



In this document, we have proposed that school divisions and all educational partners engage in critical/ courageous conversations on race and racism in education with respect to our educational system, with a view to eradicate inequities and systemic barriers. We have also offered some resources and ideas that may help educators engage, facilitate, and nurture these critical and courageous conversations. We hope that this resource will inspire educators and educational partners in Manitoba to hear this and the TRC's "calls to action."

"We want education to provide the setting in which our children can develop the fundamental attitudes and values which have an honored place in Indian tradition and culture. The values that we want to pass on to our children, values which make our people a great race, are not written in any book. They are found in our history, in our legends and in the culture. We believe that if an Indian child is fully aware of the important Indian values he will have reason to be proud of our race and of himself as an Indian....

The gap between our people and those who have chosen, often gladly, to join us as residents of this beautiful and bountiful country, is vast when it comes to mutual understanding and appreciation of differences. To overcome this, it is essential that Canadian children of every racial origin have the opportunity during their school days to learn about the history, customs and culture of this country's original inhabitants and first citizens. We propose that education authorities, especially those in Ministries of Education, should provide for this in the curricula and texts which are chosen for use in Canadian schools."

– *National Indian Brotherhood/Assembly of First Nations (1972)*

“Finally, there is no reason for anyone who wants to contribute to the reconciliation process to wait until the publication of the Commission’s final reports. There is an opportunity now for Canadians to engage in this work, to make their own contributions to reconciliation, and to create new truths about our country. As Assembly of First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine observed when he accepted Canada’s apology in June 2008, ‘Together we can achieve the greatness our country deserves.’ Our challenge and opportunity will be to work together to achieve that greatness.”

– *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (2012b)*