



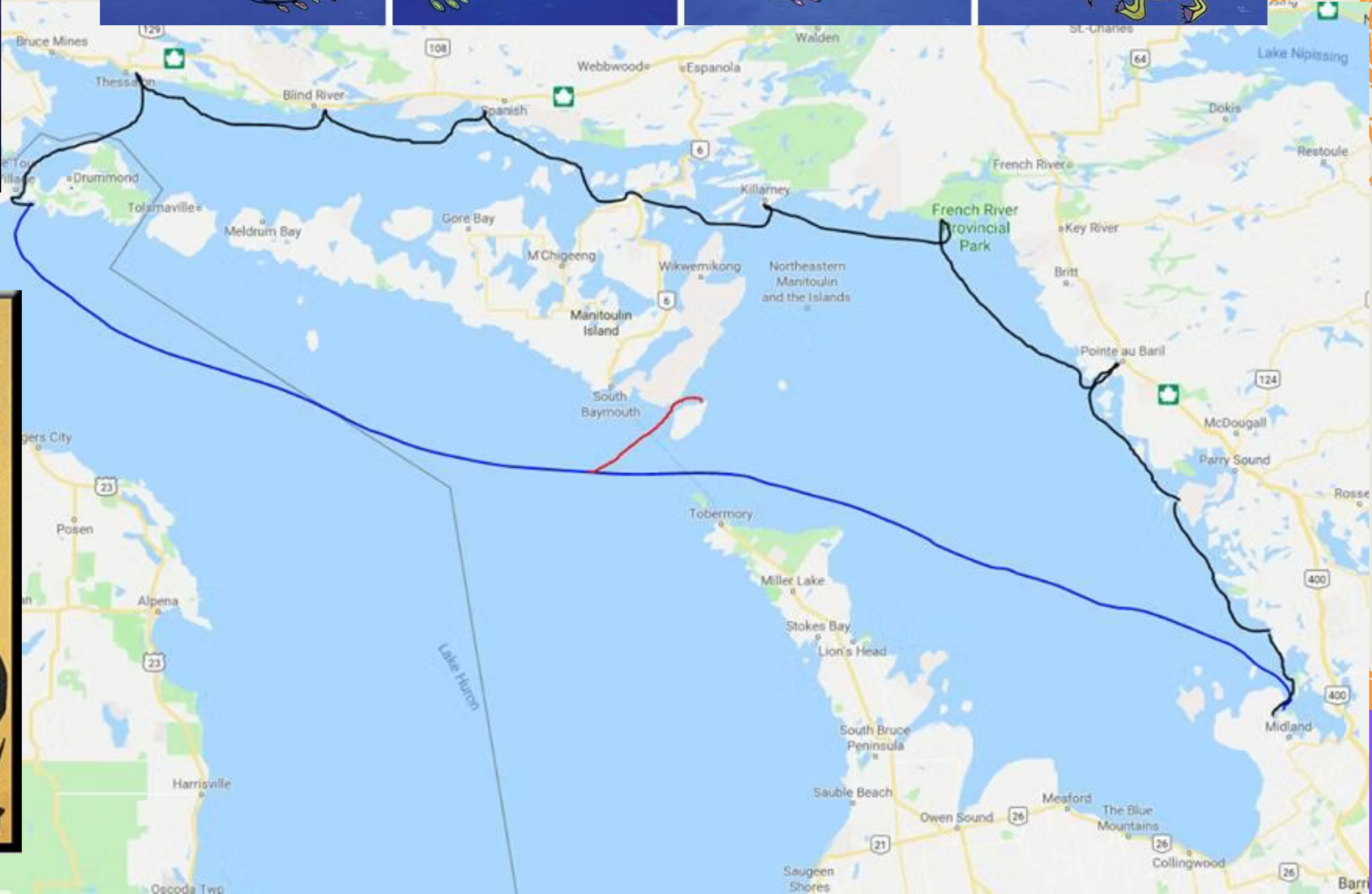
