Acknowledging Past Wrongs

As cultures and values discover each other and interact, there is often conflict. Human conviction in their understanding of true or good commonly leads to forced assimilation, a degradation of other societies, and violence. Understanding and speaking about historical injustice is one of the ways that we can honour past victims and try to prevent such acts from occurring in the future.

For this project you will create an 11”x17” poster that acknowledges a historical injustice. Your poster should include a heading and title, an image that represents the event or injustice, a written explanation of the injustice, a reference to one primary source, an indication of which modern Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (CCRF) violations would have been committed.

Skills we are working on...
- Make reasoned ethical judgments about actions in the past and present, and determine appropriate ways to remember and respond (AE)

Planning

Historical injustice you are investigating: ___________________________________________________________

To Do List

- Clear title for your poster that indicates the historical wrong
- A central image that represents the event or injustice—should help the viewer understand
- A written explanation of the injustice—should provide the key details
- Clear reference to a primary source—can be in visual or written form
- Explanation of which CCRF violations would occur if the injustice took place today

Where to start—an unfortunate list

Emerging
- Head Tax
- Potlatch ban
- Internments
- Suffrage
- Asiatic Exclusion League (BC)

Developing
- Treatment of Chinese railway workers
- Treatment of Eastern European farmers
- Treatment of African-American slavery refugees
- Residential schools
- Gender issues
- Workers’ rights
- Discrimination of German-Canadians during WWI

Proficient
- Treatment of Sikh loggers
- Treatment of Irish famine refugees
- Indian Act

Extending
- Head Tax
- Potlatch ban
- Internments
- Suffrage
- Asiatic Exclusion League (BC)