

# TREATY 7



Commemoration of the Signing of  
Treaty 7

# HISTORY

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Treaty 7 was signed September 22, 1877, 144 years ago.

T7 was an agreement between the Crown (Queen Victoria) and First Nations of what is now Southern Alberta.

Blackfoot tribes of Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani, as well as Stoney Nakoda (Wesley, Bears Paw, Chiniki and Tsuu T'ina (Dene), are all included in Treaty 7.



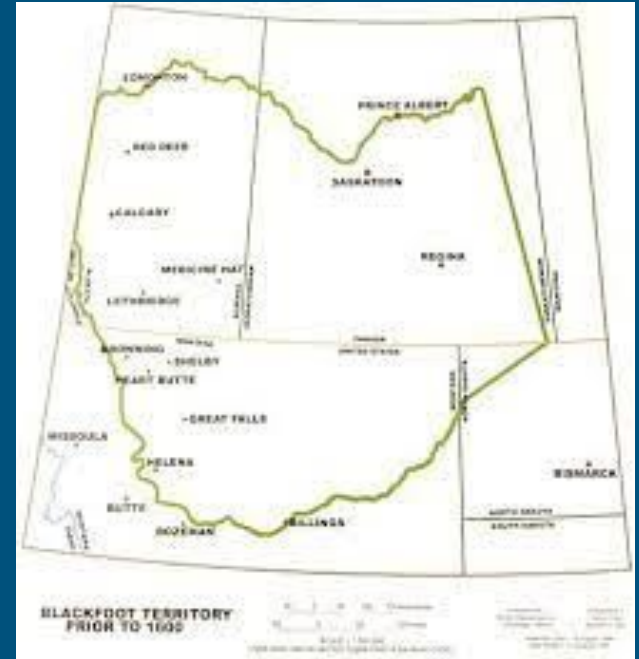
# SHS TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Strathmore High School is located upon Traditional Blackfoot Territory of Southern Alberta. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional territories that are a part of Treaty 7. An agreement lasting as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the rivers flows. Treaty 7 was signed with the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of Siksika, Kainai, Piikani and the Blackfeet First Nations), the Tsuu T'ina Nation and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chinikii, Bears Paw and Wesley First Nations). We are grateful for the traditional knowledge keepers and elders who are still with us today, and those who have gone before us. The province of Alberta is also home to the Metis Nation of Alberta.

# TRADITIONAL LAND BASE

Blackfoot territory includes southern Alberta and beyond and extends from the North Saskatchewan River in the north, to the Yellowstone River in the south and from the Rocky Mountains in the west to the joining of the north and south Saskatchewan Rivers in the east in modern day Saskatchewan.



# AGREEMENT

During the ceremony at Blackfoot Crossing, on September 22, 1877, Chief Crowfoot and fellow Chiefs of all Blackfoot, Stoney Nakoda, and Tsuu T'ina First Nations, contemplated the terms of Treaty 7 with the Federal government.

The treaty was completed after four days of uncertain and difficult negotiations.

The Crown agreed to provide education, health care, agriculture assistance, and annual treaty payments (\$5/year for every man, woman and child), in return for First Nations ceding (give up) their land.



# MISCONCEPTIONS

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Language barriers played a huge role in the grave misconceptions and misrepresentations of the two sides, due to inadequate interpretation and/or deliberate attempts to mislead.

At the time the Indigenous people believed the Treaty was more of a peace treaty and agreement to share the land - NOT TO SURRENDER THEIR LANDS.

This would only be the beginning of years of oppression and demise for the people of Treaty 7 and ultimately one of many treaties signed with many First Nations across Canada, all with the same intent.

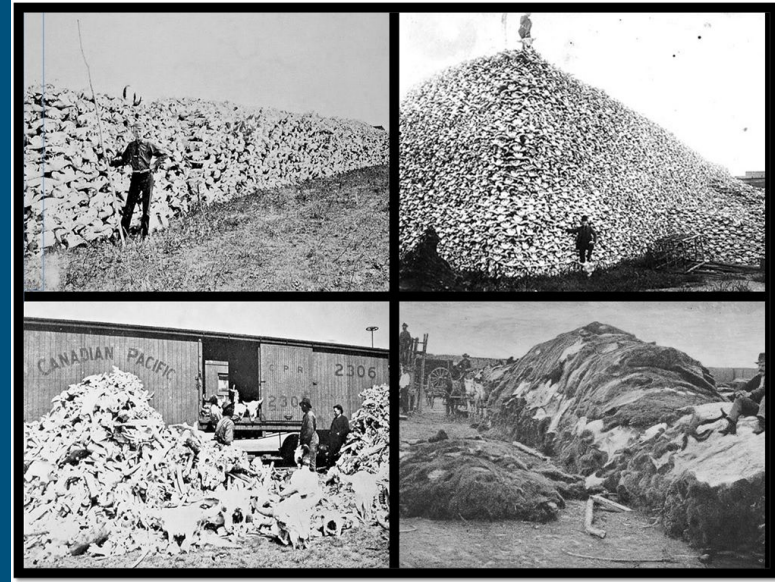
# REPERCUSSIONS SINCE SIGNING OF TREATY 7

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Invasion of settlers on First Nations traditional lands.

Extinction of the millions of buffalo that once roamed the land which were the First Nation's dominant resource for food, clothing and shelter.

First Nations people were forced to rely on the government for their life resources. A ration system was developed and therefore began the dependency on the Canadian Government, hence the Canadian Government/Crown agreement to provide education, health care, and agricultural assistance.



# REPERCUSSIONS Con't

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Residential Schools were built in First Nations communities. The Canadian Gov't attempt to assimilate First Nations people and their culture by ways of control and abuse of First Nation children. "Kill the Indian in the child"

Cultural genocide of the First Nations people was the ultimate goal of the Canadian Government.

The Indian Act was developed to govern and control First Nations people.

Intergenerational Trauma - The aftermath of the attempted cultural genocide is still felt in today's First Nations communities. Symptoms of intergenerational trauma include addictions, poverty, MMIW, the Sixty's Scoop and today's foster care system. Sadly First Nations communities will be fighting these issues for a very long time.



# RESILIENCY OF FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

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Today, First Nations have recognized the damages of INTERGENERATIONAL TRAUMA and continue to work with their people to improve the lives for today and future generations.

The importance of retaining First Nations culture and language has been identified as vital and crucial necessity to preserving their identity.

Thanks to main media outlets (TikTok, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook) and famous icons (Gord Downie, Leonardo DiCaprio, Jagmeet Singh) have developed a modernized platform for First Nations activism.

The awareness of First Nations issues are being brought forth to spotlights all over the world.

Education is key to help prevent racism and ignorance towards First Nations people.

The Canadian Gov't failed to eliminate First Nations people, HOWEVER First Nations people have built their strength and resiliency throughout the last 144 years.