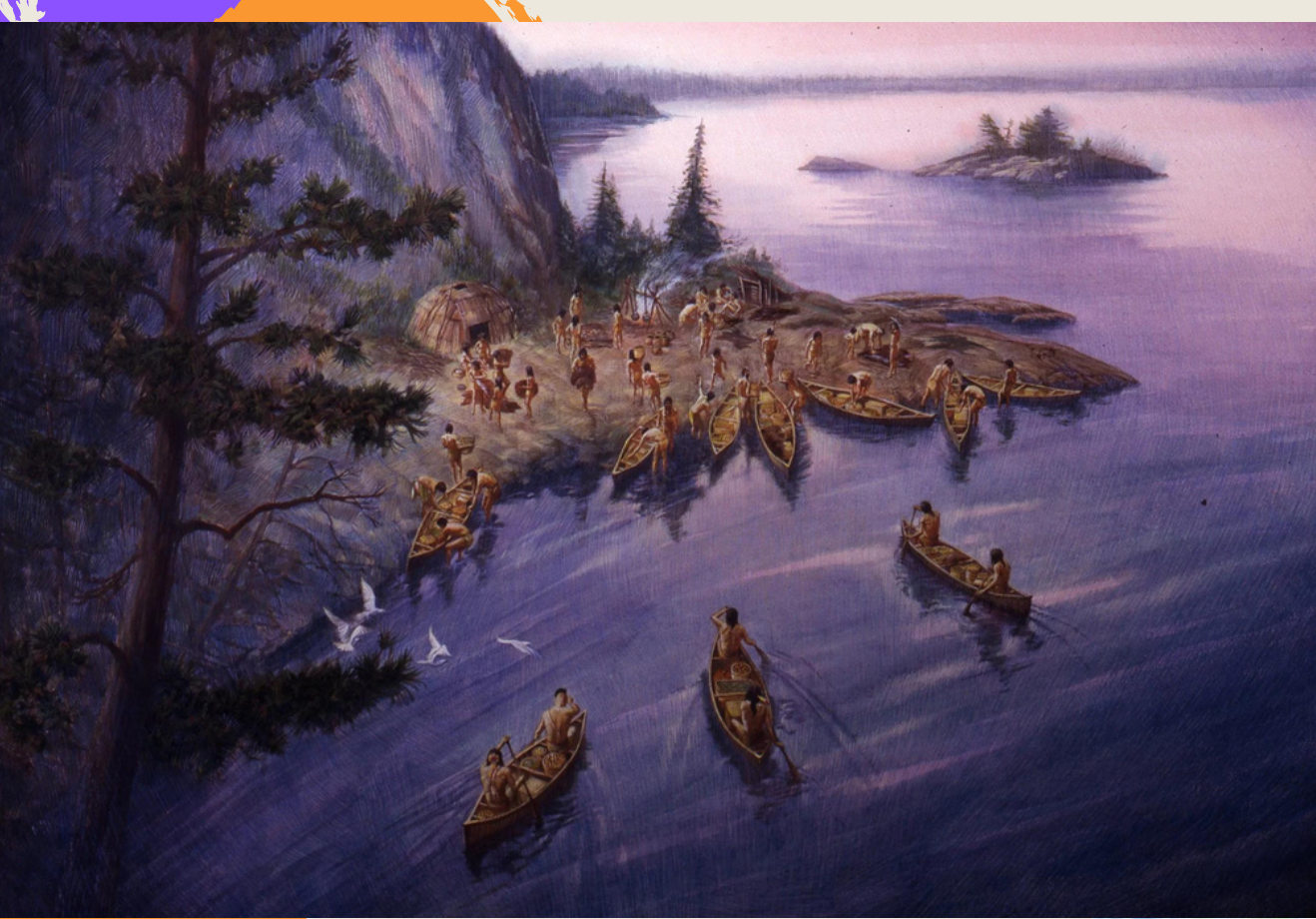
Truth and Reconciliation

