

“WHAT RESPONSE?” AN EXTENSIVE REVIEW OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION IN
CANADIAN ARCHIVES

by

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to all of those who believed in me and supported me throughout this journey.

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ABSTRACT

A decade after the Calls to Action were published by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), I have conducted an assessment of the archival community to determine the extent to which they have responded to the Calls. I have completed an extensive review of every Indigenous and non-Indigenous archival organization at the federal, provincial and community level with publicly available information. From the collected reports, policies, standards, guidelines, and academic writing the data demonstrates themes, concepts and practices related to Indigenous sovereignty. The data presents an overview of best practices existing within the field, and I critically analyze them to identify at what capacity the archival community has made progress since 2015. Although work has been done to respond to the TRC in the last decade, my research demonstrates fundamental flaws within the Canadian archival system that hinder reconciliation efforts and show a continued need for accountability within the community.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED

ACA	Association of Canadian Archivists
LAC	Library and Archives Canada
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada
UNDRIP	<i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</i>
UNJOP	<i>United Nations Joinet-Orentlicher Principles</i>
Calls	Calls to Action
SCCA	Steering Council on Canadian Archives
Reconciliation Framework	<i>Reconciliation Framework: The Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Taskforce</i>

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

“...the authors called this an “evergreen framework” and a “living document.”

And we’ve known about unmarked graves since Survivors started disclosing this information to communities decades ago now. Additionally, the TRC had a whole volume on student death and unmarked burials. The conversation about child death and unmarked graves in the context of residential schools is not new. Why wasn’t that considered in the [Association of Canadian Archivists’ Reconciliation Framework] (Fraser, as cited in Frogner et al., 2024, p. 190)

- Crystal Gail Fraser

Ten years have passed since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s 94 Calls to Action were released in response to the ongoing negative legacy of residential schools (TRC, 2015a). Four of the Calls to Action directly speak to Canadian archives and museums to rethink their systems and practices to promote Indigenous sovereignty (TRC, 2015b; Ghaddar, 2021). Designed for the settler, by the settler, and in support of the settler, the Canadian archival system is deeply entrenched in colonialist ideologies (Ghaddar, 2021; Frogner, 2022). Calls to Action #69 and #70 reference the nation state archive, referred to as Library and Archives Canada (LAC), and the Canadian Association of Archivists, calling for change to increase Indigenous sovereignty over cultural heritage. Determined as fundamental in the process of reconciliation, the calls have been a focal point in archival theory, discussion and practice over the last decade (Barrowcliffe et al., 2021; Callison et al., 2021). As such, frameworks, guidelines and policies have been developed to assist

archives in responding to the Calls. Organizations, such as, the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA), the Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA), Library and Archives Canada, l'Association des archivistes du Québec, and the Council of Provincial and Territorial Archivists, designed to assist the archival community have formed committees and released reports dictating the need for change (SCCA, 2022). Call to Action #70 which directly references the Canadian Association of Archivists, asks them to produce a report that can act "...as a reconciliation framework for Canadian archives" (TRC, 2015b). In 2022 the Steering Committee on Canada's Archives (SCCA) published the *Reconciliation Framework: The Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Taskforce* (hereafter this text will abbreviate as *Reconciliation Framework*) stating, "Canada's archival communities must respect First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples' intellectual sovereignty over archival materials created by or about them" (p. 8). This framework has been developed to act as a guide for Canadian archives and in many cases is the focal point of discussion regarding reconciliation within the archival field. However, despite the *Reconciliation Framework* and the decade that has passed since the TRC, the question remains whether Canadian archives and the Canadian archival system have made meaningful and substantial progress towards reconciliation. Does the *Reconciliation Framework* act as an appropriate guide? Are these developed tools being used by the archival community? Recognizing the framework as "evergreen", meaning the document is subject to change, Indigenous scholar Crystal Gail Fraser notes the conversations that have taken place since publication of this document in 2022 including the unmarked burials of Indigenous children (Frogner et al., 2024). In the opening quotation above,

Crystal Gail Fraser recognizes the incomplete nature of the *Reconciliation Framework* by asking what of the unmarked burials of Indigenous children? Where are the children in the framework? Specifically, she states, “Categorizing this as evergreen or living is a good start... What I don’t necessarily see is anyone practising that. And so, some questions that I might have include, what contributions have been made since February 2022 in the sense of reconciliation?” (Frogner et al., 2024, p. 198). Fraser’s questions and comments regarding the *Reconciliation Framework* and Indigenous children are straightforward and call into question the complexities of changing a system that is deeply entrenched in colonial ideologies. She questions the work the archival community has done to respond to the Calls to Action, or more boldly, the work that has yet to occur. It is within this space between the past responses to the TRC and the remaining work to be done in the archival community that my research exists. Performing an assessment of the archival community to determine the extent to which we have responded to the calls, I have completed an extensive review of every Indigenous and non-Indigenous archival organization at the federal, provincial and community level with publicly available information. From the collected reports, policies, standards, guidelines, and academic writing the data demonstrates common themes, concepts and practices related to Indigenous sovereignty. The data presents an overview of best practices existing within the field, such as the implementation of participatory practices and co-creatorship, and I critically analyze them to identify whether and how the archival community has made progress since 2015. Although work has been done to respond to the TRC in the last decade, my research demonstrates fundamental flaws within the Canadian archival

system that inherently hinder the progress of reconciliation as seen in the limited number of sources retrieved from the extensive review.

Archivists and archives alike have been pursuing the removal of complacent colonial structures within their institutions. Research has focused on the analysis and utilization of protocols developed by Indigenous-led initiatives such as the *First Nations Principles of OCAP*, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)* and the *Adelaide Tandaya Declaration* to confront colonization in archives (Callison et al., 2021; Frogner, 2022; Gooda, 2012). Within Canada there has been ongoing professional and academic work within the field of archival studies or archival science in pursuit of implementing the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC, 2015b) by way of deconstructing policies and practices entrenched in colonial ideologies (Barrowcliffe et al., 2021; Callison et al., 2021; Frogner, 2022; Gooda, 2012; Payne, 2022). In this research I do not introduce new primary research on Canadian archivy, the field in which archivists exist. Rather the study provides a much-needed review on current and ongoing reconciliation work in the Canadian archive to assess progress since 2015.

As an emerging professional in the field, I ask myself how a system historically built to support settlers through the suppression of Indigenous peoples (Ghaddar, 2021) can continue to exist? How can archivists learn from Indigenous perspectives towards the archive? How can I respond to the Calls to Action within a system that theoretically and physically exists across an expansive settler nation state? This work goes beyond producing a comprehensive report but acts as a space to inform myself as a non-Indigenous archivist, a way of transitioning from where I am as a settler within the

archival community to where I need to be, working to further Indigenous sovereignty within archivy. In this space the research exists within the lands and peoples I am in relation to, shaping my study design and analysis. The majority of my research has taken place in both Mi'kma'ki (East Coast of Canada), the lands of the Mi'kmaq peoples, and the Coast Salish territories (West Coast of Canada), with my home residing in the territories of the Tla'amin Nation and the ʔayʔajuθəm speaking peoples. The study began as a response to my work as a settler archivist on the lands of the Tla'amin Nation working in a primarily settler-oriented community archive housing Indigenous collections who are limited by a lack of funding, contributing to the low allocation of resources to the development of Indigenous relations policies and practices. I originally aimed to understand how a shift can be made on the community level for non-Indigenous archivists to further reconciliation work by examining best practices within the field of archives. However, as I began to conduct my research, it became clear that little work has been done to respond to the TRC. Prior to understanding how the community level archive can make progress towards reconciliation, it is integral to understand not only what has yet to be done in response to the TRC's Calls but why little progress has been made. As such, the work has shifted to conducting an extensive report on the state of reconciliation work in Canadian archives.

There have been no comprehensive reports outlining the current state of reconciliation in Canadian archival practice and policy. Navigating this challenge, my research data provides an exhaustive list of academic and grey literature related to reconciliation work in the archive at the federal, provincial, and community level following the TRC. Specifically, in this study I address two questions: what current reconciliation practices,

policies, and protocols are being implemented within the archival field and how can the archival community learn from this work to further the response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action? Focused on applying Indigenous methodologies, justice-oriented thinking, and an anticolonial lens, my research critically engages with the sources to demonstrate best practices and identify the gaps in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

CHAPTER 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Canadian Archival System

2.1.1 The History of the Canadian Archival System

The Canadian archival system has a long history in the settler nation-state of Canada and can be understood through the history of the colonial project. Early public archives were designed as a support mechanism and voice of amplification for the newly forming national identity of Canada with the original state archive, now known as Library and Archives Canada (LAC), being developed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century to document and support the creation of a new nation (Frogner 2022; Ghaddar, 2021; Nathan et al., 2015; Payne 2022). Beyond the Canadian “archival system”, Library and Archives Canada has played an important role in the development of the Canadian archival field and in turn the solidification of Indigenous dispossession. Designed to further colonial objectives, the building of Canada’s state archival institution, LAC in the nineteenth and early twentieth century acted as an agent in the erasure of Indigenous presence within culture and history through the support of the settler colonial narrative (Ghaddar, 2021; McCracken, 2019; Luker, 2017).

As explained by scholar Laura Millar, the history of the Canadian archival system has been divided into three distinct periods. The first period from the 1800s to the 1970s saw “a small population of archivists take on a wide range of responsibilities” seeking to document Canada’s past and gather primary sources beyond governmental history (Millar, 1998, p. 105). Beginning as “an expression of public obligation for the acquisition and preservation of society's documentary heritage”, the system began as a

sense of responsibility that brought forth the development of public sector archives (Millar, 1999, p. 46). During this time settler ideologies of the archive were further solidified in the emerging Canadian archival system with the “earliest National Archivists—Brymner, Doughty, Lanctot” dedicating resources to the copying of “imperial European archives for holdings in Canada’s national archives”, actions that continue to impact the perception of the Canadian archival system to this day (Frogner, 2022, p. 219).

The second period between the mid nineteenth century and 1970s saw archivists navigating the responsibility of documenting a growing sense of national identity and managing “an increasing quantity of institutional records” (Millar, 1998, p. 106). During this period the concept of the “total archive” emerged into the archival lexicon, as archivists worked dually to preserve both organizational records and other historical sources (Millar, 1998). “Total archive” is a concept where archives are to acquire collections that reflect the totality of society through a network of archives from the federal to community level to ensure that all significant records are preserved (Cook, 1979). During this period the term “total archive” transitioned into the idea of an archival system where the responsibility for the preservation of records could no longer fall solely to the responsibility of the public agencies but required the assistance from the private sector due to the “decentralization of public function, growing regionalism and diminishing funding for archival institutions” (Millar, 1999, p. 46). The third period from the early 1980s saw division and growing emphasis on individual responsibility over the previously favoured collective (Millar, 1999). With this, more repositories were developed including community-led institutions and an increase in the internal

management of records within government organizations (Millar, 1999). However, despite the division seen within this period, the ideology of a collective responsibility has survived within the Canadian archival system. As such, the idea of the “total archive” remains a prominent perspective.

The development of the Canadian archival system from the late nineteenth century supports the settler and the writing of settler Canadian history. The system has privileged settler history while excluding Indigenous peoples, cultures, legal traditions and stories. Raymond Frogner (2022) notes, “Canadian public archives served as a kind of documentary armoury in the colonial project preserving the textual evidence to enshrine, conceptually and legally, the settler fact” (p. 212). The founding of LAC, the development of the “total archive”, and the biases of early settler archivists continue to affect the archival system today and the barriers Indigenous peoples continue to face in accessing and controlling their own histories. The LAC was built to support and assist the administration and systems that were actively working to remove Indigenous peoples from their lands and national conscious memory (Ghaddar, 2021). Consequently, the Canadian archival system, particularly, the LAC archive became a key component to documenting and preserving the history of the Indian Residential School system.

2.1.2 The Concept of the “Total Archive”

Although not completely unique from other jurisdictions, the Canadian archival system has become widely known for the concept of the “total archive” (Ghaddar, 2021). Laura Millar (1998) defines the ‘total archive’ as an archival management style or concept that meant publicly funded archives would acquire, preserve and make accessible all records in all media formats. Attempting to define the principle in 1979, Terry Cook (1979)

explains the four components of total archives; (1) archives should acquire archival material that reflects the total complexion of Canadian society; (2) there should be a network of archives to ensure all significant material are preserved; (3) archives should actively partake in current record lifecycle management; and (4) all types of archival materials should be preserved” (pp. 141-142). With the implementation of a “total archive” system and the insistence to collect all significant documentation of Canadian history, there are numerous archives across Canada that contain information and records about or created by Indigenous peoples (Fraser & Todd, 2016). The archival system in Canada includes but is not limited to federal, provincial or territorial, municipal, church, university, corporate, private, community and Indigenous archives. The effects of the total archiving system has greatly impacted the process of reconciliation, particularly with the scattering of relevant records regarding the legacy of residential schools across federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, and community archives making it “difficult for survivors, their families and communities to access the very records that hold such critical pieces of information about their own lives and the history of their communities” (TRC, 2015a, p. 264)

Scholars have identified this “inclusive documentary heritage” (Ghaddar, 2021, p. 62) as a tool for the continuation and solidification of the colonial project (Broderson, 2024; Frogner, 2022; Ghaddar, 2016; Ghaddar, 2021; Linden, 2018). Through this “inclusive” process, archives had collected and removed Indigenous heritage from communities. Furthermore, despite the supposed “inclusive” nature of the ‘total archive’, selection and appraisal of archival materials was inherently biased by the settler archivist’s perspective, resulting in the favouring of settler history (Sheffield, n.d.). Rebecka Sheffield states,

“The concept of Total Archives also placed control of society’s records and recordkeeping activities in the hands of one central ‘gatekeeper’. This assumes that the Public Archives is able to acquire records that document all aspects of society and that all communities trust the archives with their records. It also presupposes archival appraisal as an objective process uncompromised by archivist’s personal bias and opinions about the importance of records and record creators” (Sheffield, n.d., para 13).

Sheffield (n.d.) notes that although the creation of the ‘total archive’ was not intended to harm minority groups, the strategy is unrealistic for the “capturing memories of minority groups, activist communities, marginalized populations, or social outcasts” (para. 13). Dr. Jamila Ghaddar navigates the history of the Canadian archival system, centering “Indigenous intellectuals and their allies” to retell its creation story from an anticolonial lens (Ghaddar, 2021, p. 60). Through this, her work has recognized the harmful effects of the ‘total archive’ ideology that is deeply entrenched in Canadian archival thinking. The concept of total archives is an ideology that promotes a collective documentation of Canadian history, which in turn furthers the colonial goal of assimilation by diluting and enfolding the history of Indigenous peoples and prioritizing a ‘sanitized’ view of colonial activities (Ghaddar, 2021, p. 62). Built upon the concept of ‘total archiving’ and colonialist thinking, the history of Canadian archives has historically been an active agent in the colonization of Indigenous peoples. Favoring written histories over oral, constructing archival systems on singular colonial “judicial and cultural context”, early archives and archivists alike produced what Ghaddar refers to as “legal fictions” which at their foundation are meant to suppress Indigenous peoples into the western system of

thinking (Ghaddar, 2021, p. 61). Although the concept of ‘total archives’ appeared in the 1970’s, this thinking based on colonial objectives continues to impact Canada's theoretical and practical archival work. As a country, Canada is commonly known as a ‘cultural mosaic’ encouraging co-existence amongst cultures, however, in its earliest stages of development, Canada highly focused on the assimilation of cultures under the British Crown. This focus on ‘inclusivity’ is the foundation for ‘total archiving’ and as such greatly impacts the core functions of the Canadian archive. Ghaddar’s retelling of Canada’s archival past clearly identifies the ‘total archive’ as another tool to further assimilate and decrease blame directed towards the archival community. Kimberly R. Murray, the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools states...

“...archives across the globe have functioned as colonial gatekeepers, obstructing meaningful access to the truth. Archives are long-ignored systems of power that preserve, organize, and control important information about all levels of government, institutions, organizations, and their representatives within Canadian society. Although characterized as neutral sites of information management, archives were established to legitimize the State’s dominion over natural resources, lands, and, by extension, Indigenous Peoples. The type of information collected and preserved reflects the priorities and perspectives of the settler colonial State” (Office of the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites, 2024b, p. 647)

Murray's explanation of the archive as a colonial tool recognizes how the Canadian archival system built upon the total archive concept leans towards settler biases and as a result creates limitations for Indigenous peoples.

