

RAIC Truth and Reconciliation Task Force (TRTF) – Terms of Reference

Membership

There shall be two (2) co-Chairs, one of whom shall be an ITF representative. In addition, two (2) board directors and two (2) RAIC staff shall sit on the committee and two (2) RAIC members at-large for a minimum of eight (8) members.

TRTF membership may be open to invite other Indigenous architects, non-Indigenous architects, guests or allies to join.

Term

January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027. The Co-Chairs shall serve a two-year term, aligned with their membership term. To maintain continuity in leadership, the Co-Chair terms shall be staggered.

Purpose

To facilitate tangible actions that will foster truth before reconciliation within the profession and position the RAIC to lead the profession towards concrete actions.

Work of the Truth and Reconciliation Task Force

The TRTF is asked to review the Truth and Reconciliation Commission final report¹ and the Reclaiming Power and Place report² and the UN Declaration to identify which of the 94 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and 231 Calls for Justice relate to the RAIC's vision³ and mission⁴, and how we all, as Architectural practitioners will breathe life into Declaration Articles. In addition, the Truth and Reconciliation Task Force can identify and recommend **concrete actions** for the RAIC to implement over a three-to five-year horizon. These recommendations should be informed by the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) on June 30, 2021, which provides a framework for advancing reconciliation and Indigenous rights within architectural practice.

Some examples of recommendations (including but not limited to):

- Review RAIC policies, bylaws, award programs, etc. to confirm alignment with UNDRIP.
- Provide recommendations for enhancements to RAIC policies, bylaws, award programs, etc. where needed.

¹ http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf

² <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/final-report/>

³ To establish Canada as a global leader in design and architecture.

⁴ To build a better world for all by empowering a strong culture of design excellence in Canada.

- Collaborate with key institutional partners to provide recommendations and enhancements to the organizational functions.
- Conduct literature reviews on best practices in reconciliation and decolonization practices.
- Compile working definitions to encourage deeper reflexive engagement.
- Seek opportunities to collaborate with and lift up student voices.
- Provide access to truth about colonization (e.g. webinars, education, written).
- Provide advice on how to meaningfully embed reconciliation in procurement practices (e.g. RFPs and contracts).
- Grow knowledge for architects to practice with cultural safety and humility (e.g. gathering available resources, sharing experiences, etc.). Support allied institutions to do the same (e.g. to adopt minimum required education and competency training).
- Support recruitment and retention of Indigenous architects and intern architects.
- RAIC to offer a mentoring program for student/intern architects with established Indigenous architects.
- Sponsor cultural learning exercises as workshop for delegates at the RAIC Conference on Architecture.
- Ensure inclusion and participation of elders and Indigenous knowledge keepers and a respect for the perspective and education at events.
- Support and amplify work Indigenous interns/students/student groups are doing/and/or might be interested in doing (e.g. funded and credited to nurture future leaders).
- Publish a position statement.
- Support and amplify work Indigenous interns/students/student groups are doing/and/ or might be interested in doing (e.g. funded and credited to nurture future leaders).
- Recommend suggestions to the RAIC for ways to recognize and honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
- Include list/summary of various ways TRC Calls and UNDRIP Actions apply to practitioners (as individuals, project teams, firms, working with institutional clients, roles in education & mentorship, etc.).
- Create and share inspiring examples of Indigenous stories i.e. Living QR Map.
- Including environmental and economic reconciliation - to help people understand interwoven implications and potentials.
- Recommend to RAIC ways to advance reconciliation within Provincial Architecture Associations.

Reporting

The Truth and Reconciliation Task Force reports to the Board with respect to its activities. The outcome(s) of the task force will be reported to the board annually, no later than December 31st of each year. A record of the meeting minutes will be kept for organizational purposes.

Timeframe

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2027

Monthly/bi-monthly meetings via tele/video conference as required.