The Calls to Action and how it applies
in our work

Presented by Laura and Lily

Overview

- 1 Overview of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)
- 2 Understanding the TRC Calls to Action
- 3 History and Ongoing impacts of Colonization
- 4 The Indian Act and the role of the Federal Government
- 5 Local challenges faced by Indigenous communities
- 6 Practical, actionable ways to support reconciliation in our daily work
- 7 Aligning our professional practice with reconciliation principles



Land Acknowledgement vs Territorial Gratitude



The Indian Act

Control & Regulation

- Enacted in 1876, the Indian Act regulates who is recognized as “Status Indian” under Canadian Law.
- Governs reserve lands, band governance, and access to services.
- Although amended, it remains a system of federal control.

Impacts

- Limits Indigenous self-determination and autonomy.
- Creates dependency through federal funding structures.
- Contributes to ongoing social and economic inequalities.

Timeline

Opening of Residential Schools

Indigenous children are forcibly removed from their families to assimilate them into Euro-Canadian society

1831

1876

Indian Act
Federal legislation regulating and controlling multiple aspects of Indigenous life

Sixties Scoop

Large-scale removal of Indigenous children into non-Indigenous foster and adoptive homes

1960

2008

TRC Established
Government issues an apology and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission is created

94 Calls to Action Released

TRC Final Report is released outlining the 94 Calls to action aimed at advancing systemic change and reconciliation

2015

2026

Present

Ongoing reconciliation involves implementing the Calls to Action, reforming systems, and supporting Indigenous self-determination