The "spirit of Total Archives" continues to embed itself within the Canadian archival field through the newer concept of the Canadian 'archival system' (Sheffield, n.d. para. 15). This system focuses on the building of an archival network, connecting archives and archivists across Canada (Sheffield, n.d.). However, unlike the origin of the 'total archive' the 'archival system' takes a step in the right direction by placing more "trust in creators to preserve their own records collections and stresses the importance of keeping records of local interest close to their communities" (Sheffield, n.d., para 15). Shifting away from the 'total archive' concept towards a system that prioritizes Indigenous rights over archival materials will alter the idea of inclusive documentary heritage away from its original biased interpretations towards a diversified approach to archiving.

2.1.3 The Archival System Post-Truth and Reconciliation

Within the last decade, following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission there has been an increased interest in understanding the "historical experiences of Indigenous peoples in the Indian Residential School (IRS) system", in turn, bringing to the forefront issues regarding rights over Indigenous data and historical documentation (Fraser & Todd, 2016). The role of the archive is substantial to the process of learning and understanding the colonial legacy of the IRS system that continues to harm Indigenous communities today. How one might understand the substantial role of the archive can be divided into two paths: the archive as a space of truth telling and the archive as a mechanism for reconciliation. The former being a key component in the process of

reconciliation, scholars have drawn upon “post”-colonial theory to recognize the falsehood of archival neutrality recognizing the inherent biases of an archivist and as such the potential impacts they have on understanding historical wrong-doings, and the representation of truth (Ghaddar, 2016). During the past and present colonial process, there has been the creation of countless records that document the process of assimilation and the erasure of Indigenous peoples (Brodersen, 2024). Such documentation acts as evidence of Canada’s colonial past and the harmful and destructive acts of the government. In turn, these documents act as records of truth.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s final report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling the Future: A Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada* (2015a) speaks directly to the role of Canada’s national archive, Library and Archives Canada, and the greater archival community in making accessible records that speak to the truth behind the colonial legacy of the IRS. Dr. Jamila Ghaddar (2016) states,

“Records and archives were evoked in the very mandate of the TRC and outlined in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA), a contract penned in 2006 as a result of negotiations between Canada, the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit representatives, school survivors, and other parties” (p. 9).

The role of the archive in truth-telling became increasingly prominent during the documentation collection process of the TRC Commission. Under the Settlement Agreement, both the Canadian government and the churches were to provide documentation in their possession to the commission and when Canada refused to produce documents relevant to their work, the barriers Indigenous peoples face in

accessing the truth behind their own histories were further solidified (TRC, 2015a). The truths held within these documents were being kept from Indigenous peoples, their families and communities. However, after “[a] lengthy process, which included the filing of written arguments, affidavit evidence, and court-ordered mediation between Canada and the Commission” the Government of Canada was to produce all relevant records (TRC, 2015a, p. 27). “Using the released records, Indigenous peoples were able to begin the process of recontextualizing the documents as evidence of human rights abuses and continue teaching the legacy of residential schools” (Brodersen, 2024, p. 63). The LAC takes on a dual role as a public history institution and an institution of the federal government, producing a tension between the institute's ability to work collaboratively with Indigenous peoples and serve the government of Canada (TRC, 2015a). What this process made abundantly clear is the potential barriers Indigenous peoples face in accessing their own histories when records by or about Indigenous peoples are controlled by institutions external to their communities.

To overcome the barriers of truth-telling within the Canadian archival system, the Commission calls archives to implement the United Nations “Joinet-Orentlicher Principles, which set out remedial measures that states must undertake to satisfy their duty to guard against impunity from past human rights violations and prevent their reoccurrence (TRC, 2015a). This includes victims’ right to know the truth about what happened to them and their missing family members” (TRC, 2015a, pp. 256-257).

Beyond the work of the Commission, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has been developed to act as a model for historical, research, and record-keeping institutions (TRCa, 2015). What the post-truth and reconciliation era of Canadian

archives demonstrates is the key role the archival community has in supporting Indigenous self-determination and the revitalization of Indigenous culture. The path of truth-telling described above is key to progressing reconciliation in the archive and in Canadian society as a whole (TRCa, 2015). Archives are fundamental educational tools that have the potential to be advocates for Indigenous peoples in the education of Canadian society. Canadian archives must work collaboratively with indigenous communities to increase ownership and accessibility to their cultural heritage.

2.2 Supporting Indigenous Rights in the Canadian Archive

2.2.1 Implementing the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

The United Nation Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) has become internationally recognized as the foundation for understanding and recognizing Indigenous rights within a nation state. UNDRIP was deemed in effect in 2007 following “25 years of Indigenous diplomacy” to recognize the inherent rights of Indigenous peoples in international law (Frogner, 2022, p. 210). The use of UNDRIP can be seen across numerous dimensions: legal, educational, cultural, spiritual, and social (Frogner, 2022). Archival professionals and academics have responded to UNDRIP, recognizing the declaration as a “minimum standard for the survival, dignity, and wellbeing of Indigenous peoples of the world” (United Nations, 2007, p. 28). A large body of grey literature including reports, protocols, standards, and policies have been influenced by UNDRIP including in Canada through the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions’ reference to UNDRIP as a “framework for reconciliation” (Frogner, 2022; TRC, 2015a, p. 21). The influence of UNDRIP is vast, being embedded into the cultural and heritage sector,

including archival culture, on an international scale, while promoting the ownership of Indigenous heritage and culture to be within the control of the community in which it represents (Frogner, 2022). Although UNDRIP has been referenced across numerous dimensions, it has only been within the last decade that the document has been recognized as a framework for furthering the rights of Indigenous peoples in the Canadian archival system. In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada released the calls to action with Call to Action #70 directly references the role of archives in the process of reconciliation and the implementation of UNDRIP.

“70. We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Association of Archivists to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of archival policies and best practices to:

- i. Determine the level of compliance with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the *United Nations Joint-Orentlicher Principles*, as related to Aboriginal peoples’ inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools” (TRC, 2015. p. 8).

However, the results of this study show limited work has been done to understand what compliance to UNDRIP means within the archival sector. In many cases archives and archivists alike will reference UNDRIP as a foundation in their practice without explicitly stating the aspects of UNDRIP that apply. Dr. Jamila Ghaddar notes, “Such scholarship at times draws on international law and a human rights rhetoric so as to speak, in a sense, a language that resonates with and is potentially more persuasive to the predominantly non-

Indigenous archival sector” (Ghaddar, 2016, p. 8). Understanding the persuasive nature of citing UNDRIP, it is important for the archival community to ask itself, what does complying to UNDRIP in the archival sector mean? In 2022, archivist and scholar Raymond Frogner attempted to understand how UNDRIP can be integrated into the archival sector and what barriers remain in his article *The Train from Dunvegan: Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in Public Archives in Canada*. The following review draws on his work and the direct references of UNDRIP in the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada to provide an overview of how UNDRIP can be implemented in the public archive.

As UNDRIP increasingly takes hold in the “highest levels of law and government”, the concept of “weaving together a plurality of legal orders within a single constitutional space” reflects the challenges facing the implementation of UNDRIP (Frogner, 2022, p. 211). Within the archival sector, the challenges of legal pluralism mirror the challenges the Canadian archival system is facing when implementing “diverse methods” for the preservation and accessing of histories and social memory (Frogner, 2022, p. 212).

Frogner states, “As in law, to implement the UNDRIP in colonial archives also requires a plurality of methodologies; a braided set of intertwined approaches to preserving and sharing our defining and valued memories” (Frogner, 2022, p. 212). Rather than forgoing the implementation of UNDRIP, these challenges represent a call for systemic change in Canadian archivi. Recognizing the role of the Canadian archival field in furthering the colonial project and the preservation of settler social memory, it is the process of breaking down colonial ideologies in the Canadian archive that will in turn promote the

implementation of UNDRIP. As Article 3 refers to Indigenous peoples, “right to self-determination” including the pursuance of “cultural development”, archival spaces must recognize the need for change to ensure the theories and practices of Canadian archivy are not furthering the colonial project and harming Indigenous rights. Frogner (2022) argues that it is only once archivists recognize the colonial ideologies deeply entrenched within archival theory and practice that change, and in turn, the effects of UNDRIP can be seen.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s final report (2015a) acknowledges the role of adopting UNDRIP in Canadian archives and museums, with an increasing awareness that Indigenous peoples are to have the right to self-determination. The report directly references Article 11 and Article 12 when referencing the roles of museums and archives in the process of reconciliation. Article 11:1 state, “Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures...” (United Nations, 2007, p. 11). As the current ‘controllers’ of social memory through documentation, archives have a role in working collaboratively with Indigenous peoples to ensure these rights are being met. The following overview of UNDRIP will draw on specific articles that archives should consider if not mandate within their practices.

Article 8

Article 8 references the right of Indigenous peoples to not be forced under assimilation or endure the destruction of their culture. In turn, the state should provide mechanisms for the redress of “[a]ny action which has the aim or effect of depriving them of their

integrity as distinct peoples, or of their cultural values or ethnic identities” (United Nations, 2007, p. 10). As institutions of memory, archives have a clear role in protecting and respecting Indigenous cultural heritage and assisting in providing provisions of redress. This process is diverse and is based on the needs and experiences of each community. This goes beyond the nation state archive but applies to the Canadian archival system in its entirety, from federal to community levels.

Article 13

Article 13 refers to, “the right to revitalize, use, develop, and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons” (UN, 2007, pp. 12-13). With the displacement of Indigenous cultural heritage from traditional lands and communities, the archival community has the responsibility to assist Indigenous peoples to reconnect with archival materials, their histories and culture. I argue potential implementations of Article 13 include (1) Indigenous communities working collaboratively with the archive to hold in trust Indigenous archival materials; (2) the repatriation of archival material; and (3) the shifting of Canadian archival practice to recognize Indigenous sovereignty.

Article 18 and Article 27

A key role in changing the Canadian archival system is recognizing the rights of Indigenous peoples in self-determination. Article 18 mentions, “Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights” (UN, 2007, pp. 15-16). Although this does not directly refer to cultural heritage, archival

material whether related to history, law or culture have a fundamental role in the understanding of the rights of Indigenous peoples, and as such, gives them the right to participate in decision-making within archival spaces. Similarly, Article 27 gives “due recognition to Indigenous peoples’ laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of Indigenous peoples pertaining to their lands, territories and resources” (UN, 2007, p. 20). This article is impactful to the Canadian archival system from the federal to community level. As archives continue to collaborate and build relationships with Indigenous communities it is integral to recognize that laws and customs are situational. In Frogner’s (2022) examination of UNDRIP he states Articles 18 and 27,

“...legitimize traditional Indigenous community social organization and practices as local law; they offer a way to break out of the Indian Act chokehold that has limited Indigenous self-determined social organization. Although they do not talk explicitly about managing and protecting cultural expression in the way articles 13 and 31 do; articles 18 and 27 recognize the vital need to legitimize local traditional governance practices. This is a crucial step towards self-determination” (Fogner 2022, p. 224)

Article 31

Alongside Article 13, Article 31 directly references Indigenous cultural expressions, and the right Indigenous peoples must

“...maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of

their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts” (UN, 2007, p. 23)

The role of archives in implementing Article 31 of UNDRIP in many ways is counter to the colonial nature of the archival system. To successfully implement Article 31, the Canadian archival system needs to alter its understanding of ownership and recognize Indigenous right to self-determination. The concept of ownership will be further discussed in Chapter 5. The second aspect of this article, “the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions” (UN, 2007, pp. 22-23), speaks not only to ownership, but is greatly impacted by Canadian copyright. However, a deep analysis into the effects of Canadian copyright is outside the scope of this study.

2.2.2 The Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Calls to Action

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada released their 94 Calls to Action, each addressing the ongoing colonial legacy of the Indian Residential School (IRS) system and calling upon Canadians to assist in the advancement of reconciliation work (TRC, 2015b). A multi-dimensional document, the 94 Calls reach various aspects of Canadian society from education, health and welfare to the Canadian legal system. However, intertwined throughout the document is a clear message directed towards the integral role Canadian archives have in progressing reconciliation. The Commission recognises museums and archives,

“...as sites of public memory and national history, have a key role to play in national reconciliation. As publicly funded institutions, museums and archives in settler colonial states such as Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and the United States have interpreted the past in ways that have excluded or marginalized Aboriginal peoples’ cultural perspectives and historical experience” (TRC, 2015a, p. 246).

Identifying their “key role” in the process of “national reconciliation” the archive and archivist are fundamental components to responding to the Calls.

Archives are most easily identified in the document from their direct reference in Calls 69 and 70 which call upon both the national archive, Library and Archives Canada, and the Canadian Associations of Archivists (TRC, 2015b). The Commission speaks to implementation and compliance with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, as identified in the previous section, and the *United Nations Joint-Orientlicher Principles* (TRC, 2015b). Additionally, Call 69 asks the LAC to ensure records related to residential schools are made available to the public and an increase in resources towards public education related to residential schools (TRC, 2015b). Calls 69 and 70 have been discussed at length by both scholars and archivists, recognizing the importance of removing the systemic colonial biases within the archival system (Broderson, 2024; Frogner, 2022; Ghaddar, 2016; Ghaddar, 2021). However, the archival community must go beyond responding to Calls 69 and 70, as they can also be active advocates and participants in areas such as public education, unmarked burials of residential schools, language revitalization, and the preservation of Indigenous histories.

Public Education

A crucial factor in Canadian reconciliation is public awareness. Without educating Canadian society to understand the negative impacts of residential schools and their ongoing legacy in the lives of Indigenous peoples, there can be no hope of reconciliation. Calls 10, 57, 62, and 93 all have a component of education that would not be possible without interacting with the archive (TRC, 2015b). The archive holds, preserves, and makes accessible documents and histories related to residential schools that are the foundation of educational experiences. Call to Action #62 asks federal, provincial and territorial governments to collaborate with Indigenous peoples in the creation of culturally appropriate curriculum and to provide resourcing for the integration of Indigenous knowledge in educational spaces (TRC, 2015b). Adapting public education will require not only collaborative relationships with Indigenous peoples and their communities but will require educational institutions to work with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous archives that hold relevant materials and documentation. The Commission's final reports states, "Educating Canadians for reconciliation involves not only schools and post-secondary institutions but also dialogue forums and public history institutions such as museums and archives (TRC Report, 2015a, p. 234). The role of public history institutions is further relevant in Call 10, the creation of culturally appropriate curricula, Call 57, the education of public servants, and Call 93, the education of 'newcomers' (TRC, 2015b).

Missing Children and Unmarked Burials

As mentioned in the opening quotation, archives play a clear role in responding to the unmarked burials of Indigenous children (Fraser, as cited in Frogner et al., 2024). This is further identified in Call 76 which recognizes the importance of locating and learning

about the children who died in residential schools in the process of reconciliation (TRC, 2015b). The Call further states, “Archives and government departments and agencies have a crucial role to play in this process. Equally important, archival records can help survivors, their families, and communities to reconstruct their family and community histories. Yet, accessing such holdings is not without problems” (TRC, 2015, p. 264). In June of 2022 the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools was appointed “to ensure that the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children whose graves and burial sites are now being recovered are recognized and treated with honour, respect, and dignity” (Office of the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools, 2024a, p. 3). Her final report included a chapter titled “Decolonizing Archives and Affirming Indigenous Data Sovereignty” where she stated...

“It has been observed that, intellectual access to records that are by or about Indigenous communities can often be complicated by how archives restrict material based on copyright, government privacy legislation, or Western understandings of ownership. Such colonial understandings have led to the creation of laws and policies that have only worked to impede Indigenous people and communities from accessing the records created by settlers about them, without their consent” (Office of the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools, 2024a, p. 97).

Recognizing how the current Canadian archival system impacts how Indigenous communities, survivors and families access records, the report solidifies the important role archives play in assisting communities in discovering the truth “about how their children died, why they died, and where they are buried” (Office of the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools, 2024b, p. 647).

Evidence for the relationship between Indigenous communities, archives and their searching for the missing and disappeared children and unmarked graves can be seen following the events of May 2021 when “Tkemlúps te Secwépemc, First Nations Government formally known as the Kamloops Indian Band, announced the identification of 215 potential unmarked graves at the former site of the Kamloops Indian Residential School” (Boiteau, 2024, p. 719). Following this event, archives that held records related to residential schools were approached by numerous Indigenous communities to assist in the identification and understanding of what happened to the children who did not return home (Boiteau, 2024). The Commission’s final report expands on Call 76, the process of “documenting, maintaining, commemorating and protecting residential school cemeteries” (TRC, 2015a, p. 9) by noting the archive’s role in performing preliminary research and providing existing documentation to inform investigations (TRC, 2015a, p. 262).

Coinciding with Call 76, Call 72 speaks to the development of a National Residential School Student Death Register, to be under the control of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) (TRC, 2015a). This is deemed the first national effort to record the names of students who died at residential schools through the collection and

review of relative records (TRC, 2015a). Borderson notes, “A recent report titled *Sacred Responsibility: Searching for the Missing Children and Unmarked Burials* highlighted the historical and prevailing barriers to Indigenous peoples accessing records about themselves” (Bordersen, 2024, p. 65). It is within this space that archives play a role in working with the NCTR to provide relevant residential school records, most having been scattered across numerous Canadian archives.

