

**nwmo**

NUCLEAR WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION  
DES DÉCHETS  
NUCLÉAIRES



# NWMO Reconciliation Statement

September, 2018

# NWMO's Journey to Reconciliation

## MILESTONES IN INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

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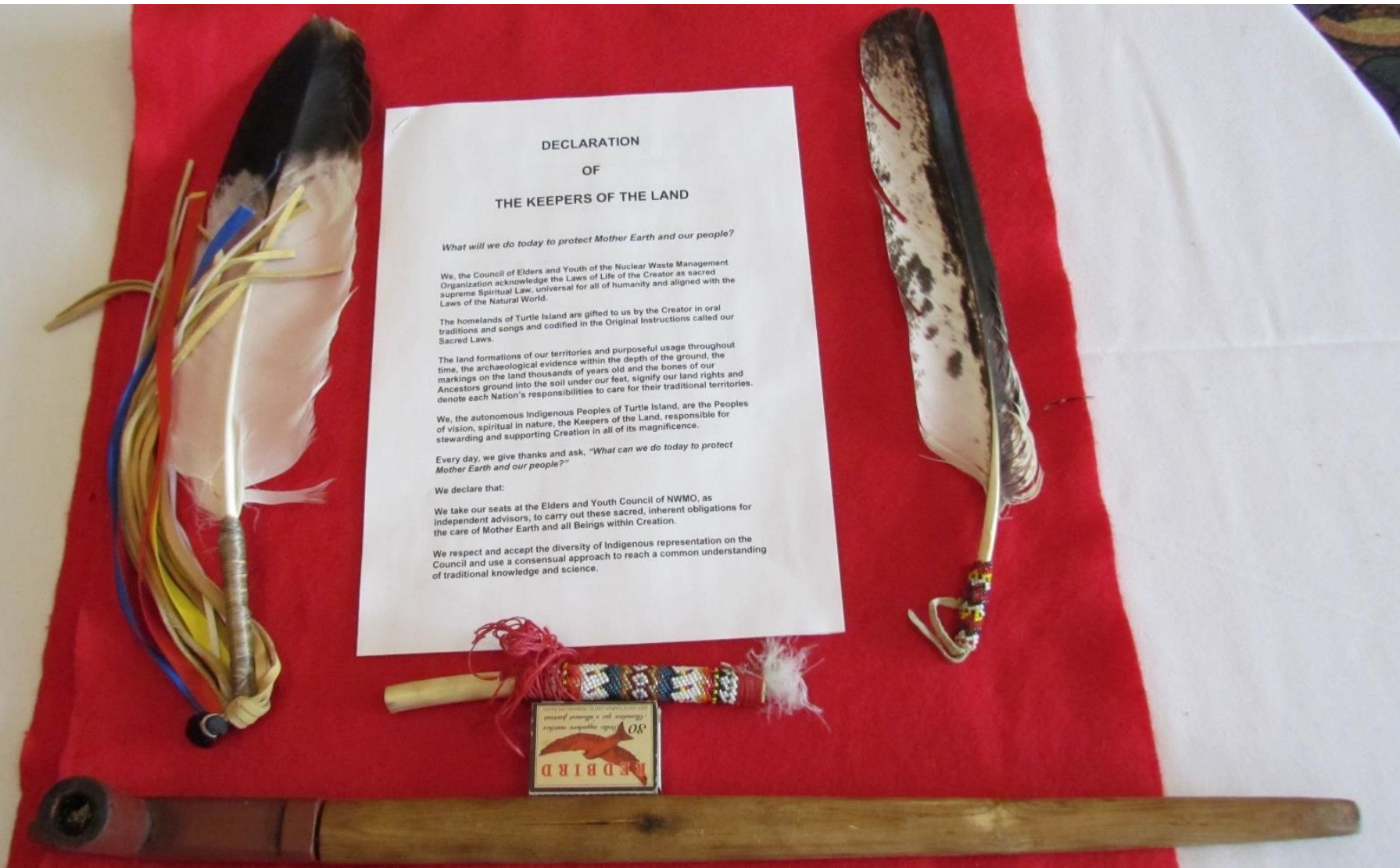
# Council of Elders & Youth

