



TRC announces Saskatchewan National Event to be held in Saskatoon

May 17, 2012 – The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) held a news conference today with First Nations leaders and city officials to announce that the TRC will host its fourth National Event in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, from June 21-24, 2012.

The event will provide the province's almost 28,000 Residential School Survivors with the opportunity to reflect on and share their experiences with the TRC.

“The TRC Saskatchewan National Event is an opportunity for all Canadians, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, to learn more about and bear witness to the legacy of the residential school system,” said Justice Murray Sinclair, Chair of the TRC.

The province of Saskatchewan has the largest number of Residential School Survivors in Canada. Approximately 10 per cent of them reside in Saskatoon.

National Event activities will include statement gathering, traditional ceremonies, survivor gatherings, Education Day, opportunities to witness survivor statements, cultural performances, films and more.

In preparation for the National Event in Saskatoon, seven regional hearings have already taken place throughout Saskatchewan. There will be five more in the province before the end of July.

“The regional hearings in Saskatchewan are among dozens taking place throughout Canada leading up to national events,” said Sinclair. “The smaller hearings give Survivors who may not be able to attend a national event a chance to share their story. Each story contains its own important truth.”

The TRC's National Event and regional hearings will provide an opportunity for Residential School Survivors to share with the commission and Canada the unique experiences of children who attended residential school.

The City of Saskatoon is proud to host the TRC's fourth National Event and is working with the TRC to engage more businesses and community members in this important gathering.



For more information on the Saskatchewan National Event and regional hearings please visit trc.ca

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established as a result of the 2007 Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. Its mandate is to inform all Canadians about what happened in the 150-year history of the residential schools, and guide and inspire a process of reconciliation and renewed relationships based on mutual understanding and respect.

For more information on all national and regional events please visit trc.ca

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