

WORLD-CHANGING KIDS

Writing Letters for Reconciliation

Template for kids ages 7-13 and their families



Topic: Eliminate educational and employment gaps

Step One: Date, Contact Info, Greeting

Sept 29, 2021

The Right Honourable
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1P 5K9

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Step Two: First Paragraph - State your purpose for writing the letter. You can choose one, two or all three of these options or come up with your own.

Education is a fundamental right for every child.

In each of the Treaties signed by the Canadian government and Indigenous peoples, education was a negotiated right. However, First Nations students on reserve currently receive 30-50% less funding for their education than students off reserve.

I am writing to demand that your government eliminate the funding gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children.

Step Three: Second Paragraph - Add info explaining why this issue is important to you. You can choose one or both of these options or come up with your own.

For many First Nations youth, particularly those on reserve, completing high school is an unattainable goal. The graduation rate of First Nations people living on reserve in 2011 was 35.3%, compared to 78% for the general population as a whole. The Assembly of First Nations says that a First Nation youth is now more likely to end up in jail than to graduate high school. We should not be OK with this.

In the Canada of my dreams, all kids have fair funding for school sports teams, technology, language and culture, science labs, excellent teachers and specialists, and healthy food.

Step Four: Third Paragraph - Include clear requests. You can choose one, two or all of these options or come up with your own.

Canada's Indigenous population has essentially become entrenched as second-class citizens. How, in one of the richest, most progressive countries in the world – where non-Indigenous youth seem to have the world at their fingertips – is this allowed to happen?

If racial discrimination against kids is something that we are all against as Canadians, which I hope it is, then we need to take action.

I am urging you to fully implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #7: Eliminate educational and employment gaps.

Step Five: Final Paragraph - Ask questions and request a response. You can choose these questions or come up with your own.

It's time to end the funding gap and tell all children in Canada that their dreams matter equally, no matter where they were born.

Will you commit to making this a priority?

How will you ensure that you are making real progress on this Call to Action?

Please respond with answers to these questions.

Step Six: Closing - Include your name, age and address at the end of the letter.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name

Age

Street Address

City, Province Postal Code