

The background of the slide is a dark blue-tinted photograph of a church interior. In the foreground, the silhouettes of people are visible, some standing and some sitting. In the background, a large mural or stained glass window is partially visible, featuring a figure with a halo. The overall atmosphere is solemn and reflective.

Indigenous Reconciliation Fund

*A Catholic Commitment
to Healing and Reconciliation*

Overview of the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF)

Dioceses across Canada, in their journey of seeking reconciliation with Canada's Indigenous Peoples, have committed to contributing \$30M over 5 years in new funding to facilitate further reconciliation efforts.

The IRF was established to accept donations from Catholic entities across the country, to advance healing and reconciliation initiatives, fulfilling the \$30M financial commitment made by the Canadian Bishops in September 2021.

The IRF Commitment to Healing and Reconciliation

The fund seeks to support projects that are determined locally, in collaboration with First Nations, Metis and Inuit Partners. The IRF has established the following criteria for grant applications:

- Healing and reconciliation for communities and families**
- Culture and language revitalization**
- Education and community-building**
- Dialogues for promoting Indigenous spirituality and culture**

Overview of the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF)

- ❑ All grants are to be made in support of the four criteria.
- ❑ Sourcing of grants is the responsibility of the Diocesan/Regional Committees.
- ❑ All grants are to be made with Indigenous consultation based upon an assessment of their merit and local value.
- ❑ All recipients must be registered charities (all First Nations Bands are).
- ❑ Grants may be made for up to 7 years depending on a Diocese/Region's financial commitment to the Fund.
- ❑ Approved grants will be made by the Fund directly to the recipient.

IRF Development – How Did We Get Here?

- ❑ In 2021 under the leadership of Bishop McGrattan and Bishop Hagemoen, a Working Group (WG) was established to begin working on the development of the IRF.
- ❑ The WG was comprised of a diverse team of clergy, diocesan team member, legal and accounting professionals.
- ❑ The goal was to develop a guide for Diocesan/Regional Reconciliation Committees, propose a submission process to apply for IRF Funding and develop operational guidelines.

Objectives of the Committee

1. Transparency and accountability for the \$30 million flowing into and out of the fund.
2. Simplicity to establish and administer the fund.
3. Keeping operating costs as low as possible.
4. Independence from Dioceses to protect the fund from claims.
5. Operate like a scholarship fund.
6. Impeccable reputation of Directors.

Four Options

1. Individual Bishops/Diocese receive, allocate and disburse funds.
2. One large fund, centrally administered by an independent fund manager and Board for the reception, allocation and disbursement of funds.
3. One central fund which receives the funds and manages the funds. The fund would disburse the funds based on submissions from regional or ecclesiastical assemblies.
4. The collective amount is entrusted with a national fund set up to support Indian residential School survivors, and to fulfill the goals of the TRC Calls to Action.

Indigenous Reconciliation Fund Overview

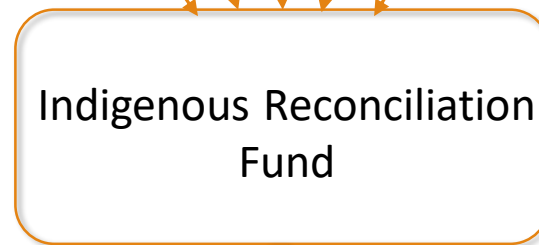
ENTITY

DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS

Dioceses, Catholic
Groups & Individuals



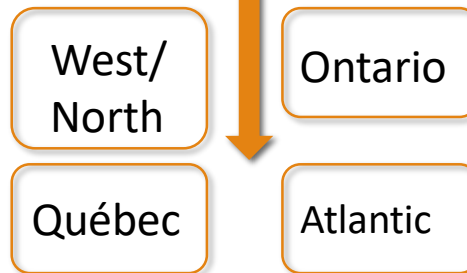
\$



Fund

\$

Regional/Diocesan
Committees



- Collective financial commitment of \$30 million transferred to the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund over five (5) years
- Funds can be transferred on an annual basis or more frequently in response to individual grant funding requests (i.e. just-in-time)
- CCCB Fundraising Working Group establish Guidelines/Criteria for granting⁽¹⁾

- Purpose of the Fund is to demonstrate the collection of the \$30 million of donations from the Dioceses and \$30 million of granting
- Concept similar to a scholarship fund
- Federally Incorporated Not-For-Profit Registered Charity
- Independent from the Dioceses
- 4 Directors, all eminent persons, indigenous and non-indigenous
 - Primary role is to approve grants and oversee the Fund
- 3 Members to approve new Directors and changes to bylaws
- One administrator (former corporate CFO) to manage receipt of funds, requests and grants. One bank account
- Annual audit by recognized national/int'l accounting firm
- Annual report to Dioceses and public

