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Library Garden
History of Library Garden

A place of great value and significant cultural activity for the Musqueam people
A commanding site overlooking the sea and mountains
Evolution of the Beaux-Arts Plan
Erosion of the Beaux-Arts Plan
Place of prospect with ancient traditions
Nature at the core
Simplicity and defined openness
Busy crossroads and...
...a place of contemplation
Dynamic identity
Indian Residential Schools History and Dialog Centre
Truth and Reconciliation

This week the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation opened in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The University of British Columbia will house a regional satellite of this facility called the Indian Residential Schools History and Dialog Centre.

A Truth and Reconciliation Commission was a requirement of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement reached in 2007, the largest class action settlement in Canadian history.

The mandate of the TRC included a requirement that it establish a National Centre to house all of the statements, documents and other materials gathered throughout the TRC’s years of operation and, in order to foster Reconciliation and healing, to make them accessible to all Canadians.
Indian Residential Schools

A network of “residential” or boarding schools for Native Canadians (First Nations or Indians; Metis; or Intuit people). The schools were funded by the Canadian federal government and administered by Christian churches - predominantly the Catholic Church (60%), but also the Anglican Church (30%), and other protestant churches (10%).

Years the program operated: 1883 – 1996
Peak number of schools operating at the same time: 80 (1931)
Total number of schools over time: 139
Indian Residential Schools

The policy was to remove children from the influence of their families and culture, and assimilate them into the dominant Canadian culture.
Indian Residential Schools

According to one prominent magazine, reporting on residential schools, Nov. 23, 1907: "Indian boys and girls are dying like flies.... Even war seldom shows as large a percentage of fatalities as does the education system we have imposed on our Indian wards". About 150,000 First Nations children passed through the system, and at least 4,000 of them died while attending the schools.
Indian Residential Schools

Duncan Scott, Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs in 1920, was quoted on record saying, "I want to get rid of the Indian problem...our objective is to continue until there is not a single Indian in Canada that has not been absorbed into the body politic and there is no Indian question". In 1920, it became mandatory for every Indian child between the ages of seven and sixteen years, to attend Indian residential school.
Goal

The integrated planning and design of Library Garden and the Indian Residential Schools History and Dialogue Centre presents a unique opportunity to have a truly net positive development – socially, economically, environmentally – while strengthening campus character by revealing the underlying cultural memory of place. Socially, the main goal is to create a building and landscape that illuminates important cultural, historical, academic and recreational concerns.

Library Garden and IRSHDC Design Brief
Emerging Concept
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