Calls to Action in our Practice

Culture

Education

Health

Justice

Child Welfare

Why This Matters

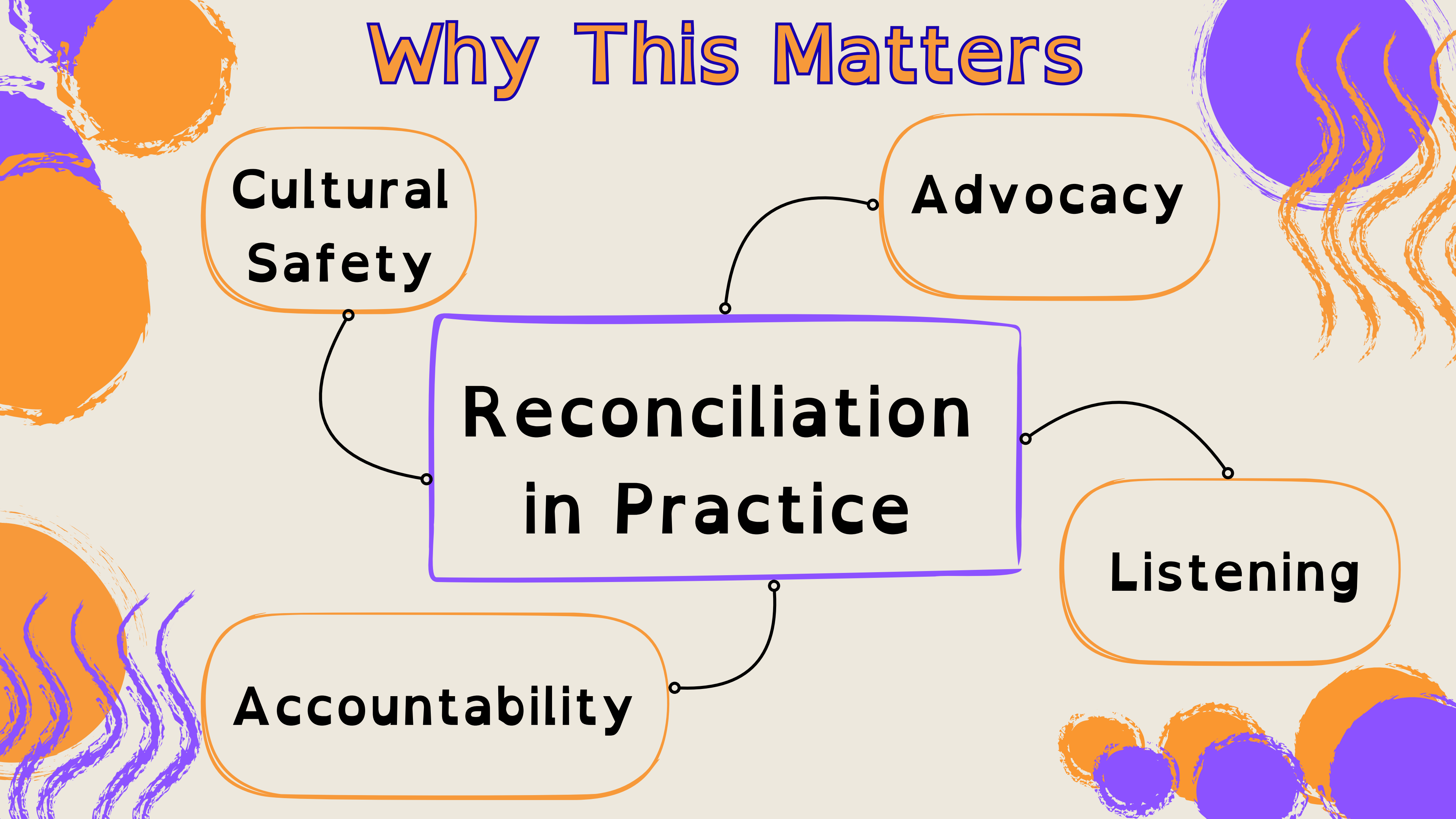
**Cultural
Safety**

Advocacy

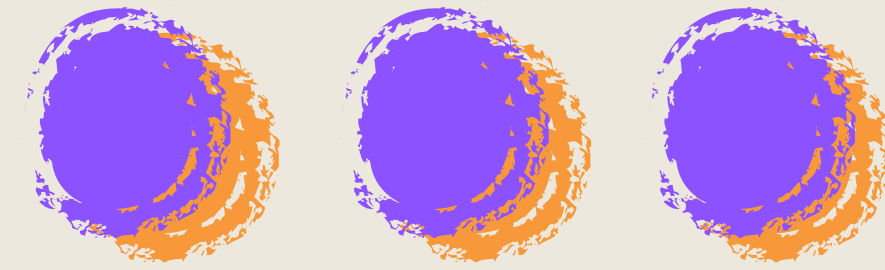
**Reconciliation
in Practice**

Listening

Accountability



Housing



Community Responsive Practice

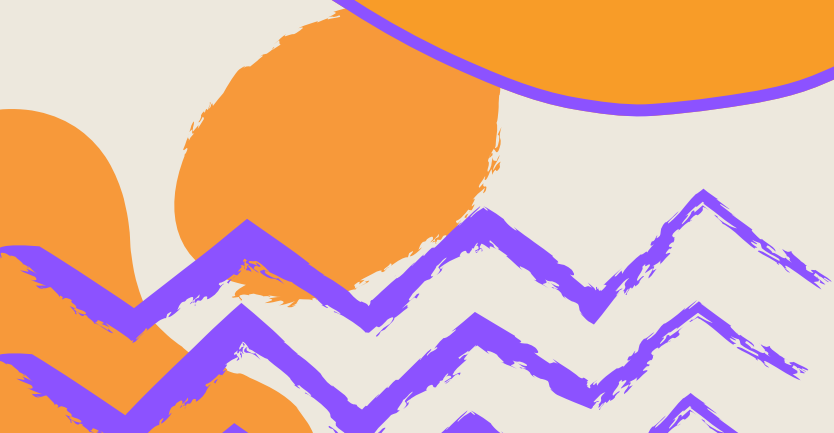
- Uses a Housing First Approach that reduces barriers to housing.
- Provides flexible, tenant-centered support and works to prevent eviction when possible
- Creates inclusive housing spaces, including 2SLBTQIA+ affirming environments

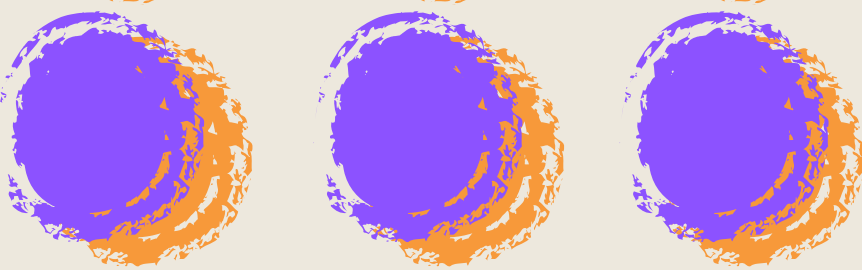
Indigenous-Focused Support

- Works with Indigenous-led partners and community organizations
- Creates culturally safe housing spaces (Smudging, Indigenous Art)
- Acknowledges the impacts of colonization, systemic barriers, and intergenerational trauma
- Draws on holistic perspectives of wellbeing, including the Medicine Wheel and Seven Grandfather Teachings

Connection to the Calls to Action

- Call 18: Recognizing the impacts of colonial policies on Indigenous health and wellbeing
- Call 43: Supporting Indigenous self-determination and UNDRIP principles
- Call 57: Ongoing learning about Indigenous history, rights, and cultural competency