Independent advisory body made up of Indigenous Elders to advise on interweaving Indigenous Knowledge and establishing meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities

- Strong Indigenous Influence within NWMO
- Importance of relationship
- Importance of ceremony
- Staff Cultural Awareness Training
- Aboriginal Policy
- Indigenous Knowledge Policy
- NWMO committing to contribute to Reconciliation



# Declaration of the Keepers of the Land



## DECLARATION OF THE KEEPERS OF THE LAND

*What will we do today to protect Mother Earth and our people?*

We, the Council of Elders and Youth of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization acknowledge the Laws of Life of the Creator as sacred, supreme Spiritual Law, universal for all of humanity and aligned with the Laws of the Natural World.

The homelands of Turtle Island are gifted to us by the Creator in oral traditions and songs and codified in the Original Instructions called our Sacred Laws.

The land formations of our territories and purposeful usage throughout time, the archaeological evidence within the depth of the ground, the markings on the land thousands of years old and the bones of our Ancestors ground into the soil under our feet, signify our land rights and denote each Nation's responsibilities to care for their traditional territories.

We, the autonomous Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island, are the Peoples of vision, spiritual in nature, the Keepers of the Land, responsible for stewarding and supporting Creation in all of its magnificence.

Every day, we give thanks and ask, "What can we do today to protect Mother Earth and our people?"

We declare that:

We take our seats at the Elders and Youth Council of NWMO, as independent advisors, to carry out these sacred, inherent obligations for the care of Mother Earth and all Beings within Creation.

We respect and accept the diversity of Indigenous representation on the Council and use a consensual approach to reach a common understanding of traditional knowledge and science.

# Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)

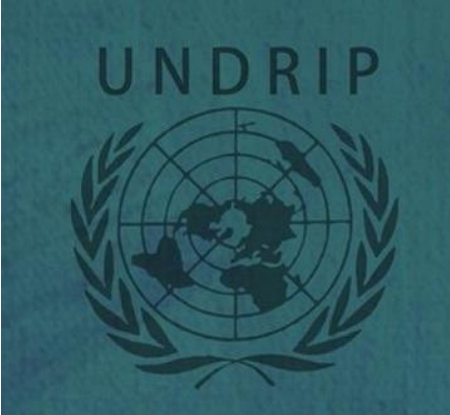


# Call to Action #92

“We call upon the corporate sector in Canada to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a reconciliation framework and to apply its principles, norms, and standards to corporate policy and core operational activities involving Indigenous peoples and their lands and resources. This would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Commit to meaningful consultation, building respectful relationships, and obtaining the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous peoples before proceeding with economic development projects.
- Ensure that Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities in the corporate sector, and that Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects.
- Provide education for management and staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.”

# Other Examples of Reconciliation



# Municipalities & Reconciliation

## Municipal Strategies for Addressing the TRC Calls to Action: a National Scan

Prepared for: City of Brantford  
Prepared by: Nicole Goodbrand, MA  
February 25, 2018



### Reconciling Canada Together

by Clark Somerville · in Community Development, Magazine



### New guide to support reconciliation with Indigenous peoples

City drafts official Statement of Reconciliation

### City drafts official Statement of Reconciliation

May 2, 2018  
Feature Stories

Mayor Jim Watson read an official Statement of Reconciliation on behalf of the City at a Council meeting on March 28, 2018.

The statement was a response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), which was established in 2008 to contribute to truth, healing and reconciliation[1] by exploring the impact of the Indian Residential School system on Canada's First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples. In 2015, the Commission released its report and 94 Calls to Action, which included specific actions for municipalities, as well as for other levels of government, the private sector and Canadians as a whole.





