

Truth and Reconciliation Commitment Statement

Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region stands in unwavering solidarity with Indigenous communities, acknowledging the profound historical and ongoing injustices they endure. We recognize the immense harm inflicted by government systems, particularly through the residential school system, which aimed to erase Indigenous cultures and languages. Our commitment is grounded in anti-oppression practices, and we actively work toward reconciliation.

Our Pledge:

1. **Dismantling Barriers:** We pledge to dismantle systemic barriers and racism within our organization. Our services and programs will be intentionally designed to be inclusive and equitable, ensuring that Indigenous voices are heard and respected.
2. **Education and Awareness:** We commit to ongoing education about the legacy of residential schools. We recognize that this legacy is not positive; it represents a painful chapter in Canadian history. By understanding this history, we can better support healing and empowerment.
3. **Collaboration:** We will collaborate closely with Indigenous leaders, recognizing the diversity and autonomy of Indigenous nations. Together, we will develop culturally sensitive approaches that honor Indigenous knowledge and traditions.
4. **Meaningful Action:** Our commitment extends beyond words. We will take meaningful action to promote reconciliation. This includes advocating for Indigenous rights, supporting cultural preservation, and fostering respectful relationships.
5. **A Future of Celebration:** We envision a future where the rights and dignity of Indigenous peoples are upheld and celebrated. Through our daily actions, we contribute to this vision and walk the path of reconciliation.