- Dioceses can choose to create their own Committee or join together with other Dioceses to create a Regional Committee
- The Regional/Diocesan Committees would be comprised of equal Indigenous members and Ecclesial non-Indigenous members and be Chaired by an Indigenous member
- Reviews applications, discerns and requests money from the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund
- Annual report prepared by each Region/Diocese Committee for the benefit of parishioners, members of the public and the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund
- Expectation that the \$30 million will be distributed over 5-7 years
- Each Diocese's or Region's total granting amount over its lifetime is the sum contributed by its Diocese(s)⁽²⁾

(1) healing and reconciliation for communities and families, culture and language revitalization, education and community building, and dialogues for Indigenous elders, spiritual leaders and youth that focus on indigenous spirituality and culture

(2) larger regions (i.e. Ontario) may have surplus funds that could support other/smaller regions and Dioceses

Why Option Three

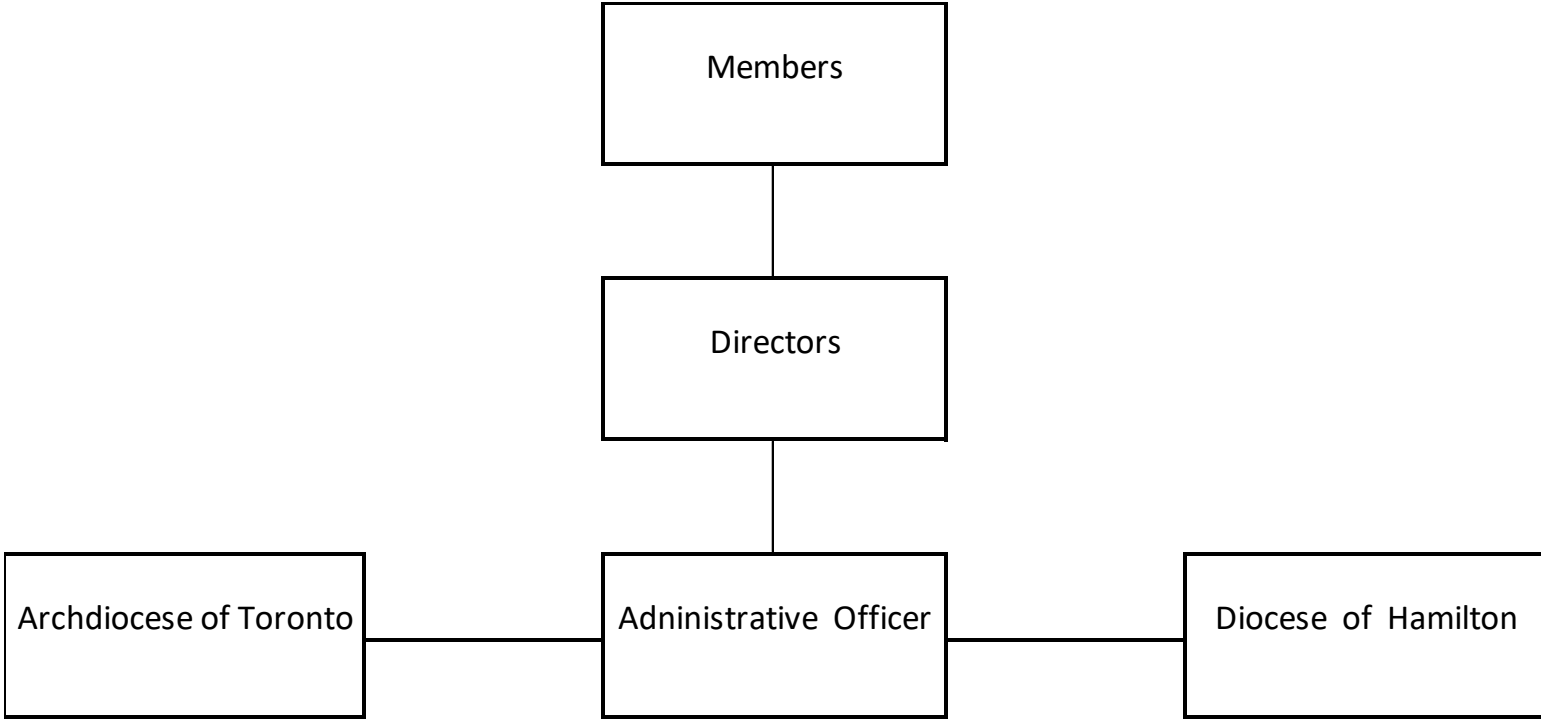
1. It's a clear identifiable national fund distinct from the direct decision making of the Bishops and Dioceses.
2. Provides for a process of local/regional discernment of needs and allocation of decision making.
3. Allows for transparency and provides a central location for reporting and information.
4. Provides protection.

