only do we have the financial support for our youth program and, TRC partnership, that's very, very critical, to be able to bring the word to the, the rest of the community. But there's also, you know, in our, in our lunch program, we have employees of Co-operators come over and make lunches and again, it doesn't sound like a lot, but it's another action that occurs to help with reconciliation. And these Co-operator employees are the ones that are coming into the Indigenous community, right into the heart of one of the, what's considered one of the toughest neighborhoods in in the city of Regina.

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The Future

Cadmus Delorme

Founder of One Hoop

To Indigenous people, you know, we live and walk and we carry the weight of our families history and the pride and the challenges that we inherited. And so Truth and Reconciliation to personally me, it shows that we have the talent to be in every room in this country. But sometimes we lack the resources and the partnerships. So regardless of our background, every one of us that benefits on this land today needs to be excited and understand where we're going to land when we all work on reconciliation.

It's not Truth and Reconciliation that you can just do on September 30th or June 21st. This is every day for Canadians. This is calls to action. So Truth comes from the brain and Reconciliation comes from the heart. We have to work on our brain. Then Reconciliation will lead us in many great directions moving forward.