Hope in the City – the Journey

Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was a consequence of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, the largest class-action settlement in Canadian history. Between 2008 and 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission travelled across Canada, hosting seven national public events. The Commission put forth 94 Calls to Action to further reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada, of which only one had a specific deadline. **Call to Action 48** was to be completed by March 31, 2016. It called churches, faith groups and interfaith groups to issue a statement indicating how they will implement the principles, norms and standards of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a framework for reconciliation.

Journey of Reconciliation – The Salvation Army's role

The Salvation Army will be faithful in implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a framework for reconciliation. We understand that reconciliation "is an ongoing process that acknowledges our past with Indigenous peoples, reframes our current relationships and works toward a future based on dignity and trust."

Our goals are to increase accessibility, build trust, raise awareness, educate and develop leadership, and offer support for Indigenous women experiencing violence.

The Salvation Army encourages all leaders to reach out to local indigenous communities to open pathways for dialogue. Each of us has a part in this important process of reconciliation.

The Salvation Army also continues to give hope and support to vulnerable people in London and area every day at the Centre of Hope and the Salvation Army Village as well as through community based programs at our 3 churches with funds raised at our annual Hope in the City Breakfast. The Salvation Army offers practical assistance for children and families, often tending to the basic necessities of life, providing shelter for homeless people and rehabilitation for people who have lost control of their lives to an addiction.

Hope in the City – the message for Advocacy

Guest Speaker

Keynote Speaker **Bob Rae** will bring his message of advocacy for the rights of indigenous people of Canada.