2.2.3 The Association of Canadian Archivists *Reconciliation Framework*

The Truth and Reconciliation Commissions of Canada’s Calls to Action # 70 specifically calls upon the “Canadian Association of Archivists” to determine the level of compliance with *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People* and the *United Nations Joint-Orentlicher Principles* and to “produce a report with recommendations for full implementation of these international mechanisms as a reconciliation framework for Canadian archives” (TRC, 2015b, p. 8). The “Canadian Association of Archivists” is not a title that exists within the national jurisdiction, so in response to the TRC, the Steering Community on Canada’s Archives (SCAA) which was composed of the Canadian Council of Archives, the Association of Canadian Archivists, Library and Archives Canada, l’Association des archivistes du Québec, and the Council of Provincial and Territorial Archivists, came together and developed the “Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Taskforce (TRC-TF) (SCAA, n.d.). Through a grant provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the group dedicated 5 years to engage in collaborative research to “identify how archives in Canada could move toward reconciliation and decolonization of practice in light of both the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) and the

United Nations Joint-Orentlicher Principles (UNJOP)” (SCAA, 2022, p. 6). The research resulted in a 117-page report, the *Reconciliation Framework: The Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Taskforce (2022)* [Reconciliation Framework].

A more robust look into the *Reconciliation Framework* takes place in Chapter 5, and an analysis and review of the *Reconciliation Framework* as a tool for the archival community has the potential to be an exclusive study. As such, this initial section will provide an overview of the framework and its role in Canadian archives. As noted by the authors, the report is intended to be an “evergreen framework” to be a “living document” that is adapted as the journey towards reconciliation continues (SCAA, 2022, p. 8). The document explicitly notes it does not aim to identify all aspects of the Canadian archival system, both theory and practice, that need to be ‘decolonized’, but holds the fundamental message that, “Canada’s archival communities must respect First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples’ intellectual sovereignty over archival materials created by or about them” (SCAA, 2022, p. 8). The *Reconciliation Framework* is composed of eight principles and seven objectives. The principles, “serve as a foundation upon which the Canadian archival community can begin – collectively and individually – to build a national reconciliation framework for archival theory, practice, and education in Canada” (SCAA, 2022, p. 18). These principles and objects act as guidelines for archives and archivists to work with Indigenous communities and promote Indigenous sovereignty. The document is considered a touchstone for progressing reconciliation within the archive, and as such is referenced by numerous institutions and archivists across the country. However, scholars in more recent years are reviewing the document and leaving with more

questions than answers, as the supposed “evergreen” document has gone unchanged and in many cases unimplemented since 2022 (Frogner et al, 2024).

Following the release of the *Reconciliation Framework*, the ACA developed an Indigenous Matters Working Group whose objectives were to conduct a needs assessment and evaluation of the organizations and to develop a resource guide (ACA, 2024). The assessment revealed the ACA needs to undergo major changes to support Indigenous archivists and promote Indigenous sovereignty in archival spaces.

CHAPTER 3 METHODS

3.1 Introduction

Calling into question the progress the archival community has made in responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, I aim to identify what work has been done towards reconciliation through the searching of academic and grey literature. In developing this study's design I recognize the complexities and limitations of a non-Indigenous researcher engaging with and implementing Indigenous research methodologies. I recognize the possibilities for what Cash Ahenakew (2016) refers to as the "grafting" of Indigenous knowledge into non-Indigenous spaces ultimately having the potential to remove the relationality of Indigenous knowledge. As such, I have taken a critical lens towards my research agenda to ensure my voice is simply the conduit of information. The design of my study has been developed following the guidance of Mi'kmaq elder Albert Marshall's concept of Two-Eyed-Seeing (Bartlett et al., 2012). Grounding my research on the lands in which I have resided, the concept of Two-Eyed-Seeing recognizes the opportunities to further advance one's knowledge when considering both the western and Indigenous ways of knowing, that "learning to see from one eye with the strengths" of Indigenous knowledge and the "other eye with the strength of western" knowledge can respectfully bring together to different ways of knowing (Bartlett et al, 2012, p. 335). The following chapter will highlight the design of my study including the implementation of Indigenous research methodologies and how they have been incorporated into my work.

3.2 Study Design

This study uses a two staged approach to conducting an extensive review of the current state of reconciliation work in Canadian archives. The first stage includes the searching of academic databases for peer-reviewed literature and the second stage focuses on the searching of grey literature for publicly available policies, reports, guidelines and standards related to reconciliation, repatriation, and Indigenous data sovereignty.

Searching methods were adapted from Arksey and O'Malley's (2005) scoping review protocols to ensure a thorough and comprehensive report was conducted and could be duplicated by other researchers. Due to the small number of results found in preliminary searches, a full scoping review was deemed unnecessary. Additionally, the structure of a scoping review is not conducive to Indigenous ways of knowing through the promotion of colonial oriented research practices (Chambers et al., 2018). For instance, a group of Indigenous and African scholars through dialogue have spoken to their experience conducting a scoping review stating, "although engaging in a scoping review process allowed us to distill and synthesize common themes, as we synthesized the literature, we questioned if our own processes were colonizing" (Chambers et al., 2018, p. 181).

Through dialogue of their research process, they noted that scoping reviews did not respectfully consider the diversity of Indigenous peoples and African diaspora perspectives, worldviews, localized knowledge, and lived realities (Chambers et al., 2018). To assist in overcoming these limitations, Indigenous scholars Lauren Tynan and Michelle Bishop have suggested approaching the review of literature from a relational perspective. They state, "a relational literature review process does not necessarily start with literature; it begins with your own relationships to people, places and knowledge,

which may have nothing to do with print-based mediums such as academic literature (Tynan & Bishop, 2023, p. 499). Learning from their experiences with conducting a literature review, throughout my scoping review it is important to remember my relationship with the literature as a settler-researcher. In their article they encourage the review to recognize gaps as opportunities, data charting as relationships and the reviewing of literature as the sharing of knowledge (Tynan & Bishop, 2023). To them relational literature reviews show they "...are inspired and committed to pushing boundaries and creating space for future generations. It is a way of giving thanks (explicitly naming and citing) for knowledge shared (Tyran & Bishop, 2023, p. 504). Despite the potential limitations of a scoping review approach, certain tools, guidelines and protocols were useful in developing the study design as further explained in the following sections.

The data from both the academic and grey literature review are analyzed for common themes, concepts and practices related to Indigenous sovereignty. From this data, identifiable best practices and recommendations from the sources are critically analyzed to identify the extent in which the archival community has responded to the Calls to Actions and how they have approach reconciliation. Practices, recommendations, and comments provided by Indigenous scholars, archivists and community members will be highlighted to acknowledge their responses and opinions regarding the Canadian archival system. Types of sources included in the study are peer-reviewed articles, reports, frameworks, policies, standards, procedures, protocols, discussion papers, and materials relevant to archival organizations. Due to the lack of published resourcing on the discussed topic, a large portion of included grey literature comes from website pages.

The scope of the study has been limited to resources that cover the Canadian archival system. Although other countries including New Zealand, Australia and the United States can offer insight into reconciliation work within the archival space, the purpose of this research is to look specifically at the Canadian response to the Calls to Action. This includes the exclusion of literature that takes a generalized approach to discussing reconciliation in archival spaces, as they do not provide reflection towards the archival community's response to the Calls. However, for context and additional support in overview of internationally recognized documents such as the UNDRIP will be referenced throughout the discussion of this study, as they are seen as the foundation of Canadian reconciliation frameworks (TRC, 2015a). To implement the concept of Two-Eyed-Seeing, this study considers literature from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous sources. Although Indigenous responses to the archival community's response will be significantly discussed, I have chosen not to exclude western perspectives. The inclusion of western perspectives further signifies the important role settler archivists have in responding to the TRC.

3.3 Procedures

3.3.1 Stage One: Academic Literature

In the first stage of this review, I aim to discover all peer-reviewed literature that were published in 2015 and onward related to the TRC's Calls to Action within the archival field including both archival theory and practice. Although reconciliation work has been done prior to 2015, the Calls to Action were not published until this year, thus making such sources irrelevant to this study. The review of academic literature provides concrete insight into current thoughts, critiques and practices related to overcoming the colonial

ideologies deeply entrenched in Canadian archival science. Additionally, the academic literature provides important information on specific case studies involving Indigenous-led initiatives in archival spaces. This will be further discussed in Chapters 4 and 5. Overall this stage of the review provides context for the larger national conversation taking place within the archival community.

To conduct an extensive review, the initial stage adapted methods and protocols from scoping review methods. The study draws on strategies and practices from the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis Extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR) (Tricco et al., 2018) including the development of a search string, title and abstract review, full-text review and basic data charting. Applying the scoping review methods mentioned above, the review included an initial title and abstract screening and full text review to ensure selected sources aligned with the developed eligibility criteria as displayed in Table 1. The following eligibility criteria were developed to ensure an inclusive report that included both Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholarship.

Table 1 The final eligibility criteria for peer-reviewed literature.

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
Published in 2015 or later	Published in 2014 or earlier
Available in English or in an Indigenous language with English translation	Not available in English or in an Indigenous language with English translation
Study population is based in Canada	Study population is outside of Canada

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
Title/Abstract indicates a focus on reconciliation in response to the Calls to Action in Canadian archives or archival practice.	Does not indicate the inclusion of reconciliation practices in Canadian archives and archival practice.

3.3.1.1 Stage One Search Strategy

Databases searched for peer-reviewed literature included Library Literature & Information Science, Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts (LISTA), and SCOPUS. The initial search string was developed for SCOPUS and later transformed to meet the punctuation and operator requirements of other databases. Refer to **Appendix A, Table 1** for an overview of the developed search string used in SCOPUS and later adapted to meet the needs of the other databases. The first two databases are field specific with SCOPUS providing the broadest level of results. Additional hand-searching was done in topic-related journals, *Archivaria* and *Archival Science*. Additional case study searching was done through the resource list of screened and included publications recognizing the relationships among sources.

Stage one used the review and selection tool, Covidence, for the importing of sources, de-duplication, title and abstract screening, full text review, and data charting and extraction. Stage one study selection was done from December 2024 and January 2025. A summary of the scoping review methods is displayed through the PRISMA flow diagram as seen in Figure 1.

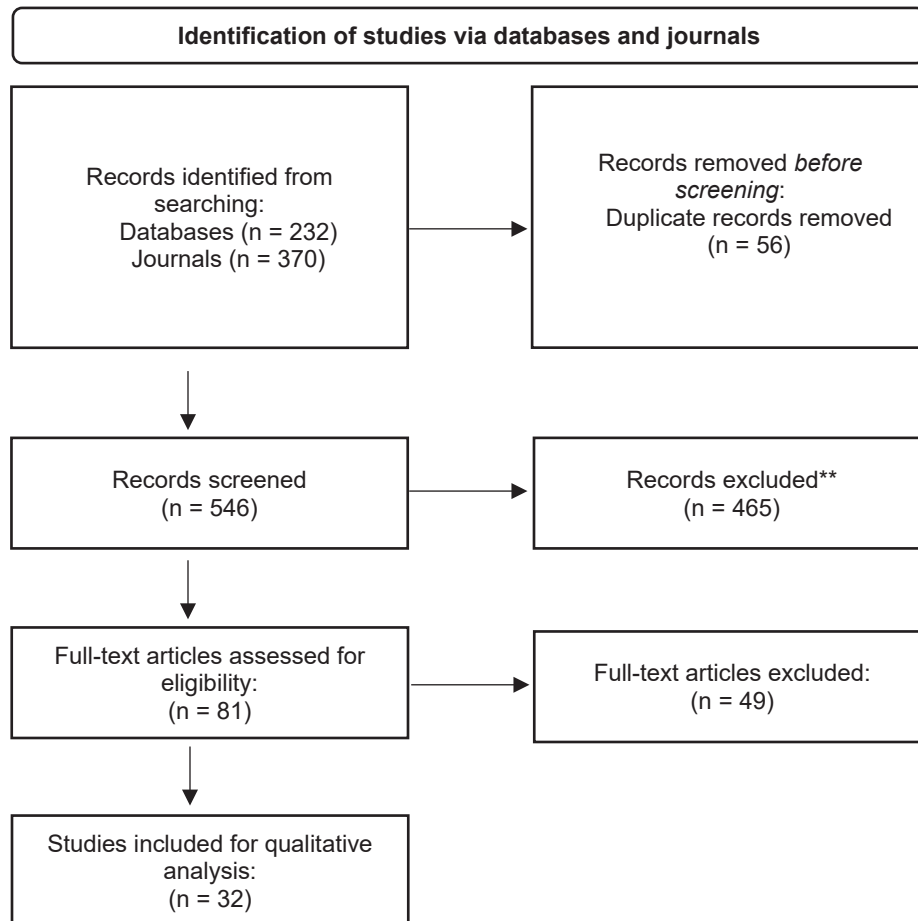


Figure 1 PRISMA flow diagram.

3.3.2 Stage Two: Grey Literature

Stage two of the review included a search for all relevant grey literature following 2015, including policies, reports, guidelines, and standards that promote reconciliation, Indigenous sovereignty and/or respond to the Calls to Action in the Canadian archival system. Unlike the academic literature review, in the second stage of this study I have focused on a broader level of documentation that indicate a response to the TRC. The structured search for grey literature uses strategies from Godin et al. (2015) applications

toolkits to discover new sources, organizations, and community connections. Although this does not align with traditional westernized research methodologies, including Indigenous understandings of relationality further implements my research approach towards Two-Eyed-Seeing.

The above relational approach to searching for grey literature further recognizes the importance of land and land recognition within this study. As mentioned in the introduction, my work is highly influenced by my relation to land and the Indigenous communities to which they belong. Drawing on Coast Salish concepts of relationality and land, Hul'qumi'num Mustimuhw (Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group of seven Coast Salish Nations) legal scholar, Sarah Morales (2016) speaks to the importance of place, time, and experience in the navigating of Indigenous territories as legal landscapes. This understanding of place, time, and experience extends this landscape to culture and tradition (Morales, 2016). I recognize the impact place, time and experience have had on the progression of reconciliation work with the diversity of Indigenous peoples and communities across Canada requiring diverse approaches to overcoming systemic colonialism. Applying these relationships to my work, the relational approach to searching not only focused on relationships among organizations, but connection to land. For example, starting within the colonial defined region British Columbia (BC), my search began with the British Columbia Association of Archives and shifted towards looking at specific archival institutions residing within the geographical region of BC provided through their website. Each institution recognized the traditional land on which they reside, forming connections to Indigenous communities and the land on which they

reside. Ultimately, the various concepts of relationality arising from Indigenous peoples guides my research and the development of methodology.

Selected sources fit within the eligibility criteria for grey literature outline in Table 2 targeting sources published or made available following the release of the Calls to Action. Due to the diverse nature of archival institutions across Canada and the inclusion of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations, the type of archival facility was not included in the eligibility criteria.

Table 2 The final eligibility criteria for the screening of grey literature.

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
Published in 2015 or later	Published in 2014 or earlier
Available in English or in an Indigenous language with English translation	Not available in English or in an Indigenous language with English translation
Document audience is in Canada	Document audience is outside of Canada
Document purpose indicates support for Indigenous sovereignty, reconciliation and responds to the TRC Calls to Action.	Document purpose does not indicate support for Indigenous sovereignty.

In addition to relationality, continuing to integrate the concept of Two-Eyed-Seeing, the targeted website search acknowledges authorship by Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations. This helped to clearly define which sources were coming from the voices of Indigenous peoples or settler responses to the TRC.

3.4 Data Analysis

Following the selection of sources, data extraction was in the form of data ‘charting’, a process that will sort key information from all included sources into themes, and key issues (Arksey & O’Malley, 2005). The purpose of this process is to avoid the summarizing of each article, but rather provide a narrative of key themes, challenges, and gaps across all selected sources, as shown in Tables 3 and 5 (Arksey & O’Malley, 2005). The analysis of collected data was influenced by the study’s frameworks of relationality and Two-Eyed-Seeing. Recognized by Pairebeenne Trawlwoolway scholar Lauren Tynan (2024), integral to the process of data collection in relation to Indigenous research is the recognition that data collection has the potential to “decontextualize and fragment knowledge, creating a sterile end-product of data” (p. 147). Aware of the negative effects of data extraction, the discussion chapter of this study aims to draw upon Indigenous methodologies of relationality and Two-Eyed-Seeing to guide the conversation.

