



September 30<sup>th</sup> is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a time for Canadians to reflect on the harmful impact that colonial actions, legislation, policy, and institutions, including Residential Schools, the Indian Hospital system, and child welfare systems, have had on Indigenous Peoples.

CAMT (Canadian Association of Music Therapists) declares its commitment to ongoing recognition of and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples:

- We acknowledge and respect that the education programs, degrees, research, and services we provide take place on the traditional territory of Indigenous Peoples.
- We acknowledge our responsibility to work for Truth and Reconciliation and encourage all people in the nation state of Canada to read the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) documents and the Calls to Action, listen to Survivors, learn more about the experiences of Indigenous peoples, and respond with acts of solidarity and support.
- We remain committed to critically and reflexively understanding the profession of music therapy's role in past and present injustices, and to moving forward for a better future.
- We further acknowledge that music therapists work in many different areas of society and that we can uphold the spirit and intent of all the TRC Calls to Action and in particular, numbers 6-12 for Education and numbers 18-24 for Health.
- We are committed to developing and sharing program models, tools, and resources that will improve Indigenous Peoples' access to the music therapy degrees, research, programs, and services.

In terms of research, we endorse the principles of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP) and respect the relationship of Indigenous Peoples to their cultural knowledge, data, and information. We further recognize the responsibility of researchers to participate in knowledge mobilization and redistribution to Indigenous communities and peoples, in gentle, respectful, and effective ways.

Our vision includes fostering a connection between music therapists and Indigenous Peoples to offer time and space for Indigenous Peoples to show us how to support them in taking the lead in healing from the colonialism and to uplift and empower Indigenous Peoples to reclaim sovereignty.

The Canadian Association of Music Therapists is committed to progressively moving beyond a Statement of Reconciliation to the development and implementation of an Action Plan which will be reviewed regularly in the spirit of social justice, equity, an ethic of care, inclusiveness, accountability, and collaboration.

CAMT also calls the membership to action to review their approaches, address biases, and participate in relevant continuing education.

Thank you to the Equity Committee and Tinaya Entz for their input in the creation of this statement.

Signed,  
CAMT Board and Staff

## **Resources**

[Final Report: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#)

[HealthCareCAN Health-Related Recommendations](#)

[Territory Acknowledgement](#)

[Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action](#)

[University of Alberta Indigenous Canada Online Course](#)

[Video: Importance of Truth and Reconciliation](#)