



# Wiping the Tears:

From the Shadows to Reconciliation Condolence Ceremony

## **Basket of Truth and Reconciliation: Learn, Reflect, Act**

Join us in exploring and understanding the history and experiences of Indigenous peoples in Canada. As a precursor to the “Wiping the Tears: From Shadows to Reconciliation” Condolence Ceremony on Monday, April 8, we invite you to share your stories of truth, grief, or reconciliation and put it in the basket.

At the ceremony, these collective words will be burned in a ceremonial fire, representing our grief for our shared history and a commitment to reconciliation in the future. Afterwards, the baskets will remain on each SLC campus to remind us of this important milestone in our communities’ healing.

Select one or more questions from the following, write your answer, and place it in the basket:

### **Introductory Questions:**

1. What comes to mind when you hear the term “Truth and Reconciliation?”
2. How much do you know about the history & experiences of Indigenous peoples in Canada?
3. Have you had any personal experiences or interactions with Indigenous cultures or communities?

### **Understanding Historical Context:**

1. What do you know about the relationships between Indigenous peoples and the Canadian government throughout history?
2. How do you think historical injustices, such as the residential school system, have impacted Indigenous communities in Canada?
3. Why is it important for all Canadians to understand the history and experiences of Indigenous peoples?

### **Exploring Personal Perspectives:**

1. How do you feel about the concept of reconciliation between Canadians and Indigenous peoples in Canada?
2. Do you think you have a role to play in reconciliation? Why or why not?
3. Have you ever considered how your own actions/ beliefs might contribute to or hinder reconciliation?



### **Encouraging Empathy and Perspective-Taking:**

1. Can you imagine what it might be like to have your culture and identity suppressed or marginalized?
2. How do you think historical trauma continues to affect Indigenous communities today?
3. What steps do you think individuals and society as a collective can take to address historical injustices and support Indigenous peoples?

### **Reflections:**

1. What are some misconceptions or stereotypes you have encountered about Indigenous peoples, and where do you think these ideas come from?
2. How might learning more about Indigenous histories and cultures change your perspective or understanding of Canada’s past and present?
3. How can you contribute to creating a more inclusive and equitable society for Indigenous peoples?

**Let us engage in meaningful dialogue, reflect on our perspectives, and act toward reconciliation and understanding.**