

Media Call - Canada 150

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To: Gareth Madoc-Jones <GarethMadocJones@mail.carleton.ca>;

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Good Morning Mr. Madoc-Jones.

In response to your enquiry, please refer to the Q&A below.

Q1. Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples is now one of the main themes for the Government of Canada's vision for the 150th anniversary of Confederation. Why was the decision made to include Indigenous Peoples as part of the 150th anniversary?

A1. As specified in the Speech from the Throne, the Government will undertake to renew, nation-to-nation, the relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples, one based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership. Furthermore, this theme has been identified as a priority in the mandate letter of the Minister of Canadian Heritage.

Q2. What should Canadians expect to see as far as reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples during the 150th anniversary? Events etc.?

A2. National Reconciliation is one of four proposed Canada 150 priority areas through which we intend to foster a strong understanding and appreciation of our rich and diverse culture and heritage and in the spirit of bringing Canadians together, sharing indigenous culture will enable Canadians to celebrate differences and recognize commonalities to build the national relationship between indigenous and non-indigenous Canadians.

The Government of Canada is currently reviewing the plans for celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Confederation. The Canada 150 plans will be communicated in due course.

Q3. How much funding will be allocated toward reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples as part of the 150th anniversary?

A3. The Government of Canada created the Canada 150 Fund to promote Canadian values, culture and history, to support opportunities for Canadians to participate in local, regional, and national celebrations and bring citizens together to celebrate the country's 150th anniversary of Confederation. It represents \$210 million over four years.

Indigenous Reconciliation is one of the four themes for Canada 150. The others themes are diversity and inclusion, youth and environment.

If an organization wish to apply for funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage's Canada 150 Fund, please contact a Canadian Heritage program officer to get an application kit.

For further information and the contact information, please visit Canada.ca/150 - Canada 150 Fund.

Q4. Will the government of Canada collaborate with First Nations people to realize the vision of reconciliation for Indigenous people as part of the 150 anniversary? If so, who will the government look to within the First Nations communities for this collaboration?

A4. Consultations on Canada 150 led by the Government of Canada included Indigenous organizations from across the Country. The government of Canada will continue to engage with Indigenous organizations with regards to Canada 150.

Q5. Will the government of Canada also recognize other historical wrongs such as the Chinese head tax, the internment of Japanese Canadians during World War II and the Komagata Maru incident as part of the 150th anniversary?

A5. The Government of Canada is currently reviewing the plans for celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Confederation. These plans will be communicated in due course.

Q6. The previous Canadian government placed a heavy emphasis on war commemorations in the lead up to Canada 150. Will the current government continue to place a heavy emphasis on the War of 1812 and involvement in World Wars?

A6. While the government of Canada has commemorated a number of milestones in the lead-up to 2017, the four themes for Canada 150 are:

- Diversity and inclusion – We want to continue building a welcoming Canada where there is a place for everyone, a Canada where everyone can reach his or her full potential.
- Reconciliation from nation to nation with Indigenous people – We want to support reconciliation efforts with Indigenous people and make use of the 150th anniversary to reaffirm our intent to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Youth – We want to continue to engage young people and give them the means to contribute to our society, because they are the ones who will shape tomorrow's Canada.
- Environment – We want to be the custodians of our environment, because it is a source of our country's wealth and pride. We want to bring Canadians closer to nature in order to strengthen their environmental awareness.

The commemorations for the War of 1812 concluded in December 2014. There has been no change to the commemorations that will be held to mark special anniversaries for events, activities and battles from the world wars. For details on the commemorations in the lead up to 2017, please see our [Milestones](#) webpage. For details about military commemorations, please contact Veterans Affairs.

Q7. Anything else Canadians can expect in the reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples during the 150th anniversary?

A7. The Government of Canada is currently reviewing the plans for celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Confederation. These plans will be communicated in due course.

Thanks,
Tim Warmington, Advisor, Media Relations Services

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