The Crossing (Modular Unit Housing)

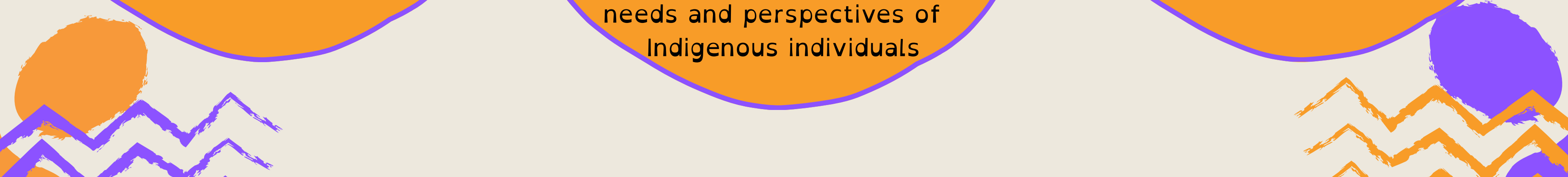
Community Responsive Practice

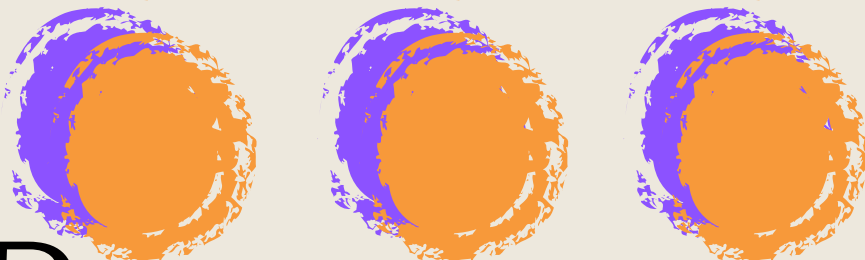
- Utilizing a Housing First approach
- The Program provides ongoing individualized support
- Harm reduction supplies are regularly accessible to residents
- The program partners with community supports to provide more accessible services

Indigenous-Focused Support

- A case management team with approaches grounded in Indigenous perspectives and worldviews
- Programs grounded in cultural practices that promote healing and community
- An enhancement program is utilized to impact supports and policies that accommodate the needs and perspectives of Indigenous individuals

Connection to the Calls to Action

- Call 18: Understanding the impacts of colonial history and policies on Indigenous health and wellbeing
 - Call 57: Engaging in education about colonial history, the rights of Indigenous peoples, and cultural safety
- 



Bail Verification Supervision Program

Community Responsive Practice

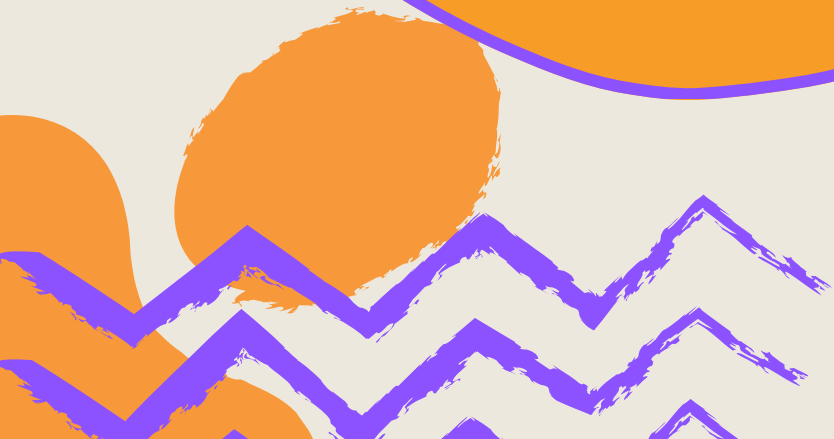
- Local Practice directives shaped by community needs
- Not relying only on standardized protocols
- Case-by-case decision making

