

# **Social Development Studies Public Lecture**

## ***Researching Education in the Era of Reconciliation***

**Dr. Sean Carleton**

**Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – 2:00 pm**

**Classroom REN 1918**

Last month, the chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples, Sen. Lynn Beyak, defended Canada's Indian Residential Schools as being "well-intentioned" and argued that Canadians should focus on the "good" the schools accomplished. Her comments, made only a year after the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission showed Canadians how the schools constituted a form of genocide, sparked an intense public controversy. Despite facing wide-spread criticism, Beyak refused to apologize for her comments and publicly stated that she did not need "any more education" on the issue. Beyak's comments and her unwillingness to re-evaluate her beliefs in light of the TRC's research findings highlights the persistent barriers to reconciliation in Canada and illustrates the pressing need for further education about Indigenous-settler relations.

Dr. Sean Carleton will deliver a public talk on how his research on the history and politics of settler colonialism and schooling for Indigenous and non-Indigenous children in Western Canada in the late 19th and early 20th centuries aims to generate greater awareness about Indigenous-settler relations to aid meaningful reconciliation. Dr. Carleton will argue that academic research in the era of reconciliation must play a key role in answering the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and advocating for social change.

Dr. Carleton is an Assistant Professor in the Department of General Education at Mount Royal University in Calgary, AB, Treaty 7 Territory. His interdisciplinary research looks specifically at the history and politics of settler colonialism and the rise of state schooling for Indigenous and non-Indigenous children in Western Canada.

***Open to all. Refreshments will be served.***



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