



Institut collégial Vincent Massey Collegiate

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Monday, June 21, 2021

Mayor's Office – City of Winnipeg
510 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 1B9

To: Mayor Brian Bowman
From: Iain Riffel, Principal, Institut collégial Vincent Massey Collegiate
Re: Request to sign the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord

I would like to begin by acknowledging with respect, the history, spirituality, and culture of the peoples with whom Treaty One was signed and the land upon which Institut collégial Vincent Massey Collegiate and the Pembina Trails School Division resides. We acknowledge our responsibility as Treaty members and honour the heritage and gifts of the Indigenous and Métis people. We commit to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of collaboration and reconciliation.

The purpose of this letter is to ask that our school please be added as a signatory to the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord. Currently, the Pembina Trails School Division's commitments to the City of Winnipeg Indigenous Accord initiative include:

- To close the achievement gaps between indigenous and non-indigenous students (TRC Call to Action #10).
- To increase inter-cultural competence of all staff (TRC Call to Action #57).
- To promote Indigenous Educational Themes in curriculum including: Contributions and History of Indigenous Peoples, Decolonization, Human Rights, Treaties, Truth and Reconciliation, and UNDRIP – United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (TRC Call to Action #63).

Further goals at Vincent Massey would be to extend the TRC Call to Action #57 to include community and students and align efforts and interests of allies.

In making this request, I represent the voice of student who are part of our Indigenous Youth Leadership group and Kiwanis KEY club and UNESCO club. Over the year, they have identified the Winnipeg Indigenous Accord as a unifying strategy to:

- combat racism and stereotypes;
- promote a positive profile of indigenous students in the community and school; and,
- strengthen cultural identity and pride.

On behalf of the students, staff, and community, thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your response.

Signed on this day, Monday, June 21, 2021,

Iain Riffel

Iain Riffel, Principal