The IRF Fund

The IRF Fund is an independent federally incorporated not-for-profit registered charity with its own Board of Directors, all of whom are Indigenous, with its purpose to:

- ❑ Independently approve Diocesan or Regional funding requests from Diocesan/Regional Reconciliation Committees that are consistent with the Fund's granting guidelines;
- ❑ Independently manage the receipt of the funds from the Dioceses and grant request from Dioceses/Regions; sending funds directly to support approved reconciliation projects and initiatives;
- ❑ Independently, annually report to Dioceses and the public on the flow of money into the Fund and out in support of approved projects.
- ❑ The IRF was incorporated on March 23, 2022.
- ❑ Year end is June 30th.

Organizational Chart



IRF Governance – Members

The Indigenous Board of Directors, are accompanied by 3 members of the Corporation to approve new Directors, revise by-laws and contribute to the transparent and effective governance of the fund.

Nat Gallo – former Supreme Director, Knights of Columbus

Vacant (Recruitment in process) – National President, Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Barbara Dowding – former National President, CWL, Canada

IRF Board of Directors

The IRF Board of Directors has been appointed to oversee the fund's management and approve disbursement of funds to successful applicants. The Directors include:

Rosella Kinoshameg (Board Chair)

Odawa/Ojibway residential school survivor, with over 50 years nursing experience; honorary doctorate in Sacred Letters from Regis College, University of Toronto

Giselle Marion

Thchoq citizen, born and raised in Behchokq, N.T., Director of Client Services with the Thchq government representing Dene people of N.T., law degree from UBC

The Honourable Graydon Nicholas

Lawyer, Judge and Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick from 2009 to 2014. Currently Chancellor of St. Thomas University, endowed Chair of Native Studies.

Recruiting for two additional Indigenous Directors – Metis and Inuit Backgrounds

The IRF Team

CIBC - Banking Institution set-up for the fund and receiving pledges

Legal Firm - MacCarthy Tetrault is in position

Deloitte - Audit firm in position, retained

Communications Firm - Creative Fire to develop IRF Web-Site and assist with the Annual General Report

Diocese of Hamilton - Accounting {volunteer}

Archdiocese of Toronto – Disbursing approved IRF Funds for approved IRF projects {volunteer}

Diocese of Calgary - supporting communications in the interim, CCCB web-site splash page {volunteer}

IRF Administrative Officer – Carol Bragagnolo admin@irfund.ca

How Did We Raise the Funds?

- ❑ Failure to reach \$30M was not an option.
- ❑ 9 Diocese were given targets and asked to do what they could, the hope was to get pledges of \$20M. If we hit this target we were certain the other 60 plus Dioceses could pledge \$10M. We received pledges of \$25M.
- ❑ Asked Diocese to contribute based on CCCB assessment rates.
- ❑ Original pledges - \$33.7M
- ❑ Pledges to date - \$34.4M
- ❑ The hope is every Diocese contributes to the fund.

Where we are Now

- ❑ To date, \$10.3M has been deposited into the IRF.
- ❑ \$187,000 has been donated to Indigenous projects.
- ❑ Overhead costs - \$124, 612.
- ❑ **17 projects** have been approved by the IRF Board of Directors.
- ❑ \$5M has been invested into a GIC / \$4.8M in cash.

Collaborative Effort in Canada

- ❑ Some Dioceses have pledged more than they will spend in their Diocese.
- ❑ These Dioceses are looking to fund Dioceses who have more need than funds.
- ❑ Diocese of Hamilton:
 - ❑ Pledges to date - \$4,160,000
 - ❑ To be spent in Hamilton - \$2,175,000
 - ❑ Pledged to other Dioceses - \$915,000*
 - ❑ Partners to work with - \$1,070,000

How to apply for IRF Funding?

- ❑ Diocese has to have contributed to the Fund up to a level requested. If funds are not available the application will be put on hold and not discussed at the IRF meeting.
- ❑ A detailed IRF application form must be completed and submitted to admin@irfund.ca.
- ❑ Application should be submitted one month a head of the funds being required.
- ❑ Charitable registration number is required, banking information if available will speed up the process.
- ❑ See attached application form.
- ❑ Board and Directors meet monthly.

For questions about the most appropriate Diocese of Regional Reconciliation Committee, reach out to admin@irfund.ca

Where should your Diocese be?

- ❑ Develop a plan to raise the required donation.
- ❑ Diocese needs to develop some internal criteria on how the fund should operate. For example will the Diocese limit grants to a total of \$25,000 per partner.
- ❑ Indigenous Committee should be established.
- ❑ Develop plans to reach the Indigenous community.
- ❑ The West seems to be well into the process while the East is a few months behind.

