



## **Learn, Listen, Act: Promoting Reflexivity to Genocide of Indigenous Peoples**

*UBC Global Lounge & Resource Centre, UBC  
January 22 - January 24, 2015*

### **STAND'S VISION & MANDATE**

STAND Canada is a national, youth-led advocacy organization working to make preventing and ending genocide a cornerstone of Canadian foreign policy. We are dedicated to providing Canadians with the educational and advocacy tools that they need to take action toward a world without genocide. Our current focus regions are: Sudan, South Sudan, Iraq/Syria, and Myanmar.

As an anti-genocide organization founded and based in Canada, STAND believes that a reflexive and generative dialogue around cultural genocide in Canada is necessary within our organization and of relevance to our partners and allies.

### **OBJECTIVE**

As a Canadian anti-genocide advocacy organization, the recently released Truth and Reconciliation Commission report on the cultural genocide of First Nations peoples has raised many questions within our organization regarding our position in relation to genocide. This conference will convene STAND Canada's national leadership on the UBC campus, hosted by our UBC Chapter, for a robust dialogue on STAND's future in relation to genocide on this land that will engage multiple stakeholders.

The objectives for this conference are open-ended as we listen through consultations, meetings, and events in an effort to understand our responsibility as a Canadian anti-genocide advocacy organization. As a result of the topic of focus, we are excited to build long-term relationships with external allies and local Indigenous groups that may be interested in teaching us and working with us.

In addition, we are committed to bringing together STAND members and the broader community in Vancouver to provide education opportunities through a public documentary screening, speaker events, and an open forum on the role of advocacy organizations in light of the TRC report. All events will be recorded (with participants' permission) and made

available on STAND Canada's YouTube channel for the benefit of our entire organization and other interested parties.

Through this conference, we aim to foster open dialogue and commit to authentic change toward opposing injustice in Canada.

## **SCHEDULE**

### ***January 22<sup>nd</sup>: Learn***

The goal of this day is to learn about cultural genocide on this land. We are working to bring together representatives from local Indigenous communities and Indigenous organizations to teach STAND members and interested community participants about historical and ongoing genocide in Canada and other countries with a similar legacy. The day will conclude with a documentary screening, hosted by STAND UBC and the UBC Women's Centre in the UBC Global Lounge at 5pm.

### ***January 23<sup>rd</sup>: Listen***

The second day will be about possibilities for STAND to change the way our organization is run to reflect a new orientation towards genocide education and advocacy within Canada. We aim to explore what we can do to promote Canadian reflexivity and combat colonialism and Canadian exceptionalism.

STAND is extending an invitation to multiple Indigenous groups, faculty, and other advocacy organizations working to address similar challenges regarding their stance. We are seeking people to participate in consultations throughout the day and host an open forum on "Changing Through Listening: An Open Forum on Promoting Reflexivity to Genocide of Indigenous Peoples," to which anyone may attend. The open forum will take place at 5pm at the UBC Global Lounge.

### ***January 24<sup>th</sup>: Act***

Upon reflecting on the lessons and conversations from the prior two days, STAND's Directors will propose first steps of policy changes and other initiatives within the organization. These steps will be presented at a virtual Town Hall meeting with all STAND Canada volunteers and STAND Chapter members. The conference will conclude with action items in response to the Town Hall meeting that will then be adopted and implemented in the following months. Depending on the resolutions adopted, approval from STAND's Board of Directors may be required prior to implementation in the short term.

We thank you for your interest and hope to see you during the Conference!

## **The STAND Canada Team**

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