

# TEI Backgrounder

## The Treaty Education Initiative K – 12

The Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) in partnership with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC), Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Manitoba Education (ME) and the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) have made a commitment to work together to increase the knowledge and understanding of Treaties and the Treaty Relationship for all students in Manitoba. This public education strategy for K-12 is known as the “Treaty Education Initiative” (TEI).

The TEI learning outcome is that all Manitoba students should be expected to demonstrate knowledge of the topics, concepts and understandings of the Treaties and the Treaty Relationship by the end of grade 12.

The short-term goal of the TEI is to develop K-12 Treaty education instructional resources and provide capacity building training workshops to support the implementation of Treaty education in classrooms across the province. The long term goal of the TEI is to seek and secure province-wide support that would recognize Treaty education as an integral education enrichment resource that can be integrated into all aspects of existing provincial curricula which will ultimately support the TEI's learning outcome.

On September 27, 2011, the launch of the *Treaties and the Treaty Relationship: Teacher Guide for Grade 5*; the *Treaties and the Treaty Relationship: Teacher Guide for Grade 6* and the *Treaty Essential Learnings: The Treaty Experience in Manitoba* was held at The Forks, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. These documents, together with a variety of additional Treaty education resources are included in the Treaty Education Kit which is currently being circulated and implemented in schools across the province.

Development and piloting of the Treaty education resources for K – 12 was completed by the end of the 2013-2014 school year. The last set of resources to be piloted were the Grade 7 – 12 teacher guides. The 2014-2015 school year will see the implementation of the learning materials for grades 7 to 12 with a concerted focus on training for teachers at that level.

September 23, 2014 was the official media launch of the comprehensive Kindergarten to Grade 12 teacher's guides and accompanying Treaty Education kit.

These new instructional Treaty education teacher guides and resources are intended to complement the existing Manitoba Social Studies curriculum, while the learning outcomes are designed to enhance and enrich the students' learning experience. By

engaging students throughout Manitoba in dialogue about the Treaties and the Treaty relationship they will be better able to demonstrate a stronger understanding of Treaties as a fundamental building block of Canada and value the Treaty relationship that exists between all Canadians.

Broad support for the Treaty Education Initiative has been generated from schools, school divisions, First Nation education authorities, and other organizations like the Manitoba Teachers Society, the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents, the Manitoba School Boards Association, as well as the Board of Directors for the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre. As the TEI moves forward, Treaty education will be implemented in classrooms and other learning environments throughout the province.

The TRCM wishes to acknowledge the AMC's Council of Elders who made significant contributions to the development, piloting and implementation of Treaty education in Manitoba.

The TRCM also wishes to thank all its partners, associates, schools, education authorities and school divisions who continue to actively support the development of the Treaty Education Initiative so that it can be brought to students across Manitoba.

As well, the TRCM offers its gratitude to the Office of the Treaty Commissioner in Saskatchewan for their collaboration and ongoing support.

[Download the printable Backgrounder \(PDF\)](#)

For more information on the Treaty Education Initiative please contact the TRCM via telephone (204) 777-1871 or watch this website for updates and announcements of future regional Treaty education training workshops.

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE