

EDUCATION RESOURCE LIST

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“We are fully committed to the process of healing and reconciliation. ... we invite the Indigenous Peoples to journey with us into a new era of reconciliation, helping us in each of our dioceses across the country to prioritize initiatives of healing, to listen to the experience of Indigenous Peoples, especially to the survivors of Indian Residential Schools, and to educate our clergy, consecrated men and women, and lay faithful, on Indigenous cultures and spirituality.”

Statement of Apology of the Catholic Bishops of Canada to the Indigenous Peoples of this Land', September 24, 2021

Documents from the Holy See

Many of the documents presented below are also linked on the CCCB's resource page, along with other relevant documents:
<https://www.cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/resources/texts-holy-see/>

Document	Source	Description
<p>Pope Francis. 'Encyclical Letter <i>Laudato Si'</i> Of the Holy Father Francis On Care For Our Common Home', in particular, nos. 146 and 179, May 25, 2015.</p>	<p>https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html</p>	<p>As part of his encyclical letter on the environment Pope Francis emphasizes the importance of Indigenous connections to the land and their care for the earth.</p>
<p>Communiqué of The Holy See Press Office following the meeting of Pope Benedict XVI with representatives of Indigenous Peoples and the Church in Canada, 29 April 2009.</p>	<p>https://www.vatican.va/resources/resources_canada-first-nations-apr2009_en.html#top</p>	<p>Following the Delegation's visit, the Holy See released a brief statement about the meeting. The Pope expressed his sorrow and solidarity with those who are suffering, and prayed for hope and healing.</p>
<p>Saint John Paul II. 'Mass for The Native Peoples of Canada, Homily of His Holiness John Paul II', Fort Simpson, 20 September 1987.</p>	<p>https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/homilies/1987/documents/hf_jp-ii_hom_19870920_nativi-canada.html</p>	<p>This address was given as part of Pope John Paul II's return visit to the north. He spoke specifically to the Indigenous communities present and encouraged them with the words of Isaiah 55.</p>

Document	Source	Description
<p>Saint John Paul II. ‘Meeting with The Native Peoples of Canada, Address of His Holiness John Paul II’, Fort Simpson, 20 September 1987.</p>	<p>https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/speeches/1987/september/documents/hf_jp-ii_spe_19870920_indigeni-fort-simpson.html</p>	<p>Speech delivered at Fort Simpson, NWT, during Pope John Paul II’s return trip to Canada to complete the Apostolic Visit of 1984. The speech particularly mentions the pope’s concern for Indigenous rights.</p>
<p>Saint John Paul II. ‘Radio and Television Message of Pope John Paul II to The Native Peoples of Canada’, Yellowknife, 18 September 1984.</p>	<p>https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/speeches/1984/september/documents/hf_jp-ii_spe_19840918_popolazioni-canada.html</p>	<p>Message delivered by Pope John Paul II after his Apostolic Visit to the North was stopped by bad weather. He returned the following year to complete the visit.</p>
<p>Saint John Paul II. ‘Liturgy of The Word with The Native Peoples of Canada at Martyrs’ Shrine, Homily of Pope John Paul II’, 15 September 1984.</p>	<p>https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/homilies/1984/documents/hf_jp-ii_hom_19840915_santuario-huronis.html</p>	<p>Homily delivered at Martyrs’ Shrine, near the site of Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons (now Midland, ON). Pope John Paul II emphasized the faith of First Nations Christians, particularly Joseph Chiwatenhwa and his family.</p>
<p>Saint John Paul II. ‘Speech of Pope John Paul II to Aboriginal and Inuit Peoples’, Sanctuaire de S. Anne de Beaupré, 10 September, 1984.</p>	<p>EN translation: https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/vatican_text-ste_anne_de_beaupre.pdf</p>	<p>Text of the speech delivered to First Nations and Inuit Christians at the Saint-Anne de Beaupré Shrine in Quebec by Pope John Paul II during his first Apostolic Visit. The Pope emphasized that the faith of Indigenous Christians has enriched the Church as a whole.</p>