Indigenous-Focused Support

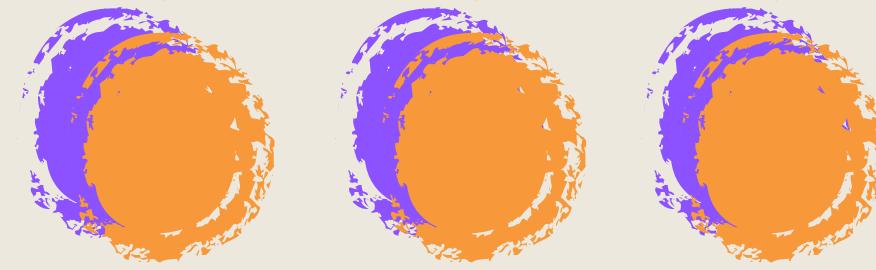
- Designated Indigenous worker
- Holistic consideration of trauma, systemic barriers, and community connections
- Additional discretion in eligibility decisions

Connection to the Calls to Action

- Call 30: Addressing Indigenous overrepresentation in custody.
- Call 32: Creating space for contextualized case-by-case justice decisions.



Court Services



Community Responsive Practice

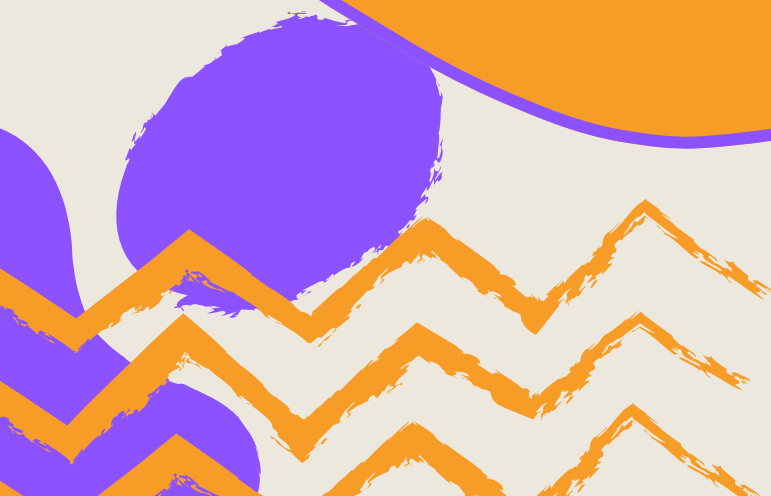
- Provides restorative justice support within the community support court and the Indigenous Peoples Court
- Focuses on keeping people out of custody through advocacy and support
- Uses regular check-ins to help people stay on track
- Encourages accountability while supporting independence

Indigenous-Focused Support

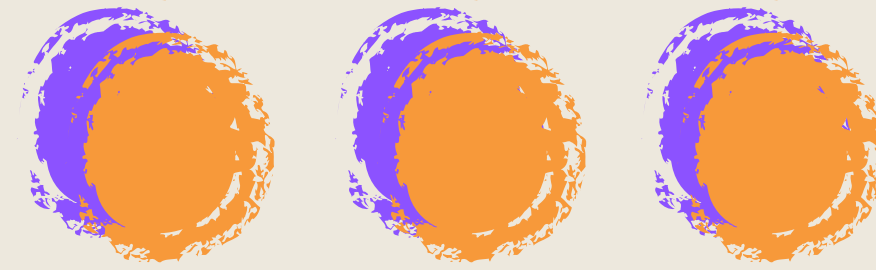
- Brings in traditional teachings and Indigenous perspectives alongside the court system
- Focuses on reconnection to culture, community, and identity
- Connects people with Elders, knowledge keepers, and community supports
- Uses a circle of care approach to build support around each person

Connection to the Calls to Action

- Call 30: Addressing overrepresentation in the justice system
- Call 42: Supporting Indigenous approaches to justice
- Call 43: Supporting Indigenous self-determination and community supports



MAPS Program



Community Responsive Practice

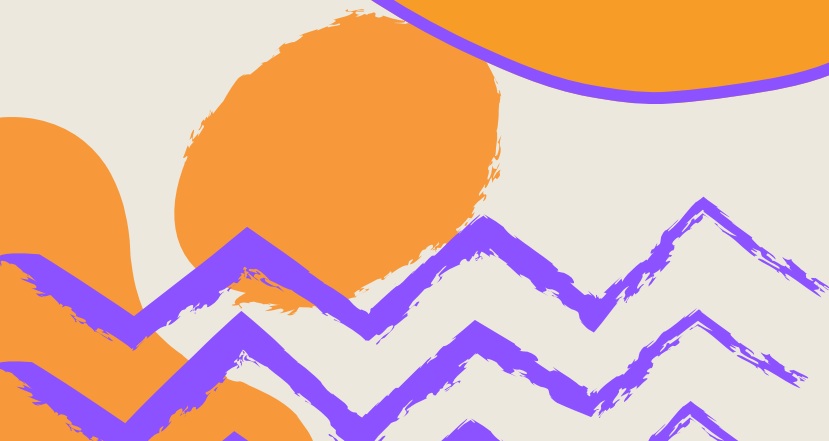
- Supports reintegration into housing, employment and healthcare.
- Advocates within the justice system to reduce barriers.
- Provides ongoing, individualized support based on service users needs.
- Focuses on kindness, respect, and relationship building