Unallocated Funds

Donation - Unallocated

<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Deposit	2022-06-27	Unallocated Diocese {Syriacs I Believe}	\$ 5,246.00
Deposit	2022-09-02	Corp Episcopale Cath Romaine D	15,000.00
Deposit	2022-12-21	Admin / Collection	20,000.00
Deposit	2023-01-04	Admin / 2022 Balance	20,000.00
Deposit	2023-03-13	ADMIN / balance 2022	7,085.00
Deposit	2023-04-13	The Roman Catholic Episcopal C	49,985.00
			<u>\$ 117,316.00</u>

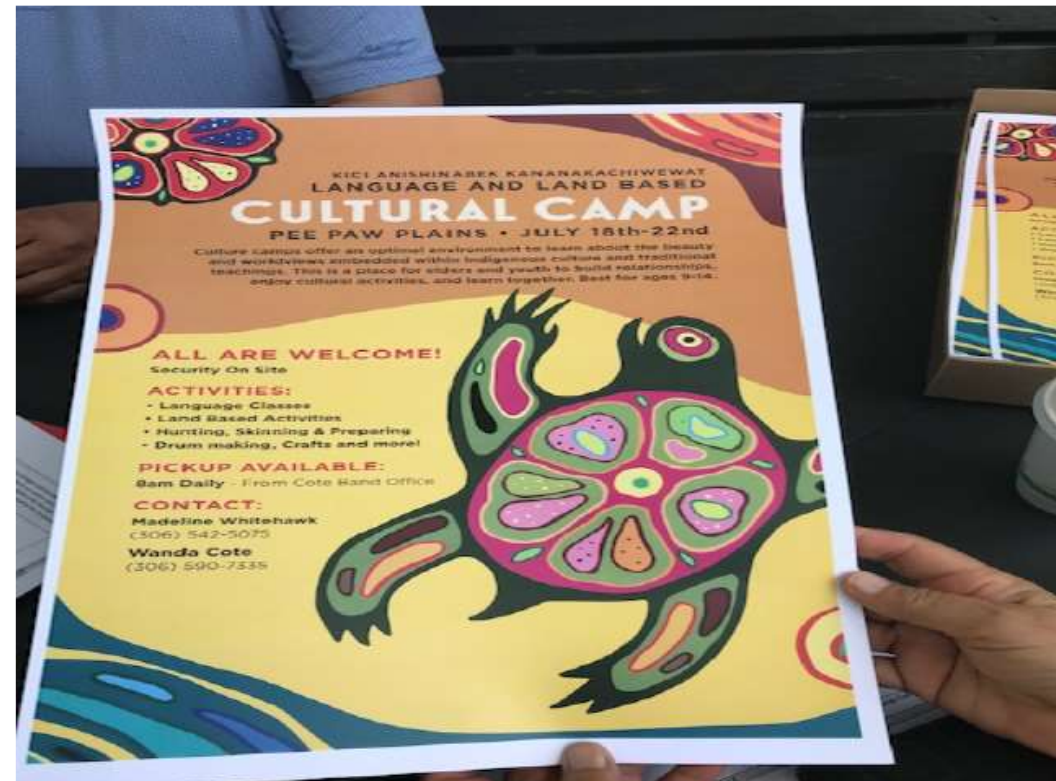
IRF 2022 Approved Project

The Culture Camp for Cote First Nation Youth

During July 17 and 23, 2022, The Cote First Nation Elders' Council offered a culture camp focusing on teaching survival skills, medicine learning, combined with language skills and ceremonial teachings. This was open to all community members.

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Regina

Approved by the IRF Board July 2022



IRF 2022 Approved Project

The Returning to Spirit Program is a healing and reconciliation program, aimed at bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples together to learn, listen and to be reconciled. Insights developed during the workshops create space for participants to discover how previously-held behaviours, judgements, assumptions or perceptions have kept them stuck in a disempowering story.

Sponsored and financially supported, above the IRF funding, by the RC Episcopal Corporation of Keewatin

Approved by the IRF Board September 2022



Returning
to Spirit
Reconciliation workshops

CCCB Splash Page on Web-Site

The IRF has recruited Creative Fire, an Indigenous Communications Firm, to assist the Fund establish its own web-site in preparation for the development of its first Annual General Report.

In the interim, the links to the splash page are found below.

in English <https://www.irfund.ca/>

in French <https://www.irfund.ca/FR>

Our Gratitude

On behalf of the Board, Directors and Members, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your continued support and prayers as we continue on our pathway of hope...

If you have any further questions, or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the IRF Administrative Officer, Carol Bragagnolo at admin@irfund.ca

Keep us in your prayers, as we pray for all who are working on these important projects to advance healing and reconciliation.