

TAKING ACTION ON RECONCILIATION

In September 2018, CBABC published *Taking Action on Reconciliation*, an action plan outlining our response to the *Truth & Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action*. Here are this year's highlights.

Education and Law Firm Resources

We increased the number of opportunities for members to gain knowledge and understanding and to develop skills to work with Indigenous peoples and address racism. CBABC Sections held 15 virtual meetings addressing topics from reconciliation in employment law to privacy law and the First Nations Health Authority. Branch-wide sessions included:

- *Utilizing the CBABC Reconciliation Response Plan in your Firm*
- *Understanding Systemic Racism in the Workplace – Shifting from Perpetuating to Disrupting*
- *Current Strategies for Fostering Reconciliation and Dismantling Colonial Approaches* in collaboration with the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers BC
- *A Conversation with Chief Commissioner Marion Buller: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls* in partnership with CBA Alberta
- *Litigation as Storytelling: R. v Desautel and the Recognition of the Sinixt* in partnership with WestCoast LEAF

CBA National launched the *Truth & Reconciliation Toolkit* providing ideas and resources for legal employers in the areas of talent management, law and legal traditions, learning and celebrating indigenous communities and more. Over 275 BC members enrolled in *The Path*, a 5-part learning series.

Policy and Law Reform

Agenda for Justice 2021 included seven recommendations in four areas to achieve meaningful change for Indigenous peoples. *Our Indigenous Justice Advocacy Committee* contributed to those recommendations as well as to CBABC's submissions to the provincial *Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act*, and to the BC Law Institute's Consultation on *Modernizing the Child, Family and Community Service Act*. As the province expanded virtual and digital connections to the courts, CBABC highlighted gaps to services in many Indigenous communities and called for increased options for access in our submission to government, *Who's Getting Left Behind?*

Governance & Protocols

The *Truth & Reconciliation Committee* considered options to support more Indigenous students to pursue legal education, and prepared for the review of CBABC's Reconciliation Action Plan. Senior leadership on Provincial Council, the Board of Directors and Committees increased awareness and acknowledgment of the traditional territories throughout British Columbia.

Indigenous members continued to serve on key committees to ensure their voices and perspectives are included. These are *Policy & Advocacy*, *Access to Justice*, *BarTalk Editorial*, *Indigenous Justice Advocacy*, *Truth & Reconciliation*, and *Advisory Committee to Judicial Council*.