Document	Source	Description
<p>Saint John Paul II. ‘Address of John Paul II to The Indians Of North America on the Beatification of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha’, 24 June 1980.</p>	<p>https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/speeches/1980/june/documents/hf_jp-ii_spe_19800624_pellerossa.html</p>	<p>Pope John Paul II’s address to Indigenous representatives on the occasion of the beatification of (now-saint) Kateri Tekakwitha.</p>
<p>Pope Paul III, papal bull <i>Sublimis Deus</i>*, issued May 29, 1537.</p> <p>*The spelling of the bull’s title may vary by source</p>	<p>https://www.newadvent.org/library/docs_pa03sd.htm</p>	<p>Papal bull issued in 1537 concerning the treatment of Indigenous Peoples.</p>

“Like the Good Samaritan we are called to bind up the wounds of our neighbours in need. Together with Saint Paul we must affirm: “It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation” (2 Cor 5:18). This is truly the hour for Canadians to heal all the divisions that have developed over the centuries between the original peoples and the newcomers to this continent. This challenge touches all individuals and groups, all Churches and ecclesial Communities throughout Canada.”

Saint John Paul II, Celebration of the Word at Martyrs’ Shrine, Huronia, Ontario, September 15, 1984

CCCB documents and resources

Document	Source	Description
<p>CCCB media release, ‘Canadian Bishops to Welcome Pope Francis to Canada on Historic Pilgrimage of Healing and Reconciliation’, October 27, 2021.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/canadian-bishops-to-welcome-pope-francis-to-canada-on-historic-pilgrimage-of-healing-and-reconciliation/</p>	<p>This media release announces of Pope Francis’ acceptance of the invitation to visit Canada. The page also includes a link to a brief statement from the Holy See.</p>
<p>‘Statement of Apology by the Catholic Bishops of Canada to the Indigenous Peoples of This Land’, Catholic Bishops of Canada, September 24, 2021.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/letter/statement-of-apology-by-the-catholic-bishops-of-canada-to-the-indigenous-peoples-of-this-land/</p>	<p>Following their Plenary meeting, the bishops of Canada released a statement of apology to the Indigenous Peoples in what is now Canada. The apology includes renewed commitments to truth, healing, and reconciliation initiatives.</p>
<p>‘Two timely issues of special importance to Indigenous People where Catholic parishes, missions and organizations can offer practical assistance’, May 10, 2017, CCCB, in consultation with Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council and Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle</p>	<p>Website page with link to the report: https://www.cccb.ca/letter/suggestions-residential-school-burial-sites-inquiry-missing-murdered-indigenous-women-girls/</p>	<p>The text of a suggestion made by the CCCB to dioceses, eparchies, parishes, missions, and organization in response to the TRC’s Calls to Action no. 41 and 73 to 76. It identified Residential School burial sites and missing/murdered Indigenous women as key areas in which the Church in Canada might offer assistance.</p>

Document	Source	Description
<p>‘The “Doctrine of Discovery” and Terra Nullius: A Catholic Response’, released March 19, 2016.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/catholic-response-to-doctrine-of-discovery-and-tn.pdf</p>	<p>This statement and paper were produced following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action. It details the current understanding of the concepts of the “Doctrine of Discovery” and <i>terra nullius</i>, ideas that have been used to justify colonialism.</p>
<p>‘A Catholic Response to Call to Action 48 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (On Adopting and Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples [UNDRIP])’, March 19, 2016.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/catholic-response-call-to-action-48-2.pdf</p>	<p>This statement by Canadian Catholic groups, along with a list of previous statements, provides background on Catholic support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>
<p>‘Rediscovering, Recognizing and Celebrating the Spiritual Heritage of Canada's Aboriginal Peoples: A Pastoral Message to the Native Peoples of Canada’, CCCB Episcopal Commission for the Evangelization of Peoples, May 1999.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/pastoral-message-for-canadas-aboriginal-peoples/</p>	<p>This pastoral letter to Indigenous Peoples emphasizes the incarnational approach of inculturation and the witness Indigenous Catholics bring to the whole Church.</p>

