



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Saskatchewan

Our Call To Action

#ReconciliationSK #SaskBBBS

Engage. Listen. Learn. Mentor.

The mission for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatchewan organizations' is to provide quality volunteer-based mentoring programs to youth in the province. Based on this, Big Brother Big Sisters of Saskatchewan are committed to a path of on-going reconciliation with Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples based on mutually respectful relationships within two core commitments of the 94 Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action.

These commitments will serve as a framework for our organizations' action as we move forward on reconciliation. Our responsibility to the Calls to Action is based on the following:

Call to Action #7: We call upon [Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatchewan] to develop with Aboriginal groups a joint strategy to eliminate educational and employment gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.

Call to Action #92: We call upon [Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatchewan] to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a reconciliation framework and to apply its principles, norms, and standards to corporate policy and core operational activities involving Indigenous peoples and their lands and resources.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatchewan recognizes that these Calls to Action require us to be critical and transformative in our current practices and policies and reflective on reconciliation within all facets of our organization.

- **Cultural competency training** within all levels of our organization.
- **Appropriate visuals and written communications** reconfirming our commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.
- **Dialogue and relationship building** to ensure that our organization is receptive to the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal youth.
- **Partnering with the Aboriginal communities and organizations** to ensure quality youth mentoring in Saskatchewan.
- **Creating culturally relevant outcomes** that shift to deeper learning and effective and accountable service delivery to Aboriginal youth

Our organization recognizes that reconciliation is not an end itself but a process of change that is needed in our province. One of our reconciliation initiatives is the Saskatchewan Indigenous Mentorship Project. Our aim is to design meaningful and relevant service delivery that addresses the needs of Aboriginal youth across the province of Saskatchewan. We recognize the need to begin conversations, relationships, and partnerships with the Aboriginal community and organizations to ensure we are creating culturally appropriate services and to ensure sustainability of this project. For this we recognize that we need **YOUR** help!

Help Us On Our Journey To Reconciliation

- **Become a mentor within our BBBS programs:** We are looking for volunteers and mentors who help us that reflect the community that we serve.
- **Share your thoughts:** We would love to chat with everyone but especially other youth serving organizations in Saskatchewan to see if there are places that we could partner to better serve youth.
- **Tell us where to begin:** We would love to attend Aboriginal events in the community both as learning opportunities for the youth in our programming as well as places where our organization might be able to help volunteer with.
- **Help us find the core partners:** Let us know who you think would be great to begin a relationship with our organization.
- **Donate:** if you can to this project to help create sustainability of programming in our community.

As we begin to journey towards culturally specific programming, we welcome your thoughts, ideas, and possible partnerships that would help strengthen our goals as an organization. Please contact our Indigenous Relations Director at (306) 244-8197 ext. 241 or email annie.battiste@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca



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*Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatchewan Inc. is comprised of: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lloydminster, Big Brothers of Regina (serving communities in Weyburn and Moose Jaw), YWCA Big Sisters of Regina, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Yorkton and Area (serving communities in Churchbridge, Esterhazy, Langenburg, Melville, and Rocanville), and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatoon and Area (serving communities in The Battlefords, Humboldt, Melfort, and Prince Albert).