CHAPTER 4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

The following results section details the collected sources and their corresponding data from the extensive review. As outlined in Chapter 3, the design of this study divided the review process into two phases, the search for academic literature using scoping review techniques and an extensive grey literature review for relevant policies, guidelines, reports, standards, and frameworks. As such, this chapter will follow the same structure and provide an overview of results for each search. The section will provide quantitative and qualitative data regarding publication data and provide an overview of thematic data in both academic and grey literature. The results represent the current work regarding Indigenous sovereignty and reconciliation in Canadian archival spaces and theory and provides insight into work that has or has not been done in responding to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The data will be further analyzed in Chapter 5 to demonstrate how Canadian archives are responding to the Calls.

4.2 Academic Literature Results

4.2.1 Publication Data

The results from the academic literature (Table 3) search demonstrate both practical and theoretical work towards Indigenous sovereignty in Canadian archives. As shown in Figure 1, Using the developed search string identified in Table 1, Appendix A there were 156 sources identified in the primary database, SCOPUS. After the thorough review process using scoping review techniques in the Covidence platform, a total of 32 sources met the eligibility criteria. It is interesting to note a total of 18 of the included sources used a case study approach analyzing specific Indigenous related initiatives. An overview

of the collected data can be found in Table 4 referencing total number of sources, study types, populations or communities engaged, publication sources, types of archival spaces, and commonly referenced themes. The overview will be useful in understanding later discussions and demonstrates the overall direction of current published literature between 2015 and 2024

Table 3 Results from peer-reviewed literature review.

Article Code	Title	Primary Author/Year	Archival Space	Study Methodology	Purpose of Paper
A1	Writing With Sensitivity: The Importance of Standardizing Descriptions of Archival Material from Indigenous Communities	White, 2020	Public Archives	Exploratory Research	Provides solutions for the adjustment of archival descriptions to meet the needs of Indigenous communities.
A2	When Reconciliation Meets Conflict: Exploring Indigenous Archives	Mickelson, 2017	Indigenous Archives	Case Study	Proposes a framework for Indigenous archives that encompasses repositories housed in Indigenous communities and non-Indigenous repositories that care for records by and about Indigenous peoples.
A3	"That's my Auntie": Community-Guided Residential School History	McCraken & Hogan 2021(b)	Community Archives	Case Study	A project report that outlines reciprocal approaches to archival work based on the community project, Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre (SRSC).
A4	Community First: Indigenous Community-Based Archival Provenance	McCraken, 2021(a)	Community Archives	Exploratory Research	This article re-imagines archival methods of organization and proposes archival provenance based on Indigenous community needs and understanding.
A5	Indigenous Digital Storytelling: Digital Interfaces Supporting Cultural Heritage Preservation and Access	Shiri et al., 2022	Digital Archives	Case Study	Describes the use of participatory and culturally-informed design and development of a digital storytelling system for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) in Canada's Western Arctic region
A6	A Case Study on Record Matching of Individuals in Historical Archives of Indigenous Databases	Currie & Lawrence, 2023	Digital Archives	Case Study	This work presented a real-world case study that extended current record matching approaches to include data on relationship roles and family relationships to improve accuracy.
A7	The inalienable right to know: Continued Barriers to Archival Access for Indigenous Communities in Post-Truth and Reconciliation Commission Canada	Broderson, 2024	Library and Archives Canada	Exploratory Research	Outline barriers including colonial ideologies of creatorship which holds documents out of reach from communities in government archives.

Article Code	Title	Primary Author/Year	Archival Space	Study Methodology	Purpose of Paper
A8	Community Archival Practice Indigenous Grassroots Collaboration at the Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre	McCracken, 2015	Community Archives	Case Study	Describes the importance of archival practice that is informed by cultural and ethical best practices, offering a model for Indigenous community archival practice.
A9	Archive/Counter-Archive: Activating Principles of Respect in Archival Policy Development	Sicondolfo, 2022	Digital Archives	Case Study	Describes broader implications for intellectual property and content management as it is influenced by the current role of ICTs in relation to cultural heritage.
A10	The Miiyupimatisiium Research Data Archives Project: putting OCAP principles into practice.	Adelson & Mickelson, 2022	Digital Archives	Case Study	Describes the implementation of OCAP principles in the work of a medical anthropologist and Whapmagoostui First Nation (FN) and the transfer of a research data archive to the community and increase accessibility.
A11	Decolonising Archives: Indigenous Challenges to Record Keeping in Reconciling Settler Colonial States	Luker, 2017	Public Archives		Investigates the importance of feminist engagements with archives and historiography in reconciling settler colonial states, with attention to sites of archival contention.
A12	Challenging colonial spaces: Reconciliation and decolonizing work in Canadian archives	McCracken, 2019	Public Archives	Exploratory Research	To highlight colonial frameworks in Canadian archival practice and the impacts of the Truth and Reconciliation Framework.
A13	The case, the registry and the archive: reflections on truth, reconciliation and retrieval	Hodes, 2020	Public Archives	Case Study	Describes the role of court registries, their relationship to state archives and the movement of their records.
A14	Antiviolence and Marginalized Communities: Knowledge Creation, Community Mobilization, and Social Justice through a Participatory Archiving Approach	Allard & Ferris, 2015	Digital Archives	Case Study	Describes the designing of digital archives through a community-led participatory approach.
A15	Decolonizing Canadian Archival Practice Through a Public History Lens	McCracken, 2024	Public Archives	Exploratory Research	Describes the colonial structures that are often tied to archival practice and the role that public history practices that emphasize engagement and dialogue can play in decolonial archival practice

Article Code	Title	Primary Author/Year	Archival Space	Study Methodology	Purpose of Paper
A16	Two-eyed-seeing/Etuaptmunk in the colonial archive: Reflections on participatory archival research	Cullen & Castleden, 2020	Public Archives	Case Study	To explore how the Indigenous methodology, Two-Eyed Seeing can influence research relationships with the Canadian colonial archive.
A17	The Rhetoric of Digitization and the Politicization of Canadian Heritage	Kandiuk, 2016	Library Archives Canada	Case study	Describes the ramifications and barriers created by the digital priorities and strategy of LAC for underserved populations, with a focus on Canada's Indigenous peoples.
A18	Knowledge Organization as Knowledge Creation: Surfacing Community Participation in Archival Arrangement and Description	Bak et al., 2019	Digital Archives	Case Study	This study explores archival description through a participatory lens and anti-colonial framework to review current projects that are altering descriptive standards and subject headings to support Indigenous and other marginalized communities.
A19	"Lord, Save Us from the Et Cetera of the Notary": Archival Appraisal, Local Custom, and Colonial Law	Frogner, 2015	Public Archives	Case Study	To demonstrate how both legal and archival disciplines require and interpretive model to represent non-textual evidence, specifically local law and customs.
A20	Stewarding Collections of Trauma: Plurality, Responsibility, and Questions of Action	Nathan et al., 2015	Public Archives; Indigenous Archives	Case Study	Identifies systemic, structural challenges that confront efforts to ethically steward collections of trauma through an examination of the NCTR.
A21	The Spectre in the Archive: Truth, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Archival Memory	Ghaddar, 2016	Library and Archives Canada' Public Archives	Case Study	Explores two court cases related to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that bring forth the histories and ongoing legacies of colonial violence through an archival lens.
A22	Learning to Listen: Archival Sound Recordings and Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property	Mills, 2017	Public Archives	Exploratory Research	Describes the nature of Indigenous cultural and intellectual property in sound archives, aiming to increase understanding and acknowledgement of Indigenous protocols in the archival profession.
A23	The Advocate's Archive: Walter Rudnicki and the Fight for Indigenous Rights in Canada, 1955-2010	Linden, 2018	Personal Archives	Case Study	Exploration of Walter Rudnicki's personal archive in relation to Indigenous cultural heritage.

Article Code	Title	Primary Author/Year	Archival Space	Study Methodology	Purpose of Paper
A24	Integrating Equity and Reconciliation Work into Archival Descriptive Practice at the University of Waterloo	Robichaud, 2021	University Archives	Case Study	Describes hoe staff in Special Collections & Archives at the University of Waterloo Library are working to integrate equity and reconciliation-informed thinking into the department's archival practice by revising their approach to language in archival descriptions.
A25	Colonialism, Computerized: The Canada Land Inventory and the Canada Geographic Information System at Library and Archives Canada	Castron, 2022	Library Archives Canada; Digital Archives	Case Study	To argue the incorporation of a transdisciplinary approach to cartographic materials in archives through an analysis of the Canada Land inventory and the programs impacts on settler-colonialism.
A26	Archival Harm Reduction a Theoretical Framework for Utilizing Harm-Reduction Concepts in Archival Practice	Payne, 2022	Public Archives	Exploratory Research	Provide a framework for shifting archival power by building relationships to ensure that the people and communities that records are about or from whom records originate are meaningfully involved in the stewardship of such records.
A27	A Conversation about the Reconciliation Framework	Frogner et al., 2024	Public Archives	Exploratory Research	A conversational response to the Steering Committees on Canada's Archives (SCCA)'s Reconciliation Framework.
A28	From the Sidelines to the Center: Reconsidering the Potential of the Personal in Archives	Douglas & Mills, 2018	University Archives; Personal Archives	Case Study	To understand the "personal" experiences of the record as a type of relationship between the record and the person who interacts with it.
A29	Total archives for land, law and sovereignty in settler Canada	Ghaddar, 2021	Library and Archives Canada; Public Archives	Exploratory Research	Traces the intertwining of settler colonialism and archives since the creation of Canada's state archives and the creation of the total archive's paradigm through an anti-colonial retelling of the establishment of the LAC.
A30	The train from Dunvegan: implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in public archives in Canada	Frogner, 2022	Public Archives	Case Study	Examine how public archives in Canada can address the implementation of UNDRIP to engage with Indigenous peoples and promote the cultures and identities of Indigenous peoples.
A31	Persisting through friction: growing a community driven knowledge infrastructure	Rayburn et al., 2024	Digital Archives	Case Study	Examines The Great Lakes Research Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts and Cultures (GRASAC), a network of researchers, museum professionals, and community members who maintain a digital platform that aggregates museum and archival research on Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Huron-Wendat cultures into a centralized database.

Article Code	Title	Primary Author/Year	Archival Space	Study Methodology	Purpose of Paper
A32	Whose provenance? Plurality of provenance and the redistribution of archival authority	Boiteau, 2024	Indigenous Archives	Case Study	Deconstructs colonial records and colonial 'truth' to understand the plurality of provenance in archives, to expand archival provenance theory from the singular (singular creator or event of creation) to the plural (multiple creators or contexts of creation).

Table 4 Overview data for peer-reviewed literature results.

Parameter	Results
Numbers of Publications	32 Total Sources
Study Types	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Case Study 2. Literature Review
Journal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. iJournal 2. UBC iJournal 3. KULA: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Preservation 4. Across the Disciplines 5. International Information & Library Review 6. arXiv 7. The American Archivist 8. ESSACHESS - Journal for Communication Studies 9. Digital Library Perspectives 10. Australian Feminist Studies 11. The Canadian Historical Review 12. Women & Gender Sources 13. Library Trends 14. Knowledge Organization 15. Archivaria 16. Archival Science x5
Population	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indigenous Peoples 2. Métis 3. Inuit 4. BC First Nations 5. Paulatuk 6. Ulukhaktok 7. Sachs Harbor 8. Tuktoyaktuk 9. Inuvik 10. Aklavi 11. The Shingwauk Residential School Survivors 12. Whapmagoostui First Nation 13. Mi'kmaq 14. Anishinaabe 15. Haudenosaunee 16. Huron-Wenda

Parameter	Results
Archive Type	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Archive 2. Community Archive 3. Grassroot Archive 4. Indigenous Archive 5. Digital Archive 6. Library and Archives Canada (Government Archive) 7. Law Archive 8. Personal Archive 9. Academic Archive
Themes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Archival Description 2. Community-Led Archiving 3. Archival Organization 4. Digital Storytelling 5. Digital Archiving 6. Data Archiving 7. Indigenous Data Sovereignty 8. Co-Creatorship 9. Pluralism 10. Digitization 11. Participatory Archiving 12. Stewardship 13. Sound Archives 14. Archival Research 15. Provenance 16. Collaboration 17. Trauma Archiving

As seen in Figure 2, the most referenced archival spaces included public archives, Canada’s national archive (Library and Archives Canada), and digital archives. Additionally, the use of digital archiving techniques is referenced throughout a high percentage of the studies as applicable to the diversity of Indigenous cultural and data needs. It is statistically significant to note that the limited number of times archival spaces are directly identified as “Indigenous” within 32 studies seeking to understand Indigenous sovereignty in archival spaces. This suggests there has been little growth in

the development of Indigenous-led organizations or control over their own cultural heritage and the development of Indigenous-led spaces within the archival field. As seen in Figure 2, the term “Indigenous archive” is specifically studied in two of the sources. However, the seven studies that analyze digital archives are directly associated with Indigenous-led initiatives. These initiatives include the Shingwauk Residential School Centre, Digital Archive Database Project, Digital Archives and Marginalized Communities Project, Digital Archive Project, and Library and Archives Canada’s Project Naming. This suggests the digital atmosphere is currently the most utilized space for working with Indigenous communities and is further discussed in Chapter 5.

In contrast to Indigenous-led spaces, Figure 2 suggests Canada’s national archive, Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is highly discussed within the archival field. Holding a high percentage of records created by or about Indigenous peoples in Canada, it is anticipated based on the background research that the nation state archive would be highly discussed and analyzed.

With the data collection process taking place between November 2024 and January 2025, the included studies range from 2015 to 2024 as seen in Figure 3. Searching for relevant literature following the release of the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the results show there has been no significant increase in published studies since 2015. Following 2015 the highest number of articles are published in both 2022 and 2024 with a total of 5 in each publication year.

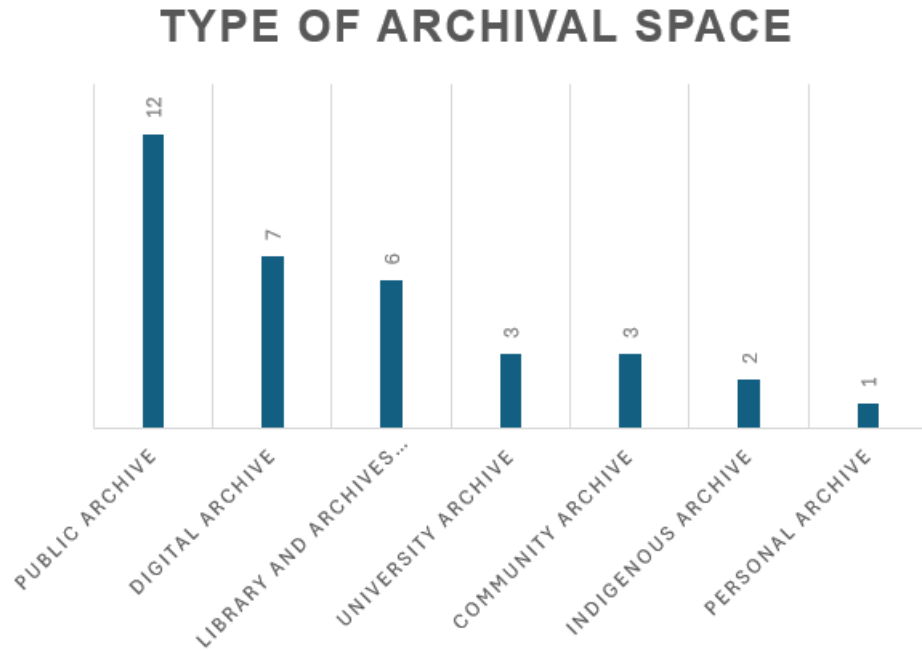


Figure 2 Types of archival spaces from peer-reviewed literature results.

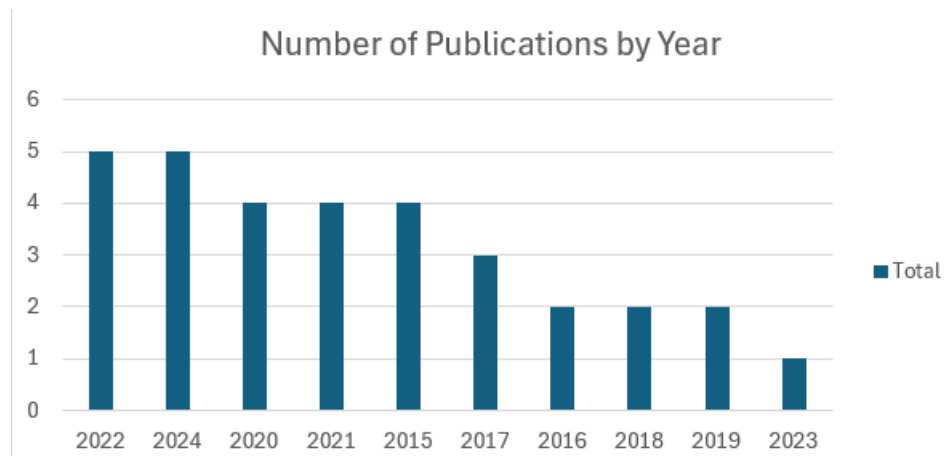


Figure 3 Publication years of peer-reviewed literature.