Document	Source	Description
‘Let Justice Flow Like A Mighty River: Brief by the CCCB to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples’, 1995.	https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/let_justice_flow_like_a_mighty_river.pdf	This booklet provides the CCCB’s brief to the Royal Commission, including its commitments, along with two workshops models for Catholic groups on colonization and Indigenous issues.
CCCB Permanent Council. ‘Towards A New Evangelization: Message by the Permanent Council of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on the 500th Anniversary of the Evangelization of the Americas’, September 14, 1992.	https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/42.-Toward-a-New-Evangeln-500th_anniv_Christopher_Columbus.pdf	This message goes over the main points of the evangelization of the Americas, including papal bulls and early religious opposition to enslavement and exploitation of Indigenous Peoples. It also looks at current issues and looks ahead to a new evangelization.
‘The North American Martyrs’, and ‘St. Kateri Tekakwitha’, CCCB website.	North American Martyrs: https://www.cccb.ca/the-catholic-church-in-canada/saints-blesseds-canada/north-american-martyrs/ St. Kateri Tekakwitha: https://www.cccb.ca/the-catholic-church-in-canada/saints-blesseds-canada/canadian-saints/st-kateri-tekakwitha-1656-1680/	Webpages from the CCCB with information and resources on the martyrs and St. Kateri.

“Who will teach me what is most pleasing to God, that I may do it?”

Name	Website	About
<p>‘National Day of Prayer for Aboriginal Peoples – Rose Prince: an example of goodness and compassion’, Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council, November 22, 2011.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/document/message-for-the-2011-national-day-of-prayer-for-aboriginal-peoples-by-the-canadian-catholic-aboriginal-council/</p>	<p>Media release and link to the 2011 message of the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council (formerly the Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council) on Rose Prince.</p>
<p>‘Message for the 2010 National Day of Prayer for Aboriginal Peoples’ Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council, November 24 2010.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/document/message-for-the-2010-national-day-of-prayer-for-aboriginal-peoples-by-the-canadian-catholic-aboriginal-council/</p>	<p>Media release and link to the 2010 message of the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council (formerly the Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council) on Joseph Chiwatenhwa.</p>
<p>‘Pastoral Message from the Catholic Aboriginal Council for Reconciliation for the National Day of Prayer for Aboriginal People Thursday’, Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council, December 12, 2007.</p>	<p>https://www.cccb.ca/document/pastoral-message-from-the-catholic-aboriginal-council-for-reconciliation-for-the-national-day-of-prayer-for-aboriginal-people/</p>	<p>Pastoral message from the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council (formerly the Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council) on St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe.</p>

Name	Website	About
‘Indigenous Pastoral Initiatives Since the Origins of the CCCB’ interactive timeline.	https://www.cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/indigenous-pastoral-initiatives-since-the-origins-of-the-ccb/	This interactive timeline presents an overview key statements and initiatives, with links to relevant documents.
‘Texts of the Holy See’, resource page.	https://www.cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/resources/texts-holy-see/	This page has links to statements, homilies, and addresses from the Holy See.
‘Indian Residential Schools and TRC’ webpage, and ‘Truth and Reconciliation Commission’, webpage with relevant documents.	https://www.cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/indian-residential-schools-and-trc/ https://www.cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/resources/indian-residential-schools-truth-reconciliation-commission/truth-reconciliation-commission/	These webpages collect a number of important apologies, statements, pastoral letters, and news releases related to the Indian Residential School system and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

“It fills me with joy to know you, I can feel the presence of your love.

Thank you for letting me give you myself just as I am.”

From the prayer of Joseph Chiwatenhwa, recorded in the *Jesuit Relations*

Catholic Education resources

Name	Website	About
<p>Eastern Ontario Catholic Curriculum Corporation (EOCCC)</p> <p><i>These resources have been developed by the EOCCC for use in Catholic schools to help students learn about Indigenous cultures and traditions. They may also be of interest to others.</i></p>	<p>Indigenous learning resource page EN: http://www.eoccc.org/indigenous-learning.html</p> <p><i>Listening to Indigenous Voices</i> curriculum mapping resource: https://iceont.ca/indigenous-voices/</p>	<p>They Curriculum resources and videos.</p> <p>Curriculum resource for the Jesuit Forum's discussion guide <i>Listening to Indigenous Voices</i>.</p>

