URFA Recognizes National Indigenous Peoples Day 2018

The University of Regina Faculty Association recognizes National Indigenous Peoples Day and the invaluable contributions made by indigenous peoples in our province, across the country, and within our Faculty Association at the University of Regina, Campion and Luther Colleges, and the First Nations University of Canada.

Today is a day not only to recognize but to celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures, and many achievements of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, while also reflecting on the injustices committed against Indigenous peoples in Canada both in the past and today. We all must recognize the ongoing harm that past failed policies and systemic discrimination continue to have on Indigenous peoples, and work towards reconciliation.

Recent events in Saskatchewan have shown just how much more work needs to be done. The verdict in the Gerald Stanley trial resulting in his acquittal in the death of Colten Boushie, and the dismantling of the “Justice for Our Stolen Children” camp in front of the legislature just a few days ago, have brought to light the need to continue working towards removing systemic barriers and implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s calls to action.

Today, URFA also continues its call on all governments in Canada to fulfill their commitment to provide the needed resources to support Indigenous peoples with access to postsecondary education. URFA will also continue its efforts towards promoting indigenization across all campuses, to continue representing the needs of our indigenous members and to promote healing and reconciliation.

Sylvain Rheault
President, URFA