Indigenous-Focused Support

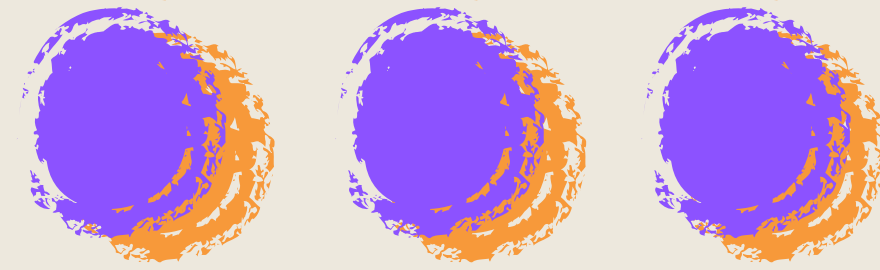
- Works with Indigenous community partners.
- Encourages connection to cultural practices and programming.
- Recognizes impacts of residential schools and intergenerational trauma.
- Supports culturally relevant and community based services.

Connection to the Calls to Action

- Call 30: Reducing Indigenous overrepresentation in the justice system.
- Call 43: Supporting Indigenous self-determination and UNDRIP principles.
- Call 57: Ongoing awareness and learning about colonial history and its impacts.



Community Supports



Community Responsive Practice

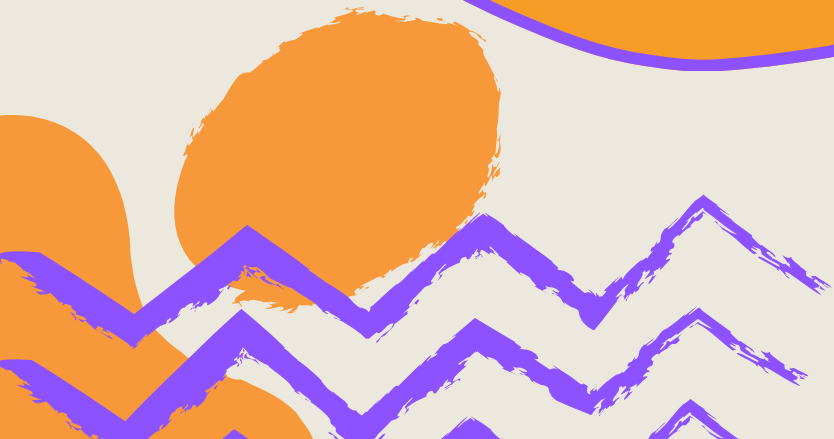
- Uses trauma-informed, flexible, and participant-centred approaches.
- Focuses on building trust, reflection, and reducing shame.
- Offers group, one-on-one, and online options to meet people where they are.
- Supports skill-building, stability, and harm reductions

Indigenous-Focused Support

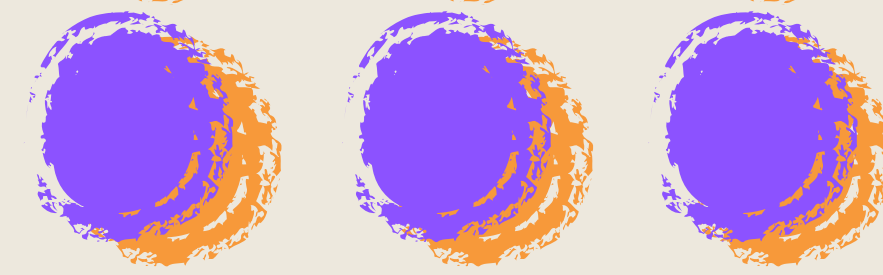
- Recognizes impacts of colonization and intergenerational trauma
- Works to create inclusive and respectful spaces
- Connects with Indigenous-led organizations and services
- Refers participants to culturally specific supports when needed