Diocesan resources

Name	Website	About
<p>Archdiocese of Edmonton</p>	<p>Indigenous relations page, with Q&A: https://www.caedm.ca/IndigenousRelations</p> <p>Archdiocese YouTube page: https://www.youtube.com/c/ArchEdmonton/videos</p>	<p>The Archdiocese website includes a Q&A on recent events along with further resources on Indigenous initiatives, such as an information sheet on the Catholic involvement in the IRS system in Alberta.</p> <p>The Archdiocese’s YouTube channel also has several videos on current issues, including an interview with Chief J. Wilton Littlechild.</p>
<p>Archdiocese of Regina</p>	<p>Indigenous Relations page: https://archregina.sk.ca/indigenous-relations</p> <p>‘Truth and Reconciliation: Ways to Educate Yourself’ resource sheet download: https://archregina.sk.ca/sites/default/files/indigenous-relations/Truth%20and%20Reconciliation%20-%20Ways%20to%20Educate%20Yourself.pdf</p> <p>PSAC video, “Justice for Aboriginal Peoples – It’s time”: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5DrXZUinU</p>	<p>The Archdiocese of Regina has provided a number of resources on Indigenous relations in the archdiocese as well as several general information sheets.</p> <p>The ‘Truth and Reconciliation: ways to educate yourself’ sheet includes suggestions of short videos and films, books, and other resources that may be helpful. The short video by the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) is particularly helpful.</p>

Name	Website	About
Archdiocese de Sainte-Boniface	Resources: https://www.archsaintboniface.ca/main.php?p=1109 Videos: https://www.archsaintboniface.ca/main.php?p=1103	<p>This webpage and has suggestions of webpages and books that may be helpful, along with articles, videos, and statements.</p> <p>The website also has a series of video messages on the subject of reconciliation from Archbishop LeGatt.</p>
Archdiocese of Toronto	Background and resources on Residential Schools: https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/archdiocesan/background-for-catholics-residential-schools/ FAQ download: https://www.archtoronto.org/siteassets/media/offices--ministries/sub-sites/healing-and-reconciliation/residential-schools---frequently-asked-questions---july-2021-en.pdf Bilingual video version of the ‘Statement of Apology by the Catholic Bishops of Canada to the Indigenous Peoples of this land’: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6BazS2PEN0	<p>Background and resources on IRS, with links to further resources.</p> <p>A downloadable sheet of frequently-asked questions is also provided.</p> <p>Video message of the Catholic Bishops of Canada apology.</p>
Archdiocese of Vancouver	https://rcav.org/first-nations/questions-answers#what-did-children-in-indian-residential-schools-die-from	<p>Q&A on the Indian Residential School system and unmarked graves at former IRS sites.</p>

Name	Website	About
Diocese of Antigonish	https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/mikmaw-parishes/	Information page on the Mi'kmaw-Catholic relations in the diocesan area, with Mi'kmaw translations of the Lord's Prayer and the 'Hail Mary'.
Diocese of Hamilton	https://hamiltondiocese.com/residential-schools/	Pastoral letter with a collection of resources on Indigenous issues, including diocesan actions and commitments.
Diocese of Peterborough	Residential Schools information: https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/about-us/residential-schools.aspx Truth and reconciliation: https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/about-us/truth-and-reconciliation.aspx	The Diocese has provided webpages with information, further resources, and background information on the IRS system.

“In defending your identity, your nationhood, your land and our common environment, you challenge all Canadians. A challenge, first of all, to be faithful to the treaties that have been made. A challenge also to be faithful to the truth, rooted in the original creation covenant, commanding all humanity to be stewards of the land and everything that belongs to it.”

Name	Website	About
Diocese of Prince George	Rose Prince's story and pilgrimage information: https://www.pgdiocese.bc.ca/lejac/	Information about Rose Prince's life and the annual pilgrimage to her gravesite.
Diocese of Whitehorse	Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action resources: http://www.whitehorsediocese.ca/trc-call-to-action.html	Further resources and links connected to the TRC's Calls to Action.
Roman Catholic Military Ordinariate	Indigenous resource page: https://rcmilord-ordmilcr.com/indigenous-peoples-peuples-autochtones	Page from the Ordinary's office with information, links, and suggested videos and books.

“I am truly your compassionate mother, yours and of all the people who live together in this land, and of all the other people of different ancestries, those who love me, those who cry to me, those who seek me, those who trust in me, because there I will listen to their weeping, their sadness, to remedy, to cleanse and nurse all their different troubles, their miseries, their suffering.”

Words of Our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego, December 1531.

As recorded in the *Nican Mopohua*, a 16th century account of the apparitions.