4.2.2 Academic Literature Thematic Data

As demonstrated in Table 4 above, there are numerous themes identifiable throughout the collected sources. It is important to note that the theme or concept of settler colonialism is noted within all texts as scholars and practitioners continue to grapple with its ongoing

effects on Indigenous peoples. Beyond settler colonialism there is theme repetition.

Figure 4 notes the sum of each theme as their repetition was identified throughout all sources. The most common theme being collaboration, which is clearly identified in 11 articles, with a primary focus on collaboration between Indigenous communities and archival spaces and archivists. The top five themes (Figure 4) identified are collaboration, access, community archiving, reconciliation and ownership. These themes align with the Calls to Action and push for community-level Indigenous sovereignty.

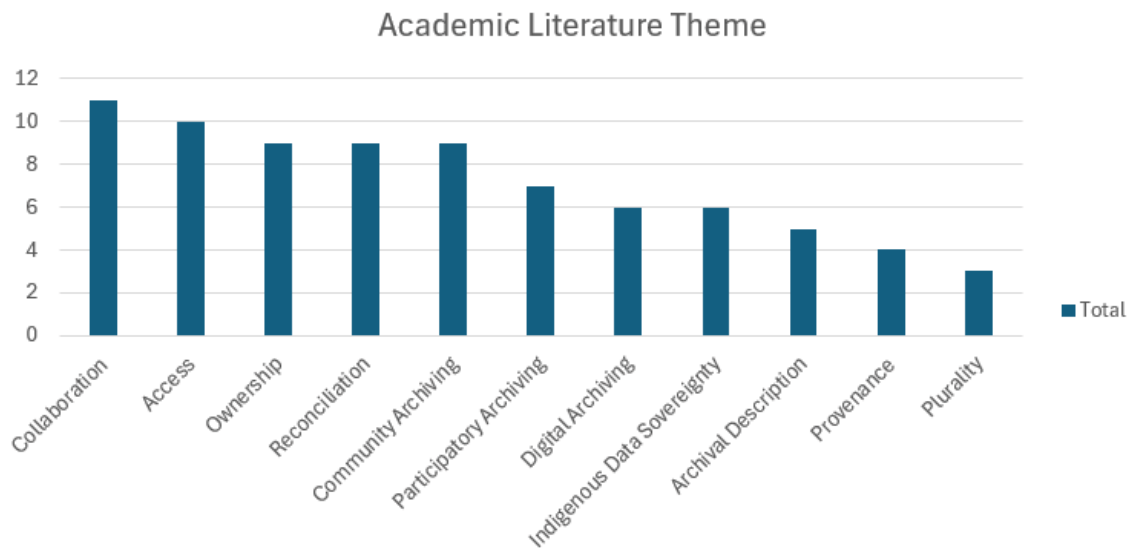


Figure 4 Identifiable themes in peer-reviewed literature results.

4.3 Grey Literature

4.3.1 Grey Literature Source Data

A key component of the study has been the inclusion of a grey literature review to demonstrate how archival practitioners are responding to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Following the concept of Two-Eyed-Seeing, the search includes both Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations to provide a

holistic set of results. The organization types included government institutions, community organizations, private corporations and public archives. The grey literature review resulted in 55 sources that fit within the eligibility criteria outlined in Chapter 3. The sources include website pages, reports, policies, memorandums, discussion papers, and online articles. Table 4 includes all identified sources including title, organization, document type and publication year.

Throughout the study the following terms were used to reference source types:

- “Report” - refers to documentation related to project development and completion, the development of frameworks, guidelines and standards. The reports are often longer documentation and are considered a published document by the associated organization.
- “Policy” - policies published, reviewed and implemented by the associated organization. The policy may be in a document format such as word or pdf or published directly on a website page.
- “Website Page” - Refers to documentation that is published directly to the website.

Table 5 Final results for grey literature review.

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B1	10 Recommendations for Supporting Indigenous Cultural Heritage	First Peoples' Cultural Council	2019	Report	Cultural Heritage	To provide supporting information that reflects Indigenous cultural heritage.
B2	A Culture of Exploitation: "Reconciliation and Institutions of Canadian Art	Yellowhead Institute	2020	Report	Cultural heritage	To reverse the exploitation of Indigenous Art.
B3	A First Nations Data Governance Strategy	First Nations Information Governance Centre	2020	Report	Indigenous Data Sovereignty	It articulates a strategic framework, a vision, desired outcomes, guiding principles, and key pillars for action for First Nations-led data governance and stewardship.
B4	A First Nations Guide to the Access to Information Act	First Nations Information Governance Centre	2024	Report	Legislation	Guide to the Access to Information Act providing basic details of the legislation and is intended to help First Nations understand and navigate the federal information management regime.
B5	A First Nations guide to the Library and Archives of Canada Act	First Nations Information Governance Centre	2024	Report	Legislation	This guide to the Library and Archives of Canada Act provides the basic details of the legislation and is intended to help First Nations understand and navigate the federal Information Management regime.
B6	A First Nations Guide to the Privacy Act	First Nations Information Governance Centre	2024	Report	Legislation	This Guide to the Privacy Act provides the basic details of the legislation and is intended to help First Nations understand and navigate the federal Information Management regime. It also reflects on the impact of the Privacy Act on First Nations data sovereignty.

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B7	A Selected Review of Federal and Provincial Legislation Implicating Indigenous Heritage in British Columbia	First Peoples' Cultural Council	2022	Report	Legislation	To inform the reader about federal and provincial legislation impacting Indigenous heritage in British Columbia and some reform initiatives at the time of writing.
B8	A Summary of Federal and Provincial Legislation Implicating Indigenous Heritage in British Columbia	First Peoples' Cultural Council	2022	Report	Legislation	To inform the reader about federal and provincial legislation impacting Indigenous heritage in British Columbia and some reform initiatives at the time of writing.
B9	Access and Privacy Policies	National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation	n.d.	Website	Access and Copyright	To protect the privacy and regulate access of all materials in care of the NCTR.
B10	Archival Community Response to “A Consultation on How to Implement an Extended General Term of Copyright Protection in Canada”	Council of Canadian Archives	2021	Report	Access and Copyright	Describes the navigation of the Canadian Copyright Act in archival spaces in relation to Indigenous sovereignty.
B11	Association of Canadian Archivists: Strategic Framework 2023-2026	Association of Canadian Archivists	2023	Report	Strategic Framework	How to use the 2023-2026 Strategic Framework.
B12	Associations of Canadian Archivists Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct	Association of Canadian Archivists	2017	Policy	Ethics	A guide for all people who participate in archival work—the management, care, custody, preservation, and accessing of records—regardless of their title, employment status, education, or membership in a professional association.
B13	Calls to Action Accountability: A 2022 Status Update on Reconciliation	Yellowhead Institute ed., Eva Jewell & Ian Mosby	2022	Report	Reconciliation	A progress report regarding the a response to the TRC regarding Indigenous art, culture and heritage.

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B14	Canada's Archives: Taskforce project charter	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2017	Report	Reconciliation	The Taskforce mandate is to conduct a review of archival policies and best practices existent across the country and identify potential barriers to reconciliation efforts between the Canadian archival community and Indigenous record keepers.
B15	Caretaking Memory: A Resource Guide for Archival Practitioners Working in Indigenous-Centred Archives	Association of Canadian Archivists	2024	Report	Reconciliation	A resource guide for archivist to implement practices and policies that support Indigenous sovereignty in day-to-day archival practice and core functions.
B16	Challenges of Indigenous Cultural Property in CRKN Collection	Canadian Research Knowledge Network	2020	Memorandum	Access and Copyright	This memo outlines the ever-illusive definition of Indigenous Cultural Property, the international and domestic laws and norms that have developed, and some suggested guidance in respect of CRKN's collections.
B17	Coalition for Canadian Digital Heritage: Strategic Framework	Coalition for Canadian Digital Heritage	2023	Report	Cultural Heritage	A collaborative framework for individuals and organizations in advancing community-driven priorities and short-term and long-term projects and initiatives, while sharing resources and expertise and avoiding the duplication of efforts.
B18	Copyright Law and Indigenous Intellectual Property Rights for Canadian Archivists and Records Managers	ARMA Canada; Tomoko Shida	2021	Article	Access and Copyright	Highlights barriers within Canada's Copyright Act to respecting Indigenous notions of ownership and control over intellectual property in relation to records destined for or held in archives.
B19	Digital Ethics and Reconciliation: Digital Ethics Report	University of Victoria Libraries	2019	Report		Support for researchers and library staff that are looking provide collaborative research with Indigenous communities and the resulting research objects, as well as previously acquired Indigenous archival material.

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B20	Endorsing the Reconciliation Framework	University of Waterloo Special Collections and Archives	2024	Discussion Paper	Reconciliation	A discussion regarding the institution's response to the TRC and implementing reconciliation practices in the archive.
B21	Establishing a Framework for Reconciliation Action & Awareness within the Canadian Archival System: Project Action Plan	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2017	Report	Reconciliation	Outlines the SCAA's plan of action for research and collaboration to complete the development of the reconciliation framework.
B22	Exploration of the Impact of Canada's Information Management regime of First Nations Data Sovereignty	First Nations Information Governance Centre	2022	Discussion Paper	Indigenous Data Sovereignty	Looks at all aspects of records management, information governance, and archiving and its impact on Indigenous peoples.
B23	Final Report to the Association of Canadian Archivists from the Indigenous Matters Working Group: Assessment & Recommendations	Association of Canadian Archivists	2024	Report	Reconciliation	A completed assessment and evaluation of the Association of Canadian Archivists and their support of Indigenous peoples within the organization.
B24	First Nations Research Guide	Royal BC Museum and Archives	2020	Report	Research	How to properly and respectfully conduct research on Indigenous peoples within the Royal BC Museums and Archives's collections.
B25	Indigenous Collections and Repatriation Policy	Royal BC Museum and Archives	2018	Policy	Access and Copyright	Policy that supports Indigenous sovereignty and repatriation of collections and archival materials and informs how staff should collaborate with Indigenous communities and conduct day-to-day practices when working with Indigenous materials.

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B26	Indigenous Heritage Action Plan	Library and Archives Canada	2019	Report	Cultural Heritage	The institution's plan to support and collaborate with Indigenous communities and their care of Indigenous archival materials,
B27	Indigenous Heritage Action Plan Implementation Progress Report	Library and Archives Canada	2023	Website	Cultural Heritage	A progress report of the Institutions heritage action plan, providing insight into work completed and space for growth.
B28	Indigenous Peoples and Records: A Guide to Research at the city of Winnipeg Archives	City of Winnipeg Archives	2018	Report	Research	A research guide for respectful research of Indigenous peoples and the use and access of Indigenous archival materials.
B29	Library and Archives Canada: A Strategic Plan to 2030	Library and Archives Canada	2024	Website	Strategic Framework	Outlines the institutions strategic plan including work in response to the TRC and reconciliation.
B30	Library and Archives Canada's Guiding Principles to Reconciliation and Indigenous Rights	Library and Archives Canada	2022	Website	Reconciliation	
B31	Literature Review and Author Dialogue Report	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2019	Report	Reconciliation	The complete report for the SCCA's literature review in support of the reconciliation framework.
B32	Living Policy for Access to and Use of Indigenous Materials, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies	Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies	2024	Report	Access and Copyright	Provides direction for the access and preservation of Indigenous archival materials and collections.
B33	Museums and Archives	Government of Canada	2024	Website	Reconciliation	Highlights the roles of Museums and Archives in reconciliation efforts.
B34	Nations to Nations: Indigenous Voices at Library and Archives Canada	Library and Archives Canada	2024	Website	Cultural Heritage	

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B35	Notices about the collections	Library and Archives Canada	2024	Website	Access and Copyright	Provides guidelines and content warning for Indigenous archival materials.
B36	Outreach Interviews: A thematic Analysis	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2020	Report	Reconciliation	A report and analysis of outreach interviews conducted to support the development of a reconciliation framework.
B37	Policy for serving Indigenous clients and preserving Indigenous collections	Canadian Conservation Institute	2017	Policy	Access and Copyright	Policy in support of Indigenous access of collections and the preservation of Indigenous cultural heritage.
B38	Recognizing and Including Indigenous Cultural Heritage in B.C	First Peoples' Cultural Council	2019	Policy	Cultural Heritage	A policy paper to present a compelling and informed position for supporting an Indigenous-led organization that can address gaps in cultural heritage legislation and policy, and support heritage related initiatives in Indigenous communities to achieve measurable goals.
B39	Recommendations for Decolonizing British Columbia's Heritage-Related Processes and Legislation	First Peoples' Cultural Council	2020	Report	Legislation	Recommendations for increasing Indigenous sovereignty over cultural heritage through legislative changes.
B40	Reconciliation Framework Goals and Strategies	The United Church of Canada Archives	2023	Report	Strategic Framework	The organizations objectives and goals for implementing reconciliation efforts and responding to the TRC Calls to Action.
B41	Reconciliation Framework: The Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Taskforce	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2022	Report	Reconciliation	A framework responding to the Calls to Action guiding reconciliation work in the Canadian archival community including guiding principles, core objectives and best practices.
B42	Reconciliation Working Group Report: Draft for Public Feedback	Council of Nova Scotia Archives	2022	Report	Reconciliation	A report recognizing the need for change within the Nova Scotia archival community and potential solutions to further reconciliation.

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B43	Repatriation in Canada: A Guide for Communities	University of Alberta	2024	Report	Repatriation	A guide for the repatriation of Indigenous cultural heritage.
B44	Report on Inuit Archives Outreach	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2021	Report	Reconciliation	A report outlining the results of outreach interviews with Inuit peoples in support of developing a reconciliation framework.
B45	Report on Métis Nation Archives Outreach	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2021	Report	Reconciliation	A report outlining the results of outreach interviews with Métis Nations in support of developing a reconciliation framework.
B46	Report on the Results from the Survey on Reconciliation Action & Awareness in Canadian Archives (2017)	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2018	Report	Reconciliation	A report outlining the results from a nation-wide survey regarding reconciliation efforts and awareness to support the development of a reconciliation framework.
B47	Response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Taskforce: Methodology Overview	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2017	Report	Strategic Framework	A report outlining the methodologies used to develop a reconciliation framework.
B48	Response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission	Royal BC Museum and Archives	2016	Report	Reconciliation	An institutional response to the Calls to Action recognizing efforts to increase Indigenous sovereignty over archival materials and collections.
B49	Summary Report on Feedback Received on the DRAFT Framework	Steering Committee on Canada's Archives	2020	Report	Reconciliation	A report outlining feedback received while developing a drafted reconciliation framework.
B50	Supporting Indigenous Archives in Alberta: Needs Assessment Final Report	Archives Society of Alberta	2024	Report	Reconciliation	A report outlining current efforts and community needs of Indigenous peoples to support Indigenous archival spaces.

Source Code	Title	Primary Organization/	Year	Document Type	Thematic Area	Purpose of Document
B51	The Association of Canadian Archivists: Equity Commitments	Association of Canadian Archivists	2020	Report	Ethics	The organizations overall commitments to equity including reference to supporting Indigenous peoples in archival spaces.
B52	The Impacts of Bill C-58 on First Nations' Access to Information	Union of BC Indian Chiefs	2019	Discussion Paper	Legislation	A discussion on access to information and Indigenous rights over data.
B53	Titles for description of Indigenous-related archival content	Library and Archives Canada	2022	Website	Reconciliation	
B54	Truth and Reconciliation Report and Recommendations	Canadian Federation of Library Associations	2017	Report	Reconciliation	A final report on the support of reconciliation efforts within information spaces.
B55	Union of BC Indian Chiefs: Ethical Research Policy	UBCIC Library & Archives	n.d	Policy	Research	A policy guiding appropriate research of Indigenous peoples and related materials.

Although the sources had an overall reference to Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit rights within archival spaces, some documents engaged with specific communities; BC First Nations, Mi'kmaw, Stoney Nations, Blackfoot Confederacy, Tsuut'ina, Ktunaxa, Secwepemc, Mountain Cree, and Otipemisiwak.

Table 6 Grey literature organizations and geography.

