



February 10, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of Colouring It Forward Inc and the Board of CIF Reconciliation Society, we would like to ask you for your full support of the Indigenous Gathering Place (IGP). In Calgary, we are sorely in need of a place where Indigenous people can gather, where we can organize programming and more, and particularly a place that is governed by Indigenous people using Indigenous ways of knowing and living and is dedicated to them.

Colouring It Forward works with Indigenous artists and elders to share their artwork and their wisdom in books, journals and other products including orange shirts. We are an Indigenous social enterprise that loves to work in collaboration, organize events and elder's talks. With our sister not-for-profit organization, we organize orange shirt events, language revitalization programming as well as a traveling art exhibit. Our dream one day is to be able to hold these gatherings and events in an Indigenous location and to better support learning for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and to foster connections between the two groups. We believe that programs and services that the IGP plans to offer will help to foster reconciliation in Calgary.

Between 2007 and 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada travelled across Canada and heard from over 6,500 witnesses from the Indian Residential Schools System. In June 2015, the TRC identified 94 Calls to Action, in Action 21, the Commission called upon the "federal government to provide sustainable funding for existing and new Aboriginal healing centres to address the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual harms caused by residential schools".

We entreat you to help make Indigenous Gathering Place a reality.

Meegwetch

--

Diana Frost - Natohyinhsin / Holy Song

Colouring It Forward / CIF Reconciliation Society

Tel: 1-855-500-1166

Ste. 337, 104-1240 Kensington Rd. N.W. Calgary, AB T2N 3P7

cell: (403) 921-3534

email: diana@colouringitforward.com



website: www.colouringitforward.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/colouringitforward

Instagram: [@colouringitforward](https://www.instagram.com/colouringitforward)

I honour and acknowledge that the land I live on is the traditional territory of the Blackfoot, the Stoney Nakoda and the Tsuut'ina Nations as well as home to the Metis Nation, Region III.