



Changes to Reconciliation in Action Award 2024

Last spring our Women of Distinction Awards introduced a new category aimed at recognizing women making significant contributions to Truth and Reconciliation. The intent of the award was to make a positive impact on the community by encouraging people of all backgrounds to engage in this vital work.

Regardless of intent, we missed the mark, and we know this created tension and caused hurt. We acknowledge this and take accountability for the pain it caused.

We care so much about this work and want so deeply to get it right.

After taking some time to reflect, we have decided to take a pause on the Reconciliation in Action award as it is not making the intended impact.

YWCA Saskatoon's primary focus is serving the women and children who use our shelter, transitional housing and employment programs, the majority of whom are Indigenous. We know this overrepresentation of Indigenous women and youth in our programs is a direct result of colonial systems and policies.



The most important act of Reconciliation we can engage in as an organization, is to continue providing and expanding culturally safe, supportive spaces for Indigenous women and their families, while we continue dismantling our own colonial roots through ongoing internal Truth and Reconciliation work.

To the community of Saskatoon - Indigenous and non-Indigenous - we are deeply and humbly committed to this process.

The path of Truth and Reconciliation is lifelong. We know that as a settler organization, this work rests on our shoulders. We will not shy away from this journey and confronting our own shortcomings. And we will never stop showing up with open hearts, humility and a commitment to learning and growth.

For more detailed information on YWCA Saskatoon's Truth and Reconciliation Commitment you can head to our website:

ywcaskatoon.com/truth-and-reconciliation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Bahr".

Cara Bahr
CEO, YWCA Saskatoon