



June 21, 2018

June 21 has been deemed National Indigenous Peoples Day by the Government of Canada. This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

APUS acknowledges the shortcomings of this national commitment to Indigenous Peoples when it comes to meeting their rights to housing, access to postsecondary education, access to disability supports and mental health care, and protection of Indigenous languages and cultures. We also continue to see a lack of progress around the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, a lack of action on the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and ongoing environmental racism.

APUS also acknowledges that treaties were a part of Turtle Island for thousands of years. The establishment of Canada was through Treaty agreements between Indigenous Peoples and the Crown. These agreements allow settlers to live and share the resources on this land. It is our responsibility to know these treaties and honour them.

We stand in solidarity with Indigenous Peoples defending rights to Indigenous customs and traditions and to not only survive but thrive in communities across Turtle Island.