

November 5, 2024

Statement from the Faculty of Health on the passing of Murray Sinclair

It is with profound sadness that the Faculty of Health acknowledges the passing of the Honourable Murray Sinclair.

A member of the Peguis First Nation, Mr. Sinclair dedicated his life to repairing and reshaping Canada's relationship with Indigenous Peoples. A lawyer by profession, he became the first Indigenous judge appointed in Manitoba and just the second in Canada.

In his role as Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, Sinclair's leadership was instrumental in bringing to light the horrors of the residential school system, amplifying the voices of survivors, and forging a path toward healing and reconciliation. The TRC's report, including its 94 Calls to Action, gave a voice to Survivors and guides our collective journey toward a fairer, more equitable future with Indigenous Peoples.

We know this loss may be difficult for many Indigenous members of our community, and we encourage all community members to please be kind to one another. Supports are available to the York community via the Well-being at York website <https://www.yorku.ca/well-being/>.

Thank you. Miigwech. Anushiik.

Chris Ardern, Interim Dean

Karin Page-Cutrara, Vice Dean, Learning, Teaching & Academic Programs

Sean Hillier, Interim Associate Dean, Research and Innovation

Monique Herbert, Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs & Inclusiveness

Mazen Hamadeh, Associate Dean for Students