Connection to the Calls to Action

- Call 30: Addressing overrepresentation in the justice system
- Call 43: Supporting Indigenous self-determination and partnerships



Directors Directives



Organizational Alignment

- Addressing the colonial violence present in systems.
- Utilizing harm reduction, trauma-informed care, culturally responsive approaches, and inclusion of Indigenous perspectives.
- Acknowledging that reconciliation is an ongoing effort

Strengths and Current Practice

- Acknowledgement of harm caused by colonialism
- Understanding the value of relationship building, listening to Indigenous voices, and supporting Indigenous-led initiatives
- Grounding practice in flexibility, willingness to learn and utilizing lived experience

Growth & Moving Forward

- Continued learning in anti-racism and decolonizing practices
- Ensuring reconciliation is reflected in policy, assessment, and funding,
- Advocating for systematic change outside of the organization
- Deepening Indigenous partnership and Indigenous-led program.



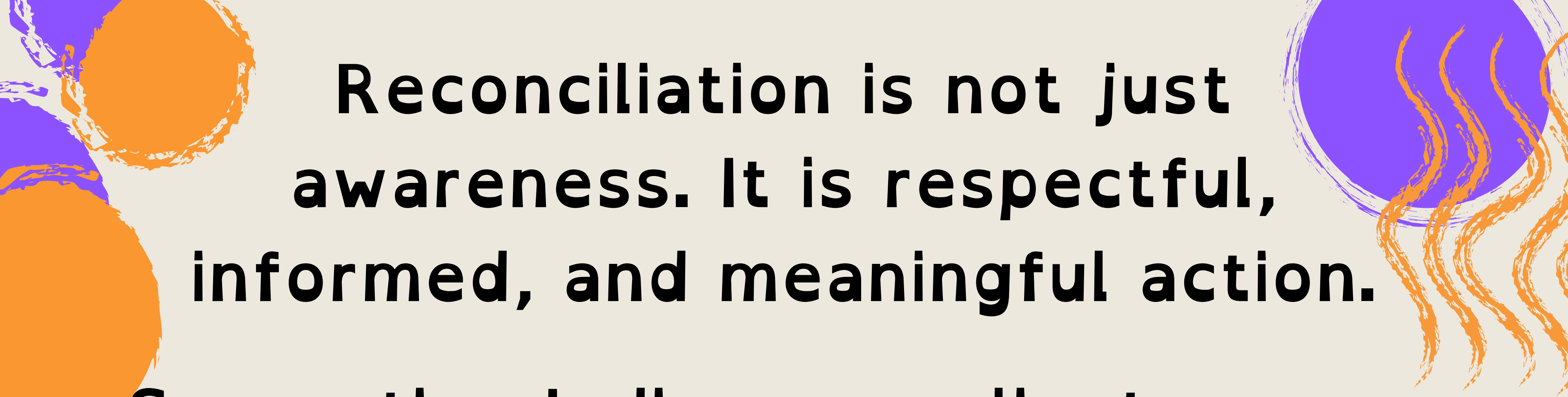
Everyday Actions to Support Reconciliation

- Attend cultural safety training and anti-racism training
- Learn about local Indigenous communities and history
- Integrate Indigenous voices in program planning.

- Ask service users what cultural supports are meaningful to them
- Ensure court advocacy and housing services are culturally safe.
- Challenge bias and systemic inequities when they arise

Actionable Next Steps

- 1 Attend cultural safety and anti-racism training
- 2 Support Indigenous-led programs and initiatives
- 3 Learn about local Indigenous communities and organizations
- 4 Advocate for culturally appropriate services in housing and court programs
- 5 Seek guidance from Elders and Indigenous Knowledge Keepers
- 6 Commit to ongoing reflection and action in daily practice
- 7 Integrate cultural supports into case management
- 8 Support local Indigenous community initiatives
- 9 Set one practical reconciliation goal each month



**Reconciliation is not just
awareness. It is respectful,
informed, and meaningful action.**

**Supporting Indigenous clients means
honouring their knowledge, culture,
and lived experiences while
continuing to learn, reflect, and act
in our daily work**

