



# Taking Stock of the Calls to Action: Sport & Reconciliation





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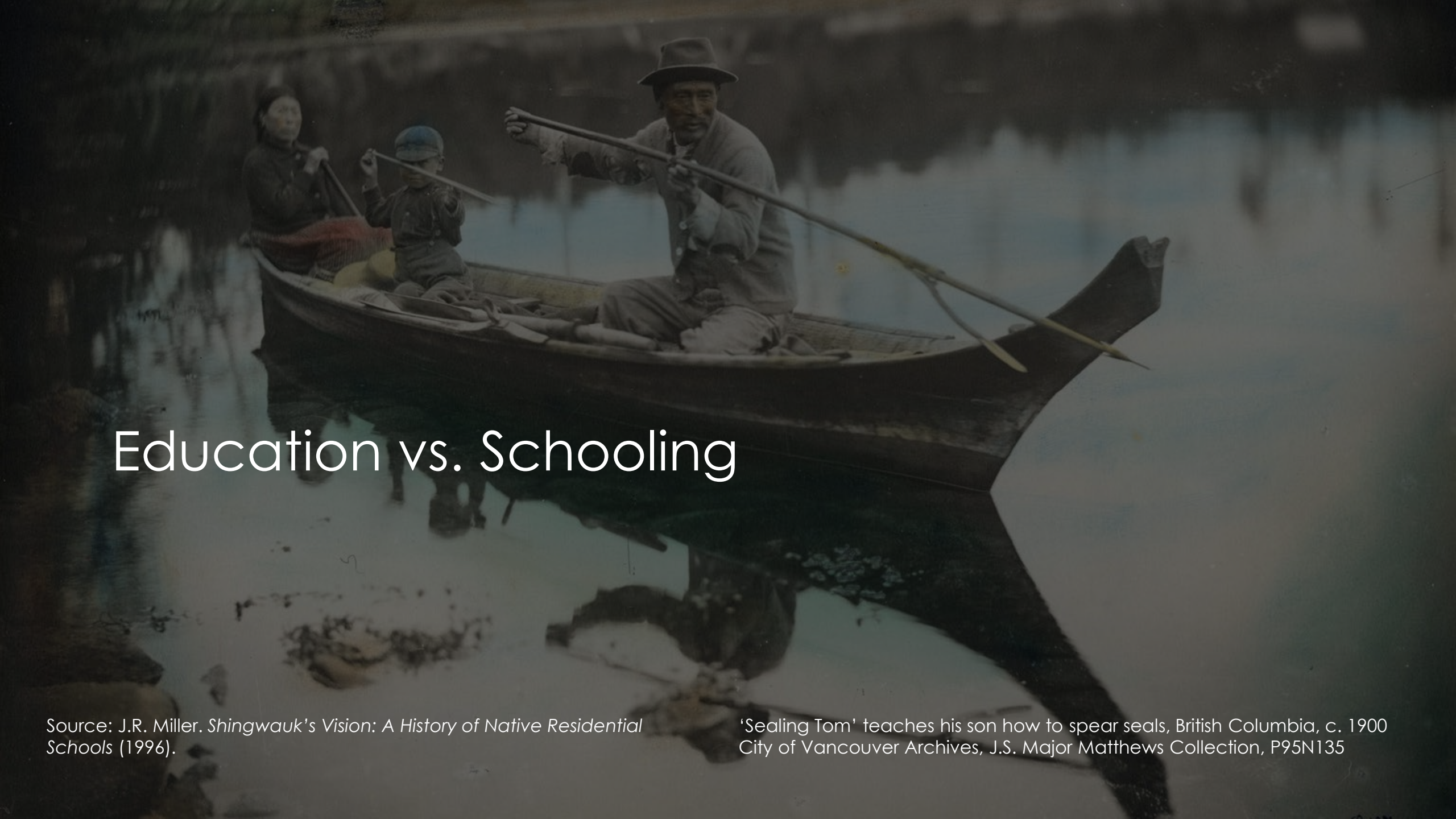


# Today

1. How did we get here? A historical roadmap.
2. Is sport a culturally neutral activity? A sociological response.
3. What do we do now? What's at stake?



How did we get here?  
A historical roadmap.



# Education vs. Schooling

Source: J.R. Miller. *Shingwauk's Vision: A History of Native Residential Schools* (1996).