Organization Name	Organization Type	Geographic Audience	Indigenous-Led
Archives Society of Alberta	Non-profit organization	Alberta	No
ARMA Canada	Corporation	Ontario	No
Association of Canadian Archivists	Non-profit organization	Federal	No
Canadian Conservation Institute	Corporation	Federal	No
Canadian Federation of Library Associations	Non-profit organization	Federal	No
Canadian Research Knowledge Network	Non-profit organization	Federal	No
City of Winnipeg Archives	Museum and Archive	Manitoba	No
Coalition for Canadian Digital Heritage	cross-sectoral coalition of memory organizations	Federal	No
Council of Canadian Archives	Corporation	Federal	No
Council of Nova Scotia Archives	Non-profit organization	Nova Scotia	No
First Nations Information Governance Centre	Non-profit organization	Federal	Yes
First Peoples' Cultural Council	Corporation	British Columbia	Yes
Government of Canada	Government Institution	Federal	No

Organization Name	Organization Type	Geographic Audience	Indigenous-Led
Library and Archives Canada	Government Institution	Federal	No
National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation	Research and Education Centre	Federal	Yes
Royal BC Museum and Archives	Corporation	British Columbia	No
Steering Committee on Canada's Archvies	Non-profit organization	Federal	No
The United Church of Canada Archives	Charity	Federal	No
UBCIC Library & Archives	Academic Institution	British Columbia	No
Union of BC Indian Chiefs	Non-profit organization	British Columbia	Yes
University of Alberta	Academic Institution	Alberta	No
University of Victoria Libraries	Academic Institution	British Columbia	No
University of Waterloo Special Collections and Archives	Academic Institution	Ontario	No
Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies	Museum and Archive	Alberta	No
Yellowhead Institute	Research and Education Centre	Federal	Yes

As seen in Figure 5, reports are the highest published document-type followed by website pages, both referencing the implementation of reconciliation in archival and cultural spaces. However, it is significant to note the difference in the sum of documents published by Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations. Indigenous authorship will be further discussed in Chapter 5.

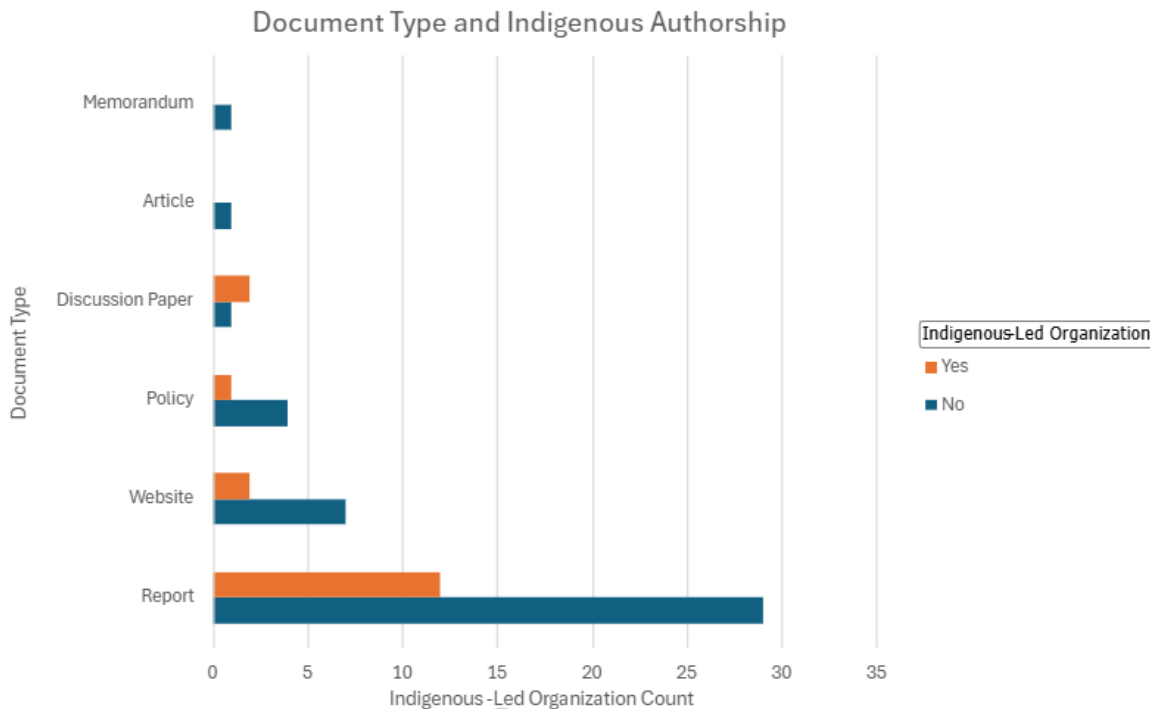


Figure 5 Document type and Indigenous authorship totals.

4.3.2 Thematic Data

Numerous themes were identified in the 65 identified sources with the top 5 most referenced being cultural heritage, access and copyright, reconciliation, legislation, and strategic frameworks. The extent of repetition can be seen in Figure 6 identifying reconciliation as the most referenced theme with 19 sources directly referencing reconciliation as the document’s purpose. Additionally, access and copyright are continually referenced speaking to Indigenous ownership over their cultural heritage. Responding to Indigenous ownership, it is important to note that only 15 of the 56 sources are published by Indigenous-led organizations as seen in Figure 5.

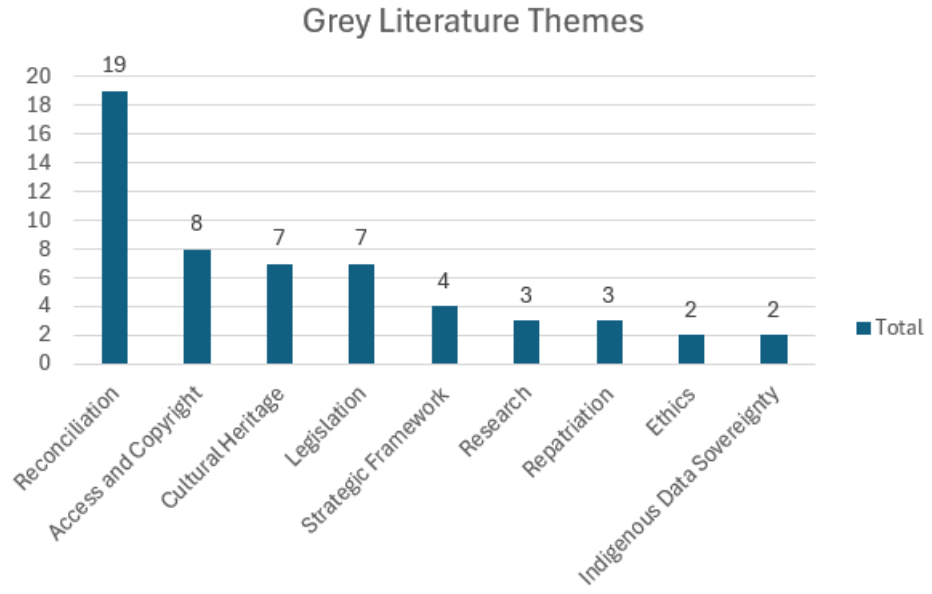


Figure 6 Common themes identified in grey literature results.

CHAPTER 5: DATA ANALYSIS AND SYNTHESIS

The collected data from both academic and grey literature sources will be discussed in thematic aggregates to discuss how the Canadian archival community has responded to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s Calls to Action and the gaps in which work has yet to be done. The themes and concepts overlapped and will be analyzed in relation to one another as demonstrated in table 7 below.

Table 7 Data analysis chart.

Theme	Chapter 5 Discussion Themes	Factors Influencing Reconciliation
Access and Control	5.2.1 Access to Indigenous Records	Indigenous Sovereignty
	5.2.2 Access to Indigenous Archival Data	
Indigenous Data Sovereignty	5.3.1 Archival Ownership and Authority	
	Ownership	
Collaboration	5.3.2 Co-Creatorship with Indigenous Communities	Community Ownership and Collaboration
	5.4.1 Challenges to Collaboration	
	5.4.2 Geographical Challenges	

Theme	Chapter 5 Discussion Themes	Factors Influencing Reconciliation
	5.5.1 The Use of Community Archiving	
Community Archiving	5.6.1 The State of Participatory Archiving	
Participatory Archiving	5.7.1 Overcoming Systemic Colonialism in Archival Systems	
Reconciliation	5.7.2 Accountability	Systemic Challenges

5.2 Access and Control

Recognizing access as a fundamental pillar of archival practice, it can be easy to understand that access to records is a highly discussed topic within the included literature.

As mentioned in the Calls, Indigenous peoples have the “inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why” which parallels the need for and importance of having access to archival records related to residential schools (TRC, 2015b, p. 8).

However, the question remains as to whether the Canadian archives have improved access to Indigenous records following the Calls. The academic articles continue to reference access to records as an integral step towards reconciliation, referencing the TRC, UNDRIP and other international guidelines for Indigenous rights. However, few reports, policies and other publicly available documents were discovered that show a change in archival access practices and procedures. This suggests that although access is

a widely discussed topic, few institutions have taken action to change their approach to access.

5.2.1 Access to Indigenous Records

As seen in Tables 3 and 5, several of the documents in this study reference or directly discuss the importance of access and increasing accessibility to Indigenous related records within the archive. Aligning themselves with the Call to Action 69 and a push for increased ownership and accessibility, the documents provide examples, recommendations and strategies for implementation. This is identified within 10 of the 32 peer-reviewed articles directly analyzing access to Indigenous records within archival spaces. However, there is a clear divide between academic conversations and grey literature results showing action steps towards increasing and solidifying accessibility for Indigenous communities.

Documents B4, B5, B6, B10 and B18 are reports that provide recommendations for the implementation of Canadian copyright law and access for Indigenous peoples within their geographic jurisdiction. They act as guidelines and standards for cultural organizations, primarily archives, to adjust their policies and standards to align with the rights of Indigenous peoples. However, the grey literature search only produced a total of 7 policies related to access and privacy for Indigenous collections (B9, B25, B33, B37, B38, B55, and B66). This amplifies the distinct difference between academic discussion (A4, A5, A19, A22, A23, A24, A27, A28, A30), the development of reports, guidelines and standards and the implementation of policies to conduct day-to-day practice in archival spaces.

5.2.2 Access to Indigenous Archival Data

Indigenous data sovereignty is an expansive conversation on a global level between Indigenous communities and settler states to recognize the importance of Indigenous authority over their data. Within the context of archives, Indigenous data is controversial in nature due to conflicting understanding of ownership in correlation with an increase in digitization projects, data transfers, digital archives, and online accessibility of records (Adelson and Mickelson, 2022). The most highly regarded guidelines for Indigenous data sovereignty in the Canadian context is the First Nations Information Governance Centre's standard, OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession). Source A4 recognizes OCAP as a fundamental tool for Indigenous communities to argue for their data governance rights and for settlers to understand how to work and engage with Indigenous communities in the archival setting (McCracken, 2021). The results further recognize OCAP as an adaptable standard, one that can be practically applied to specific community needs, supporting the diverse communities across the settler nation of Canada. Source A10 demonstrates a practical implementation of OCAP in the archival context through the project, *Miiyupimatisiun* Research Data Archives Project (MRDAP) (Adelson and Mickelson, 2022). The authors state, "implementing the OCAP principles requires addressing fundamental questions regarding data ownership rights and access protocols within communities" (Adelson and Mickelson, 2022, p. 512). These discussions of Indigenous data governance call into question the topic of access, specifically, access to archival data.

Access to Indigenous data is becoming increasingly important as digital archival spaces are becoming increasingly recognized as valid archives that are suitable to the needs of

Indigenous communities. Six of the academic articles discussed and analyzed five digital archives for Indigenous peoples. These initiatives include the Shingwauk Residential School Centre, Digital Archive Database Project, Digital Archives and Marginalized Communities Project, Digital Archive Project, and Library and Archives Canada's Project Naming (A3, A5, A6, A10, A14, A18, and A31). Source A3 is a strong example of a digital archive that provides access and control to the community. The authors state, "the community-based nature of the [Shingwauk Residential School Centre] means that every archival, museum, and educational project is under the guidance of Survivors and the community" (McCracken and Hogan, 2021b, p. 1). Although digital archives can connect Indigenous communities to their data or data about them across vast geographical landscapes, not all digital archives are implementing control over access as written in the Calls. Source A31 describes the Great Lakes Research Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts and Cultures' (GRASAC) digital archive project which provides access to records across geographies. However, "Even after records are shared, archives and museum collections still control the data and knowledge that GRASAC researchers have created" (Rayburn et al., 2024 p. 74). Between the case studies and theoretical analyses, the academic results demonstrate the need for access, however, institutions continue to uphold limitations around Indigenous data sovereignty. Policies can provide a directive for the organization for how to make records accessible in a culturally appropriate way. Access should be more than a conversation, more than a recommendation from committees, scholars and organizations. Access to Indigenous records by and for Indigenous communities should be solidified and actively practiced in day-to-day archival functions. The results show that within the last decade and since the Calls, a

limited number of documentations actively engage with access to Indigenous records, with a greater number of documents being reports. Archivists should be held accountable for implementing access policies and standards related to Indigenous data.

5.3 Ownership

“Respecting and defending First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples’ intellectual sovereignty over archival materials created by or about them means ensuring that protocols and guidelines pertaining to the collection, protection, use, and sharing of such materials privilege their ownership, control, and possession by the First Nations, Inuit, or Métis government or community documented in the archival materials” (Steering Committee on Canada's Archives, 2022, p. 39).

From the earliest phases of public archive development in Canada in the early twentieth century, the archive has been considered the owner of materials transferred to its care. The idea of the archive as owner has been called into question continuously during the process of reconciliation as Indigenous communities continue to fight for their right to have ownership, control, and possession over archival materials “created by or about them” (SCCA, 2022). The *Reconciliation Framework*, developed by the SCCA (B41) in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, highlights “Ownership, Control, Possession” as ‘Objective 4’ in their document arguing it is the role of “Canadian archival communities” to “respect and defend” the rights of Indigenous, Metis, and Inuit peoples’ to have sovereignty over archival material (SCAA, 2022). The report published by the TRC as outlined in Chapter 2 is considered a principal document for archives to follow in the process of reconciliation. Despite the objective and theme of ownership intertwined throughout the document, little work has been done in archival institutions to adjust

policies, protocols and standards to align with the rights of Indigenous communities. The potential impacts of failing to implement policies that support Indigenous ownership, can result in the misuse and breach of cultural information (Frogner, 2022).

5.3.1 Archival Ownership and Authority

In the case of academic literature, most articles mention ownership through concepts of plurality, stewardship, participatory archiving, and co-creatorship. Source A4 argues the archival community should rethink archival ownership and provenance by integrating “Indigenous legal traditions, community ownership and prioritizing community needs” (McCracken, 2021a, p. 22). The included articles provide a variety of recommendations such as source A7’s proposal to overcome barriers by removing the colonial ideologies that promote “single creatorship and ownership and the holding of documents out of the reach of the communities they document” (Broderson, 2024, p.63). Drawing the discussion back to concepts of relationality, Hul’qumi’num Mustimuhw scholar Sarah Morales discusses the term Snuw’uyulh, a “Hul’qumi’num word translated roughly into English as “our way of life” (Morales, 2016, p. 107). Snuw’uyulh guides legal traditions, “encompassing all the animating norms, customs, traditions, and laws that produce or maintain that state” (Morales, 2016, p. 107). What is integral to understand in this conversation, is how Hul’qumi’num culture and law lose their essence and wholeness when separate from “their geographic context”, and in turn, landscapes “become an archive or storage for Hul’qumi’num laws and traditions” (Morales, 2016, p. 107). This concept of relationality to land in Hul’qumi’num traditions is an example of how ownership and authority can be weakened with the holding of documents outside of their communities physically, legally and intellectually. By seeking co-creatorship and giving

Indigenous communities ownership over records about them, whether produced through research or through the residential school system, the institution would be promoting Indigenous ways of knowing.

The academic literature results of this study engage with conversations regarding Indigenous ownership as seen in Figure 4. However, similarly to the theme of access when looking at the grey literature results few Canadian archives go beyond the development of reports. The results suggest accountability to Indigenous communities and responding to the Calls has not moved past the stage of acknowledgment and into the stage of implementing organizational policies that provide guidance and promote consistent practice. However, due to systemic colonial ideologies of ownership and Canadian copyright law, the results show archives continue to face challenges (Adelson & Mickelson, 2022). Speaking of cultural heritage institutions, the First Peoples Cultural Council (2019), an Indigenous led organization representing BC First Nations provides a report (B1) noting “Work to revitalize and safeguard ICH [Indigenous Cultural Heritage] should be led and implemented by Indigenous Peoples and organizations” (p. 1).

Indigenous organizations actively working to revitalize the culture of Indigenous peoples are asking heritage institutes, like archives, to give over control to Indigenous peoples.

Yet the results demonstrate little work has been done to fulfill these calls across Canada.

