

Celebrating Canada 150?

Think again!

There's nothing wrong with a holiday. But on July 1 we're asked to celebrate the official creation of Canada in 1867. What's wrong with that? Plenty!

Canada was built by confiscating the lands, territories and resources of Indigenous peoples (the First Nations, Inuit and Metis). To accomplish this, the Canadian government initiated a campaign of forced assimilation of Indigenous peoples. Assimilation policies were traumatizing for Indigenous peoples, making it difficult, if not impossible, for communities to function as they had before. These are the root causes of much of the suffering that Indigenous communities experience today.

Today, provincial and federal governments keep colonialism going. Despite bold rhetoric in international forums, the Canadian government refuses to recognize many of the fundamental rights of Indigenous peoples, especially the right to control their ancestral lands and resources. Colonialism also continues in the pervasive under-funding of social services for Indigenous peoples. The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal has ruled that the systematic underfunding of social services constitutes a violation of First Nations' human rights.

That's why today across Canada people are taking action under the banner of UNsettling Canada 150.

We're sending a loud and clear message that we reject the colonial system imposed on Indigenous peoples.

UNSETTLING
CANADA 150

WE DEMAND:

- 1) a new open truly nation-to-nation recognition process that begins by fully recognizing collective Indigenous rights and title and the decision-making power of Indigenous peoples throughout their territories
- 2) full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls for Action, including rejecting the colonial doctrines of discovery and recognizing Indigenous self-determination
- 3) full implementation of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on the ground

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Educate yourself about colonialism in Canada. The websites Unsettling150.ca and Groundworkforchange.org are good places to start.

Take action!

Post on social media that you support UNsettling Canada 150. Use any or all of these hashtags:

#UNsettleCanada150 #SupportIndigenousSelfDetermination #Resist150 #UNDRIPIInCanada #FPICInCanada
Get involved with efforts to end colonialism.