# NWMO Reconciliation Statement

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On **July 18, 2018**,  
the Nuclear Waste  
Management  
Organization (NWMO) issued a  
**Reconciliation Statement.**

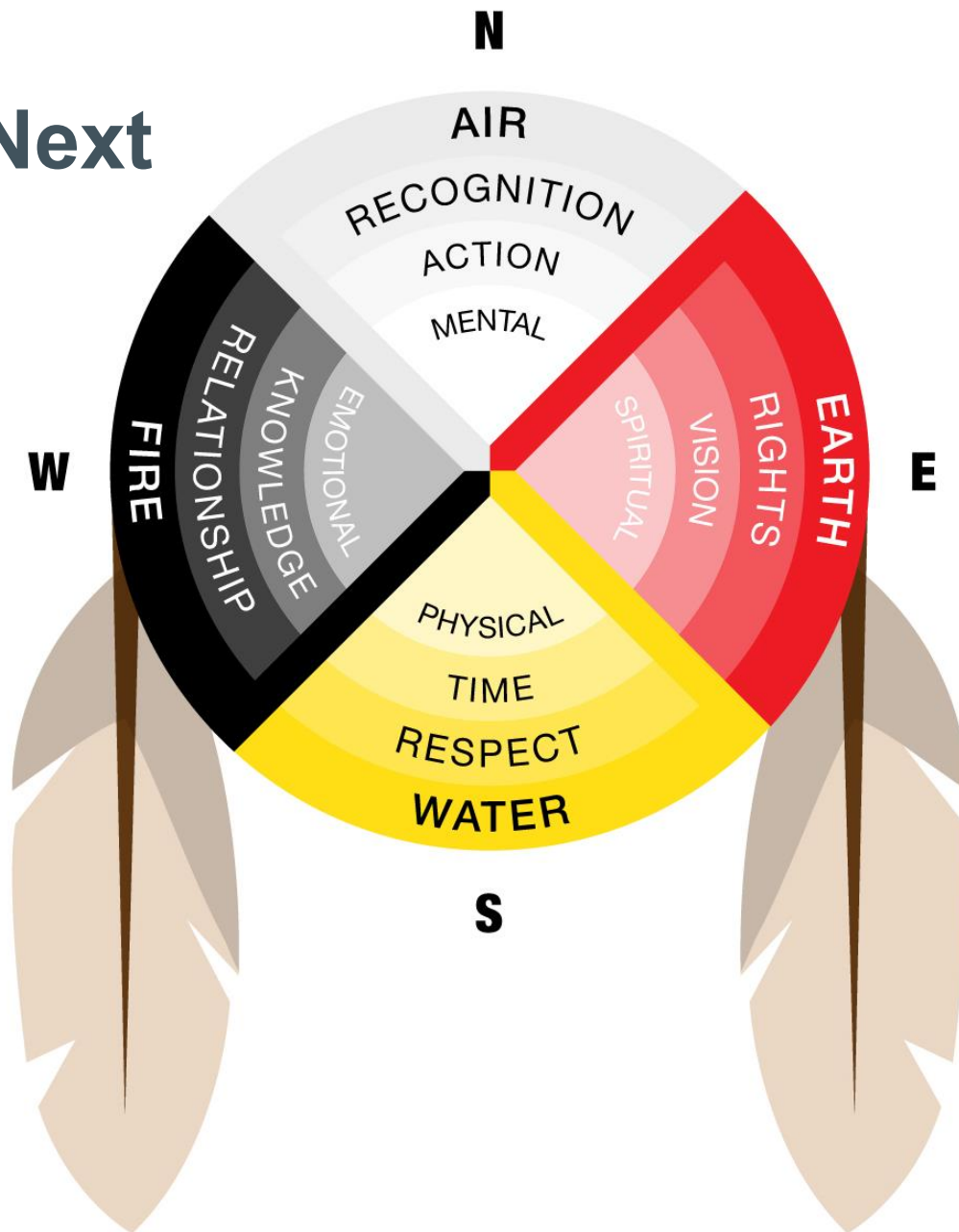
# NWMO Reconciliation Statement

In the context of reconciliation, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) recognizes historical wrongs in Canada's past and the need to create a better future by addressing the challenges of today. The NWMO Council of Elders and Youth speaks of this journey as a new era for humanity – a time of reconciliation with First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples.

The NWMO is committed to contribute to reconciliation in all its work by co-creating a shared future built on rights, equity and well-being. In addition, the NWMO will establish a Reconciliation Policy with an implementation strategy that will be measured annually and publicly reported to contribute to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action.



# What's Next





***“ Reconciliation is not an Aboriginal problem, it is a Canadian problem ”***

**– Justice Murray Sinclair,  
June 2015**