5.3.2 Co-Creatorship with Indigenous Communities

Referring to the opening quotation in section 5.3, it is the role of Canadian archivists, especially settler archivists to “respect and defend” Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis peoples’ “intellectual sovereignty”. Seeking the right to govern their own affairs, Canadian archives need to remove barriers of access and ownership to Indigenous peoples. Source

A7 recognizes the “hindrances” Indigenous people face and believes participatory and co-creatorship approaches to archival practice could offer opportunities to overcome the systemic colonial barriers (Broderson, 2024, p. 70). To implement co-creatorship Broderson suggests making subjects of records, in this case Indigenous peoples, co-creators to increase their access and community rights over through ownership (Broderson, 2024). Dr. Jamila Ghaddar (2016) makes it clear in article A21 the impacts of colonization as the Canadian national archive, the LAC, contains “Indigenous information, knowledge, histories, and cultural expressions that have been revealed, acquired, or exposed” with little to no control given to Indigenous communities (p. 22). Although the language of co-creatorship is not used, an example of shared ownership or stewardship can be seen at the University of Waterloo and their endorsement of the TRC in 2024 (B20). They state in their objectives they will “assess existing holdings to determine which collections may document Indigenous peoples and, where appropriate, work with Indigenous partners to ensure that we are applying ethical and appropriate stewardship practices” (University of Waterloo, 2024). These endorsements are strong statements of change and ideally the institution will uphold policies, guidelines and standards that could be included in a study that examines implementations. Although endorsement is a strong statement, no policies or organizational mandates from non-Indigenous institutions included in this study have implemented the practice of co-creatorship

5.4 Collaboration

To promote reconciliation and to successfully implement access, ownership and control that meets the cultural protocols and customs of an Indigenous community, the archive

management of both museum collections and archival holdings with a focus on collaboration with Indigenous communities. The results show that the provincial and territorial archival organizations that are mandated to assist archivists and archives within their geographical region, such as the Council of Nova Scotia Archives, respond to the TRC through a variety of frameworks and reports, all highlighting the need for collaboration and participatory designs when working with Indigenous archival materials, records, and the communities themselves. The Archives Society of Alberta collaborated with Indigenous communities in their report “Supporting Indigenous Archives in Alberta: Needs Assessment Final Report” (B50). However, few organizations have implemented their recommendations in mandated policies and standards. The results demonstrate that publicly little work has been done to collaborate with Indigenous communities in non-Indigenous archives, however it is outside of this study’s scope to understand why this gap exists. Despite the ACA’s highly recognized *Reconciliation Framework* (see Chapter 2) stating the implementation of policies that “best incorporate specific First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Ways of Knowing and sharing” should be done through “consultations and guidance from traditional systems of governance and Elders advisory groups” (ACA, 2024, p. 61), the results show there needs to be a substantial shift in organizational structures to include policies and mandated documentation to ensure collaboration is a respectfully practiced.

5.4.2 Geographical Challenges

As a result of the colonial project, the displacement and erasure of Indigenous peoples and the extraction of Indigenous cultural heritage, Indigenous archival material has been placed in archives across Canada (Ghaddar, 2021). With the settler nation of Canada

expanding across a vast geographical landscape, Indigenous communities face further barriers in accessing archival material and collaborating with the Canadian archival system. The *Reconciliation Framework* (B41) suggests:

“The Canadian Council of Archives, the Association of Canadian Archivists, and provincial/territorial archival associations/councils collaboratively develop and maintain a country-wide communication network and other tools and resources that will facilitate building relationships between First Nations, Inuit, and Métis governments or communities and Canada’s archival communities” (SCAA, 2022, p. 28).

However, when searching through the report, there is little to no reference regarding challenges resulting from geography, distance, displaced materials, and the importance of land. The primary reference to land and geography is through the practice of repatriation.

Geographical challenges to collaboration and subsequent ownership are often discussed in relation to repatriation practices. The topic of repatriation has become increasingly known in relation to Indigenous peoples and the return to them of sacred and cultural objects by Canadian museums (Royal BC Museum and Archives, 2018). When searching for repatriation policies, guidelines, and legislation during this study, few results existed outside of museums and the management of museum collections. The language used when discussing repatriation in a settler context is ‘object’ of ‘collections’ with little to know reference towards archival material.

The process of repatriation is highly situational, and due to the lack of regulations and legislation guiding the process, repatriation is greatly impacted by localized law, both

settler and Indigenous, from the requesting community (Bourgeois, 2021). Repatriation is a key component to increasing Indigenous ownership and access to cultural heritage, and in many cases, requires the building of respectful relationships between the archival institution and Indigenous community. The University of Alberta conducted a study (B43) supporting repatriation with Indigenous communities and provides an overview of repatriation policies, regulations and legislation in Canada. B43 notes all provinces and territories have had museums, archives, and/or cultural heritage Acts (Bourgeois, 2021). Yet only the province of Alberta has a repatriation Act, only seven provincial and territorial museums have publicly accessible repatriation policies, and only one university has developed a repatriation policy following 2015. (Bourgeois, 2021). Despite the Calls, it is concerning that there have been few to no changes regarding repatriation. The Royal BC Museum and Archive's Indigenous Collections and Repatriation Policy (B25), mandated in 2018, is the only publicly accessible repatriation policy within an archival space discovered during this study. This speaks volumes to the work that has yet to be done regarding repatriation in archival settings and the relationships that are lacking between Canadian archives and Indigenous communities. Singularly existing in the field, the Royal BC policy is highly referenced. Section 4.3 of the SCAA's *Reconciliation Framework* acknowledges the document as a standard for reference when developing repatriation policies in archives.

5.5 Community Archiving

As outlined in section 5.4.1, it can be difficult for non-community level organizations to implement collaborative and participatory practices. This section of Chapter 5 will outline the results that focused on community work and highlight the practices they

implemented. The work done by community archives to collaborate with Indigenous communities seeks to “shift archival power” to ensure communities are “meaningfully involved in the stewardship” of archival records (Payne, 2022, p. 175). Within the last decade, researchers have recognized the theoretical and physical idea of community archives as legitimate spaces within archival work on an international level (Bastian & Flinn, 2020). It has been argued that community archives adapt themselves to their specific location and communities by tailoring their services and procedures to meet community specific needs, thus accommodating various voices and ways of thinking (Bastian & Flinn, 2020; Caswell et al., 2017). Michelle Caswell (2018) suggests there are five key differences between community archives and mainstream archives:

“participation, shared stewardship, multiplicity, archival activism and reflexivity” (p. 22).

The appearance of the term “community archives” in early 20th century society was intended to provide insight into non-traditional archival spaces or collections, especially those that are connected to a particular group of people (Bastian & Flinn, 2020). The definition of community archives has evolved and changed since their emergence in the 20th century, transforming to meet the cultural, political, and historical needs of the communities they serve. Despite being entrenched in colonial practices and ideologies, settler-based community archives have a form of freedom unavailable to mainstream institutions that are highly influenced by governmental influence and, as a result, have opportunities for shifts towards an advocate role in Indigenous sovereignty (Caswell, 2018).

5.5.1 The Use of Community Archiving

It would be misleading if my study did not acknowledge the potential for incompleteness regarding community archiving as it is possible community archives have been developing and implementing reconciliation policies and practices within their institution but do not have their documentation publicly available based on a lack of resources and financial and technological barriers. Community archives are often sustained through volunteer labor. As Sheffield (2020) defines, it is “archival optimism” that can be considered the driving force behind volunteer involvement, with a community’s desire to sustain a space that holds their history and culture. It is through “archival optimism” that resource investment in the sustaining of archives stems. However, there is a gap between “archival optimism” and the actual necessary resources needed for communities to manage a memory keeping space (Sheffield, 2020). Overlooked by many funding opportunities and official institutions, settler-based community archives are restrained by their lack of resources to act on the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. To have a sustainable community archive, much like other cultural heritage institutions, certain requirements must be met: a physical, virtual, or hybrid space; financial investment into archival supplies and other technologies; and human resources that include a minimal desired knowledge and skill set (Sheffield, 2020).

Intertwining their identity with advocacy, community archives have a greater potential to act as foundational institutions in the promotion of Indigenous autonomy over culture and heritage. The results of this study support this argument with a higher percentage of organizations and literature successfully introducing reconciliation practices at the community level in comparison to their government and academic counterparts. The case

studies in the academic literature results include five community-led digital archives (see 4.2.1), a digital research archive with the Whapmagoostui First Nation (FN), and numerous articles recommending community-led practices that all demonstrate responses to the TRC.

5.6 Participatory Archiving

Participatory archiving is a widely used term when referencing the work between archives and marginalized communities. The act of implementing participatory archiving for projects or day-to-day archival work is an approach that builds from concepts of participatory design. Danielle Allard and Shawna Ferris (2015) have noted in article A14, that participatory design “engages with stakeholders throughout a given project, from the articulation of project goals to product planning, prototyping, and implementation” (p. 370). Within archives, participatory design includes stakeholder engagement in the day-to-day practices of an archive including collection development, appraisal, arrangement, description, but community members are key participants in developing, “all aspects of design, functionality, and appearance” of the archive (Allard & Ferris, 2015, p. 370). The results from the academic search suggest the potential use of participatory archiving varies. Potential uses include: (1) the support of digital archive initiatives to insure culturally appropriate design and implementation (See A5, A7 and A14), (2) to increase Indigenous Communities’ accessibility to and ownership of archival materials (See A7 and A26), (3) the development of participatory record ownership policies that recognize Indigenous peoples as creators of records about them (See A7)., (4) community collaboration and the building of respectful relationships between Indigenous communities and Canadian archives (See A14), (5) respectful archival research of

Indigenous peoples and their cultural heritage (See A16), and (6) implementing participatory approaches to archival arrangement and description (See A18).

Collaboration, community-led participatory archiving connects participatory actions with “ongoing collaboration and relationship building” (Allard & Ferris, 2015, p. 370). The use of community-led participatory archiving has the potential to increase Indigenous sovereignty within archival spaces. The results of this study show that within academic and theoretical spaces, participatory archiving is highly recommended as an approach to reconciliation. However, as I will describe in section 5.6.1, the state of implementing participatory archiving in Canadian archives is limited.

5.6.1 The State of Participatory Archiving

The above section outlined the potential role of participatory archiving as a tool for reconciliation in Canadian archives. But how is the practice of participatory archiving being implemented in the archive? What role does it play in government, academic, and community archives? Are there disparities in use of participatory methods between Indigenous and non-Indigenous archives? The results from the grey literature search offer some insight, and its use or lack thereof in the Canadian context.

Firstly, I want to recognize variances in language. In some cases, organizations are implementing participatory approaches but may not use the term to define their actions. This discussion will be looking at the results that specifically use the term ‘participatory’, and how participatory approaches are being used in the archive.

Table 8 Notes out of 36 reports included in the review of grey literature, only 9 use the term ‘participatory’. The results are surprising as I anticipated the reports would be more

aligned with the academic research and the highly recommended use of participatory archive. This suggests there are potential barriers in implementing participatory approaches or in practical spaces other approaches to reconciliation are being favored.

Table 8 Inclusion of ‘participatory’ terminology within grey literature results.

Source Code	Includes Participatory	Use of Participatory Work
B19	Yes	Digital Archive
B21	Yes	Report Literature Review
B27	Yes	Managing Records
B32	Yes	Literature Review
B37	Yes	Outreach
B41	Yes	Community Collaboration
B43	Yes	Description and Collaboration
B49	Yes	Participatory Archiving
B59	Yes	Managing Records

Three policies in the results require the archive to respectfully work with Indigenous peoples on all matters related to their cultural heritage. Two institutions are non-Indigenous led, the Royal BC Museum and Archives (B26) and the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies (B33). The third is the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (B9). The results clearly demonstrate that accountability to Indigenous peoples and the building of respectful relationships does not go beyond the report or recommendation stage. As suggested by scholars and practitioners, active and mandated

participatory approaches are fundamental to reconciliation in the archive (Allas & Ferris, 2015; Cullen & Castleden, 2020). So why has there been little implementation of mandated policies in the archival field following the Calls? It is outside the scope of this study to dissect the why, rather, this information acts as a foundation for work to build upon.

5.7 Reconciliation

The articles included in this study refer to reconciliation in various manners. It is clear through each source that reconciliation is the goal, the objective, and the purpose. Much like this study, reconciliation is at the foundation of my research and writing. But what does this mean? How is reconciliation portrayed in the results? How is reconciliation progressing in the archival community? The above discussion sections begin to answer these questions, discussing specific aspects of Indigenous sovereignty in the archive including access, data sovereignty, ownership, collaboration, community archiving, and participatory archiving. I think it is important in this section of the discussion to draw attention back to the introduction of this study. As mentioned in the introduction, this research resides in the space between past responses to the TRC and the work yet to be done by the archival community. Early in the introduction and opening paragraph, Indigenous scholar Crystal Gail Fraser calls into question the work of the archival community following the TRC's Calls to Action. Fraser contends that the

“The Framework is, in particular, a gesture that responds to a specific Call to Action. This is a signal from the discipline; it signals both the need and a desire to change. It's both a commitment and a public proclamation. But what I see in the

document is reproducing more of the same humdrum conversation regarding what I know to be true about archives.” (Frogner et al., 2024, p. 194)

Much like the framework, the results of this study “signal” the “need and desire” to implement change within the archival community. However, much like her reference to the “same humdrum conversation”, there is little evidence of action beyond creating frameworks, reports, and strategies. How far can these documents reach on the path to reconciliation? I have shown in this study that little has happened beyond these “signals” for change.

5.7.1 Overcoming Systemic Colonialism in Archival Systems

Systemic colonialism within the Canadian archival system speaks to the nature in which the archival system has systemically left Indigenous peoples at a disadvantage due to the nature of the archive and its intrinsic colonial bias. As such, it is important to understand that the system in which Canadian archives exist is systemically colonial, as this greatly impacts how archivists conduct their work and the process of reconciliation. It is outside the scope of this research to provide an expansive report on the systemic colonial nature of the Canadian archival system. Insights can be found in Chapter 2 Background, more specifically sections *2.1.1 The History of the Canadian Archival System*, *2.1.2 The Concept of the “Total Archive”*, and *2.1.3 The Archival System Post-Truth and Reconciliation*. It is however within the scope of this study to acknowledge how the results of this study attempt to respond to systemic colonialism.

By responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action, and by presenting the results within this study, I recognize the systemic colonial nature of the

Canadian archival system. Notably, it is important to recognize the context in which the Calls to Action and TRC exist, a way of “grappling with the genocidal history” and the colonial legacy of the residential school system (Frogner et al., 2024, p. 183). As such, the archival community is not only responsible for removing colonial barriers in the archive, but more specifically, the harmful impacts of residential schools. What the results show is little has been done to respond to either. Yes, scholars and practitioners have ‘signaled’ for change, but the grey literature shows implementation of change is relatively non-existent within the expansive archival community that spans across the vast geography of the nation state Canada. Frogner et al., (2024) notes although the *Reconciliation Framework* is a good start, the broader documents “fail to centralize the ongoing importance of residential schools” (A72, p. 184). The grey literature results highlight 37 of these “broader documents”. These documents suggest the relationship between archives and Indigenous communities are surface level in nature. Fraser states “In my experience as somebody who accesses archives, I have not seen a profound change in how archives are managed, or their accessibility, since 2015 – since the Calls to Action” (Frogner et al., 2024, p. 185). The results of my study align with statements such as these. The archival community recognizes the need for change as seen through the publishing of peer-reviewed articles, reports, frameworks and guidelines. However, based on publicly available sources, the archival community has been vocal but not acting. There is a need for the community to move beyond “reconciliation frameworks” and towards actively mandating and implementing practices and protocols that support reconciliation and efforts to overcome the colonial legacy of the residential school system.

CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION

6.1 Conclusion

A decade following the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action, the Canadian archival community continues to grapple with how to overcome the systemic colonial nature of the Canadian archival system. Attempting to understand how Canadian archives and archivists alike have responded to the TRC in the last ten years, this study has reviewed relevant academic and grey literature related to Indigenous sovereignty and reconciliation in archival spaces. The various included articles, reports, policies, frameworks and guidelines represent the work completed by the archival community in Canada. More substantially, the results of this study show the work that has yet to occur in response to the Calls.

6.2 Factors Impacting Reconciliation

The peer-reviewed literature, policies, guidelines, frameworks and reports collected during this study suggest four factors are impacting progress towards reconciliation in archival spaces. However, there are four indicators of success from the results that seem to impact reconciliation progression in archival practice and theory. These indicators include Indigenous ownership over archival materials, increased accessibility to archival materials, the implementation of collaborative/participatory practices, and mandated policies supporting Indigenous self-determination.

