Faculty of Information’s Commitment
to the Findings And Call for Action
of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The Faculty of Information is committed to reconciliation in the spirit put forward by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in their Findings and Call for Action. We recognize our role as individual citizens within Canadian society, as part of Canada’s leading university, and especially as educators of future archives, museum and information professionals. Museums and Archives hold a special place in the Findings of the TRC because of their ability to educate the public about the history and legacy of residential schooling. Museums and Archives are also important places where First Nations, Inuit and Metis are reconnecting with their heritage, community-, family- and personal histories.

The commitment to reconciliation comes from our students, staff and faculty. We also hope to inspire alumni, our stakeholders, and our publics through our efforts.

As a Faculty, we commit to:

1. The integration of content about Canada’s TRC, its Findings and Call to Action in required courses for Archives & Records Management Studies, Library and Information Studies, and Museum Studies beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

2. The development of a new elective graduate course on Truth and Reconciliation Committees in Canada and around the world, beginning in the 2017-18 school year.

3. The creation and maintenance of a website with resources and information about the TRC. The site will be student-led, and funded through a dedicated Research Assistantship each year for the next ten years. The site will be publicly accessible, and will begin in the 2016-17 school year.

4. The inclusion of indigenous content into colloquium series, to broaden the iSchool community’s understanding of indigenous ways of knowing, scholarship, and contributions to information and museum studies. To begin in the 2016-17 school year.

5. The establishment of a Decanal Fund to provide $500 a year, for 10 years, to support student, staff or faculty-led initiatives that support reconciliation. Such initiatives can include commissioning works of art; integrating Elders into iSchool classes; developing an exhibition; organizing workshops; or fostering new partnerships with Indigenous organizations.

6. The participation of all iSchool members in cultural awareness training. Current faculty and staff will participate in such a workshop by the end of 2019. New faculty and staff will participate in a workshop within the first year of their time at the iSchool. Students will participate between their first and second year of study.

As a Faculty, we can contribute to:
1. Reconciliation at its broadest. We will seek to partner with organizations such as the Aboriginal Health Network, Metis Nation of Ontario, Toronto Birth Centre, Ontario Library Services North, Southern Ontario Library Services and Keewaytinook Okimakanak in ways that offer the iSchool's strengths to important First Nations, Inuit and Metis initiatives. Co-op, practicum and internship placements at such locations will be pursued beginning in 2016-17 until 2026-27.

As a Faculty, we need to:
1. Ensure our commitment is enacted by our entire community, not a handful of individuals.
2. Ask for help when needed, and continually learn.
3. Honour the spirit of the TRC.