

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

PROGRESS UPDATE | 2026



MESSAGE FROM THE SPEAKER

This spring marks two years since the launch of *Legislative Assembly Reconciliation Action Plan: 2024-2028* (RAP), and it is my pleasure to present an update on its implementation.

I extend my deepest appreciation for the ongoing support and leadership of the Speaker's Indigenous Reconciliation Advisory Committee (SIRAC): Taylor Baker, Executive Councillor for Tsawwassen First Nation; Chief David Jimmie (Lenéx wí :ót), Squiala First Nation; and Chief Willie Sellars, Williams Lake First Nation. It is also with profound sadness that I share that Howard Grant (qiyəplenəx^w), Councillor for Musqueam Indian Band and cherished SIRAC member, passed away on March 29, 2026. The *Legislative Assembly Reconciliation*

Action Plan: 2024-2028 is one small piece of the abundant legacy he leaves behind and would not be what it is without his wisdom, care and guidance. I dedicate this update to his memory, and we will continue this work in his honour. Until we meet again, my friend.

I am proud to share that we have made important progress on many commitments set out in the Plan, as we remain accountable to this important work.

Acknowledging that the public conversation around reconciliation in British Columbia is evolving, we will reconsider the timing of an official apology to First Nations on behalf of the Legislative Assembly for historical harms—a commitment we had originally planned to fulfill this year—to ensure it can be delivered under conditions that uphold its full meaning.

This work both humbles and strengthens me. It reminds us that reconciliation does not follow a linear path, nor is it something you can rush. Rather, it progresses with steadfast care and resolve—at times calling us to pause and reflect—so that each step forward is thoughtful and enduring.

Hon. Raj Chouhan

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Traditional dancers in the Chamber at the Parliament Buildings for the introduction of the K'omoks treaty, 2026.



Councillor for the Musqueam Indian Band and SIRAC Member Howard Grant at the RAP launch, 2024.

FIND OUT MORE

Visit the Legislative
Assembly's
Reconciliation webpage



Read the full
Reconciliation
Action Plan



OUR COMMITMENTS

UNDERSTANDING

Commitment #1: We will foster understanding of the historical role and actions of the Legislative Assembly and its role in reconciliation.

Progress to date: Working closely with SIRAC and other Indigenous partners, we continue to work toward planning an Apology Event. Though this has been temporarily delayed, we recognize the need to continue to engage in the right way with our Indigenous partners. Over the past year, the Speaker's Listening Tour continued visits to several First Nations throughout British Columbia.

Next Steps: Continue the Speaker's Listening Tour, with visits focusing on strengthening relationships with First Nations, sharing information on our commitments, and hearing from communities on their priorities.

EDUCATION

Commitment #2: We will provide educational opportunities and resources to Members and staff to enhance understanding of Indigenous history and contemporary issues.

Progress to date: Reconciliation background information, web resources, and core learning webinars continue to be available to all current Members. Many of these resources were provided during the orientation period of the 43rd Parliament and have been supplemented by new opportunities to meet with First Nations leaders throughout the past year. We continue to work towards providing additional and updated educational opportunities.

Next Steps: Identify and share new and updated educational resources and learning opportunities.

INCLUSION

Commitment #3: We will review the rules, practices, and symbols of the Legislative Assembly to incorporate Indigenous cultures and participation.

Progress to date: In February, 2026 the Legislative Assembly unanimously adopted a new Standing Order providing an opportunity for First Nations representatives to address the House during treaty related legislation—an important and historic change. This was put into practice on the introduction of two Treaty bills (K'ómoks Treaty Act, Kitselas Treaty Act) in April 2026. Representatives from the signatory Nations were invited to address the House to open proceedings in a good way reflective of their cultural traditions.

Next Steps: Continue to refine opportunities to incorporate Indigenous ceremonial practices and cultural protocols into the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

REPRESENTATION

Commitment #4: We will ensure Indigenous cultures are reflected in the Parliament Buildings and throughout the Legislative Precinct.

Progress to date: While we work toward an internal review of public spaces and visitor programming, we received a generous donation of contemporary Indigenous art from William P.J. McCarthy OBC, a philanthropist and collector of contemporary Indigenous art, who donated eight pieces of art to the Legislative Assembly. These, in support of the artists, are now installed throughout the Parliament Buildings. We are also working to identify historic Indigenous artwork in the Hemlock Room in the Parliament Buildings.

Next Steps: Look for further opportunities to represent Indigenous cultures throughout the Legislative Precinct.

COMMEMORATION

Commitment #5: We will design and construct a monument in recognition of Indian Residential School survivors and all the children who were lost to their families and communities.

Progress to date: The Commemorative Garden project is well underway. Designs have been shared with survivors and Indigenous partners, with the first phase targeted for completion in late 2026.

Next Steps: Develop the Commemorative Garden and plan for a ceremonial opening.