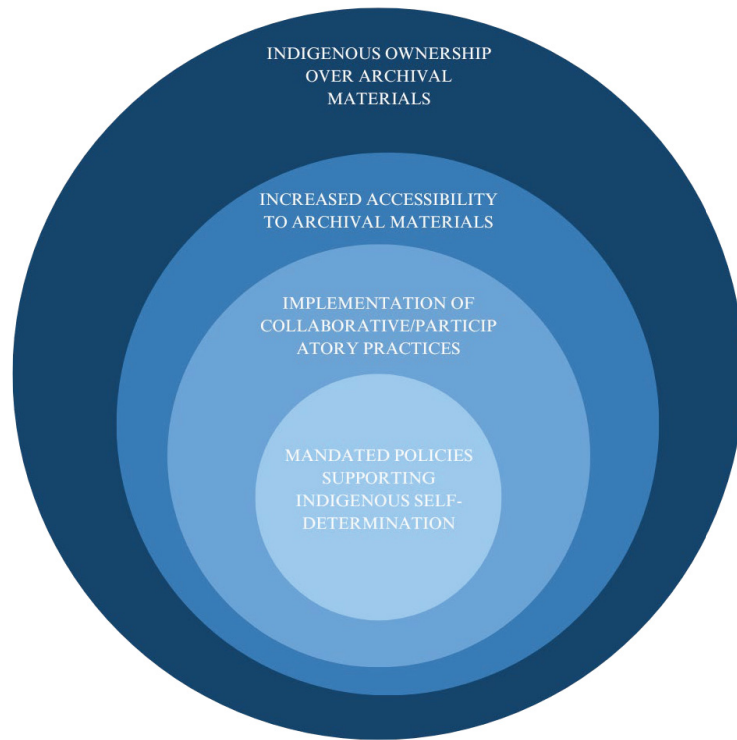


Figure 7 Indicators of success that impact reconciliation in the archive.

The discussion chapter of this study has demonstrated how these indicators are impacting the Canadian archival community's response to the calls singularly and in relationship with one another. Scholars and active practitioners recognize ownership, accessibility, collaboration and mandated policies to be fundamental components of change within the archival system. This can be seen primarily in the peer-review literature results and from the numerous reports outlining best practice within the archival field. However, as seen in Figure 7, mandated policies supporting Indigenous self-determination in the archival system is at the core of success. The results of this study suggest that without practice being mandated organizations are not being held accountable to implement best practices such as ownership, access, and collaboration. The small number of mandated policies and practices in comparison to the development of frameworks and reports from the grey-

literature search demonstrates accountability towards Indigenous peoples and responses to the Calls have not gone beyond preliminary stages.

How these indicators of success can be implemented within organizations will vary depending on their structure. As the results have identified, archival organizations vary including public archives, academic archives, digital archives and community archives.

How an institution responds to the TRC’s Calls will be impacted by institutional structures. Table 9 provides an overview of best practices from both the academic and grey literature results and how they may be implemented to further reconciliation efforts within the Canadian archival system.

Table 9 Best practices and recommendations based on study results.

Indicator	Limited Organizational Change	Successful Implementation of Reconciliation Practices.
Indigenous Ownership Over Archival Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not recognize OCAP as institutional mandate. • Does not recognize UNDRIP as foundational standard over ownership of cultural heritage. • No communication with connected Indigenous communities. • No recognition of the negative impacts of Canadian copyright standards. • Focuses on single creatorship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implements the principles of OCAP in practice and policy. • Attempts to navigate the Canadian Copyright Act in support of Indigenous peoples. • Practices co-creatorship. • Implements policies recognizing Indigenous right to self-determination and UNDRIP.
Increased Accessibility to Archival Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not implement repatriation practices. • Relies on Indigenous communities to travel to institution. • Does not provide opportunities for virtual communication or digital access. • Does not recognize OCAP as institutional mandate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Indigenous communities to overcome geographical barriers. • Implementing digital practices that support access to materials and participatory practices. • Updating or creating access policy that reflects community needs.

Indicator	Limited Organizational Change	Successful Implementation of Reconciliation Practices.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access policy does not consider the sensitive nature of Indigenous materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implements the principles of OCAP in practice and policy.
The Implementation of Collaborative/Participatory Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited communication with Indigenous communities. • Outreach is minimal. • Does not include Indigenous communities in description process. • No mandatory policies requiring collaboration when dealing with Indigenous materials. • Lack of consultation with community representatives and Elders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively implements outreach practices. • Follows community protocols and law. • Communicates with community representatives and Elders. • Has an active policy requiring community consultation and collaboration between institution and community.
Mandated Policies Supporting Indigenous Self-Determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No policies recognizing access is to be determined by Indigenous communities. • No internal mandates requiring staff to consult with community representatives when handling Indigenous materials and collections. • UNDRIP is not recognized as institutional standard. • No public response to the TRC. • Not making policies and related practices available to the public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has active and up-to-date policies for access and use of Indigenous materials that reflect community protocols and law. • Makes policies and relevant documents available to the community and larger public. • Develops related policies in consultation with the community.

It is important to recognize the potential that certain documentation and practices have not been made available to the public. However, as this study has made abundantly clear, key aspects to overcoming the colonial nature of the Canadian archival system includes both recognition and implementation. Making policies and responses to the Calls public is a key step in not only signalling that the institution recognizes a need for change but that they are actively working towards it. An important outcome of this study is the

acknowledgement that few archival organizations have done more than respond or make their efforts clear to the public. Commonly acknowledged in the grey literature results is the referencing or citing of broad overarching documents such as UNDRIP, OCAP, the Calls to Action and the *Reconciliation Framework*, but little has been done to actively engage with Indigenous peoples at the community level and the implementation of community specific protocols related to cultural heritage. As mentioned within the introduction of this study, I have an interest in understanding why such community relationships are being underdeveloped considering the overwhelming call for collaboration, however, it is outside of the scope of this study and encourages further research. Additionally, it is important to acknowledge this study has only engaged with publicly available documentation. There is potential for further research to understand if efforts or movements towards implementing policies and procedures are being done in a non-public manner through direct engagement with Canadian archives.

6.3 Shifting from Passive to Active Responders

As I have continued to acknowledge throughout this study, it has been ten years since the Calls to Action. Both the academic and grey literature results from this study show there are ways to implement reconciliation practices in the archive. As outlined in the discussion chapter, these include access, Indigenous Data Sovereignty, ownership, collaboration, community archiving, and participatory archiving. This study indicates, rather than taking these practices and actively implementing them, the Canadian archival community is still grappling with what to do next. Furthermore, as seen in the results, there have been a limited number of successful Indigenous-led projects that can act as templates for change with adaptation to meet specific community needs. All these

components bring the conversation back to the introductory chapter and Indigenous scholar Crystal Gail Fraser's calling out to the archival community, asking what has been done since 2015. The following section will outline how archives can shift towards being active responders to the TRC's Calls to Action.

6.3.1 Actively Engaging with 'Evergreen' Documents

Numerous documents in the results have recognized the potential for continual change as the archival community continues to promote reconciliation. A strong example of this is the Steering Council for Canadian Archive's (SCCA) 'Evergreen' *Reconciliation Framework*. As noted in chapter two of this study, the SCCA's *Reconciliation Framework* is recognized as the primary resource for responding to the TRC for Canadian archives. However, it has been noted by scholars and practitioners that this framework is incomplete in nature and does not accurately reflect certain aspects of the Calls to Action (Frogner et al., 2024). Using the terminology "evergreen", meaning the document is under the scrutiny of change, has lessened accountability, recognizing the need for continual change without having structure in place to do so. To become active responders to the TRC, continual engagement with these "evergreen" documents will ensure the archival community is listening to feedback and updating their documents to meet the needs of Indigenous peoples as they continue to fight for their rights within colonial systems.

6.3.2 Mandating Change in the Archive

This study suggests mandated materials are a core component to actively engaging with reconciliation practices and responding to the TRC. Policies are fundamental documents within an institution that guide the organization and its employees. Regarding Indigenous

materials, policies are key to success in three ways; (1) policies act as guidelines for employees to respectfully engage with Indigenous archival materials and their communities; (2) policies require institutions to uphold highest industry standards; (3) policies can shift organizations away from western ideas of ownership and access and support localized law and cultural protocols; (4) policies are a public statement recognizing the need for change and ensuring the organization is working towards deconstructing colonial practices; and (5) policies are open to the public and require continual reflection meaning the document can ensure its “evergreen” nature meets the needs of the community. Taking the frameworks and best practices presented within the results and applying them to mandated materials has the potential to shift the way archives interact with Indigenous peoples and related materials.

An opportunity for further research would be interacting with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous archives at the community level to see how policies are or are not being implemented and what barriers institutions face. Unlike Library and Archives Canada, community archives have greater potential to support justice-oriented practices and as such create and implement policies reflective of community needs. Creating more policies would not only shift the community away from being passive responders to the TRC but would provide numerous models for Indigenous sovereignty in the archive.

6.4 The Next Decade for The Canadian Archival Community

While some like to believe the Canadian archival community has made substantial changes following the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the results of this study suggest the deeply entrenched colonial nature of Canada’s archival system continues to create barriers for Indigenous peoples. Although ten years have

passed since the Calls, the archival community must continue to strive to be accountable and should continue to work towards creating a system that supports Indigenous peoples and other marginalized communities. Recent reflections and conversations regarding the SCCA's *Reconciliation Framework* and its incompleteness reflect the greater debates and conversations regarding the archival community and how it has responded to the TRC. Although little change has been made beyond the creation of framework and theoretical models, the archival community now has enough resources to start actively responding to the Calls and broader issues regarding Indigenous self-determination in Canada. As fundamental memory holders and spaces of information, archives play a crucial role in not only supporting Indigenous peoples on the path to self-determination and the revitalization of their cultural heritage, but a broader responsibility to Canadian society to educate and promote respect towards Indigenous communities. Although this study does not provide any new approaches, models or best-practices, it calls for a fundamental shift in the mindset of the Canadian archival community to recognize that our accountability should not waver, that after a decade of work creating resources, it is now time to become active participants and make institutional changes.

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APPENDIX A SEARCH STRATEGIES

Table 1 Stage One Search String for academic literature in SCOPUS

Search ID	Search Terms	# of Results
S06	S01 OR S02 AND S03 AND S04 AND S05	156
S05	(TITLE-ABS-KEY (archive* OR archival OR "archival science" OR "archival collection*"))	203,670
S04	(TITLE-ABS-KEY (laws OR legislation OR recommendation* OR protocol OR framework OR policy OR policies OR theor* OR guideline* OR governance OR sovereignty OR repatriation OR "counter-archive*" OR reconciliation))	16,225,085
S03	(TITLE-ABS-KEY ("Indigenous" OR "American Indian" OR "First Nation*" OR metis OR eskimo OR inuit OR algonquin OR anishinaabe OR assiniboine OR athapaskan OR blackfoot OR cayuga OR chippewa OR cree OR dakelh OR dene OR dunne-za OR gitsxan OR gwich'in OR haida OR haisla OR heiltsuk OR haudenosaunee OR kwakwaka'wakw OR inuk OR iroqui* OR kaska OR ktunaxa OR nako* OR nuxalk OR maliseet OR mi'kmaq OR mi'kmaw OR micmca OR mohawk OR nipissing OR nisga'a OR jibwa OR ojibwe OR ojibway OR oji-cree OR okanagan OR oneida OR onpdaga OR oweenkeno OR passamaquoddy OR potawatomi OR salish OR saulteaux OR "Sec wepmc" OR sekani OR seneca OR stl'atlinc OR tagish OR tastine OR tahltan OR tinglit OR tsimshian OR tsilhqot'in OR "Tsuu T'inia" OR tuscarora OR tutchone OR wakashan))	262,659
S02	(TITLE (canadian* OR canada* OR "british columbia*" OR alberta* OR saskatchewan* OR manitoba* OR ontario* OR quebec* OR "new brunswick*" OR "prince edward island*" OR "nova scotia*" OR labrador* OR newfoundland* OR nunavut* OR "northwest territor*" OR yukon* OR toronto* OR montreal* OR vancouver* OR ottawa* OR calgary* OR edmonton* OR winnipeg*))	258,325
S01	(TITLE-ABS-KEY (canadian* OR canada* OR "British Columbia*" OR alberta* OR saskatchewan* OR manitoba* OR ontario* OR quebec* OR "new Brunswick*" OR "prince Edward island*" OR "nova scotia*" OR labrador* OR newfoundland*	799,930

	OR nunavut* OR "northwest territor*" OR yukon* OR toronto* OR montreal* OR vancouver* OR ottawa* OR calgary* OR edmonton* OR winnipeg*))	
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Table 2 Targeted Website Searching: Non-Indigenous Organizations

Date	Organization name	URL	# of items screened (uploaded to citation management software)
	<i>Ex. Public Health Ontario</i>	<i>Ex. https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Pages/default.aspx</i>	
11/04/2024	Archives Society of Alberta	http://www.archivesalberta.org/	1
11/16/2024	Association of Canadian Archivists	https://archivists.ca/	8
11/04/2024	Association of Manitoba Archives	http://mbarchives.ca/	Resource List
10/31/2024	Canadian Council of Archives	http://www.archivistes.qc.ca/	2
11/16/2024	Canadian Federation for Libraries Association	https://cfla-fcab.ca/en/indigenous/	2

11/16/2024	Council of Nova Scotia Archives	https://www.councilofnsarchives.ca/	1
12/17/2024	Library and Archives Canada	https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/corporate/about-us/strategies-initiatives/indigenous-documentary-heritage-initiatives/Pages/indigenous-documentary-heritage-initiatives.aspx	11
11/16/2024	Saskatchewan Council of Archives and Archivists	http://scaa.sk.ca/home	1
11/04/2024	Yukon Council of Archives	http://www.yukoncouncilofarchives.ca/	7
11/18/2024	Royal BC Museum	https://www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/about/museum-information/corporate-information/reports-policies	2
01/19/2025	Canadian Knowledge Research Network	https://www.crkn-rcdr.ca/en	4
12/17/2024	University of British Columbia	https://guides.library.ubc.ca/c.php?g=307208&p=2049510	1
01/17/2025	Coalition for Canadian Digital Heritage	https://ccdh-cnpc.ca/strategic-framework/	1
11/04/2024	Archives Association of British Columbia	http://aabc.ca/	Resource List
01/19/2025	Access Residential School Student Names	https://provincialarchives.alberta.ca/how-to/access-residential-school-student-names	1
11/18/2024	MacEwan Library	https://library.macewan.ca/about/policies-and-guidelines/indigenous-collections-policy	1
11/18/2024	Librarianship.ca	https://librarianship.ca/news/reconciliation-framework/	1
11/18/2024	Whyte Museum	https://www.whyte.org/indigenous-access-policy	1

11/18/2024	University of Waterloo	https://uwaterloo.ca/library/special-collections-archives/blog/post/endorsing-reconciliation-framework	1
11/18/2024	University of New Brunswick Libraries	https://lib.unb.ca/guides/first-nations-materials-archives-special-collections	1
11/18/2024	University of Alberta	https://guides.library.ualberta.ca/first-nations-metis-inuit/archives-and-historical-sources	1
11/18/2024	University of Winnipeg	https://archives.uwinnipeg.ca/our-collections/two-spirit-archives.html	1
10/31/2024	https://archives2026.com/ Steering Committee on Canadian Archives	https://archives2026.com/	11

Table 3

Targeted Website Searching: Indigenous Organizations

Date	Organization name	URL	# of items screened (uploaded to citation management software)
	<i>Ex. Public Health Ontario</i>	<i>Ex. https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Pages/default.aspx</i>	
11/18/2024	NIKLA	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vSOKcm9HB-28iSqNN3sQd5hV7bMLMGpCeGL0dkQgyg2AiZAMWUF0sp98GyxIvLXYIWqSZ3nX_j_q4UN/pubhtml	1
10/31/2024	First Peoples' Cultural Council	https://fpcc.ca/	4

11/05/2024	First Nations Information Governance	https://fnigc.ca/index.php	10
11/04/2024	First Nations Public Service Secretariat	https://fnps.ca/resources/#infomgmttoolkit	4
01/19/2025	Archive/Counter Archive	https://counterarchive.ca/about	1
1/17/2025	National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation	https://nctr.ca/	1

Table 4 Advanced Google Search

Date	Search String	# of items screened (uploaded to citation management software)
11/18/2024	Indigenous Archives site:.org filetype:pdf	1
11/18/2024	Archives AND Standards AND Canada AND Indigenous site:.org filetype:pdf	1
11/18/2024	Archives AND Policy AND Reconciliation AND Canada site:.org filetype:pdf	3
11/18/2024	Canadian Archives Indigenous collections policies	3

11/18/2024	Indigenous AND Archive AND Policy [Canada]	4
11/18/2024	Policy OR procedure* OR standard* OR protocol OR guide* "Truth and reconciliation" Archive [Canada]	2