'Sealing Tom' teaches his son how to spear seals, British Columbia, c. 1900  
City of Vancouver Archives, J.S. Major Matthews Collection, P95N135



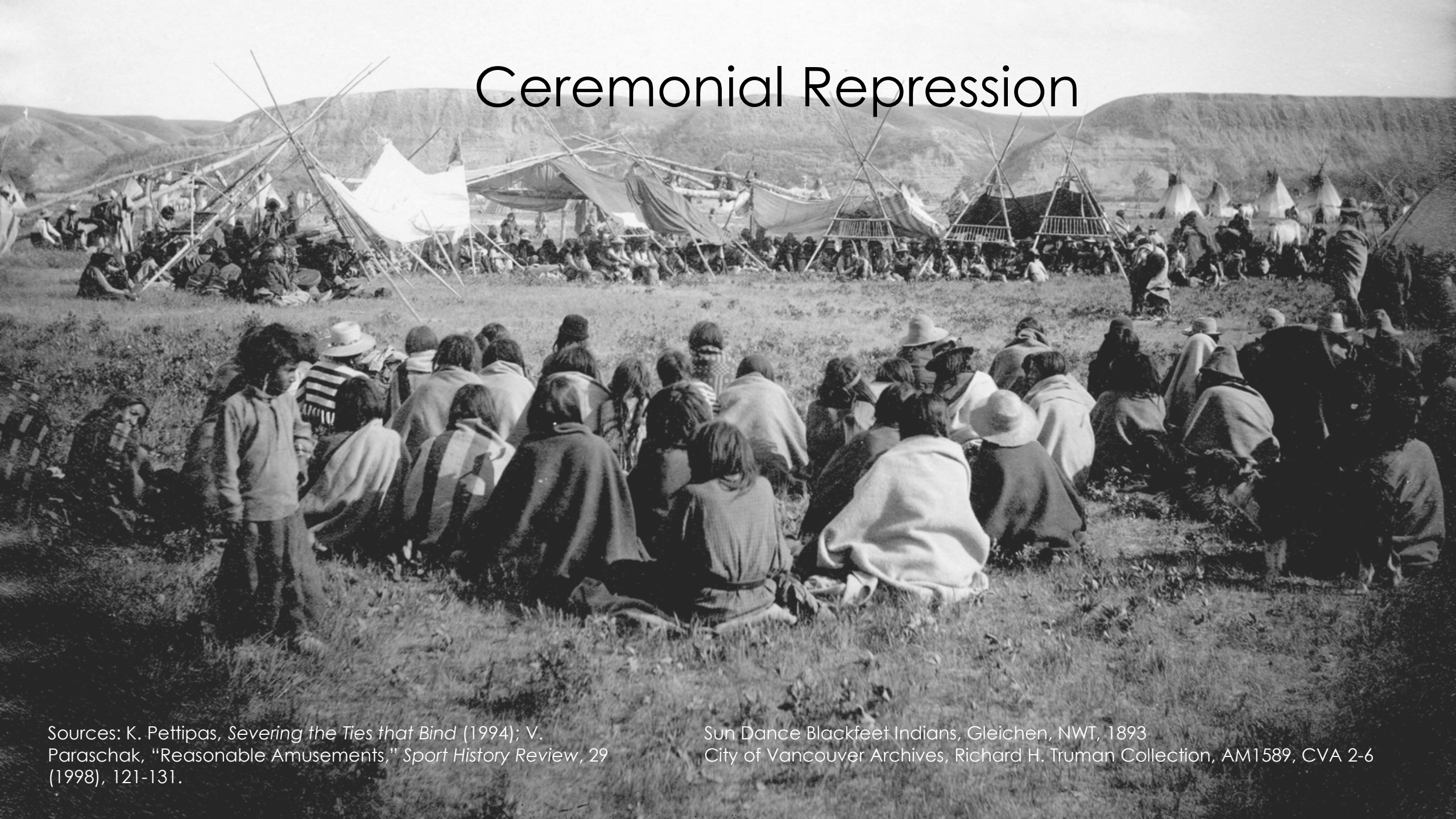


# 'Home' On The Land

Source: D. Morrow & K. Wamsley, *Sport in Canada: A History* (2013).

Two Inuit hunters among ice floes, Alaska, 1916  
Glenbow Archives ND-1-235

# Ceremonial Repression



Sources: K. Pettipas, *Severing the Ties that Bind* (1994); V. Paraschak, "Reasonable Amusements," *Sport History Review*, 29 (1998), 121-131.

Sun Dance Blackfoot Indians, Gleichen, NWT, 1893  
City of Vancouver Archives, Richard H. Truman Collection, AM1589, CVA 2-6



A black and white photograph showing a group of children, likely at a school, participating in an outdoor exercise routine. They are standing in rows, with their arms raised in various positions, some straight up and some bent at the elbow. The children are wearing light-colored, short-sleeved shirts and shorts. The background is a plain, light-colored sky. The overall mood is one of disciplined activity.

# Schooling Bodies

Sources: J. Forsyth, *Reclaiming Tom Longboat* (2020); T. McKee & J. Forsyth, "Witnessing Painful Pasts," *Journal of Sport History*, 46/2 (2019), 175-188; J. Forsyth & M. Heine, "The Only Good Thing That Happened at School," *British Journal of Canadian Studies*, 30/2 (2017), 205-225; B. Te Hiwi & J. Forsyth, "A Rink at this School is Almost as Essential as a Classroom," *Canadian Journal of History*, 52/1 (2017), 80-108.

Open air exercises at Mission Indian School under direction of Provincial Recreation instructors. Library and Archives Canada, PA-160942



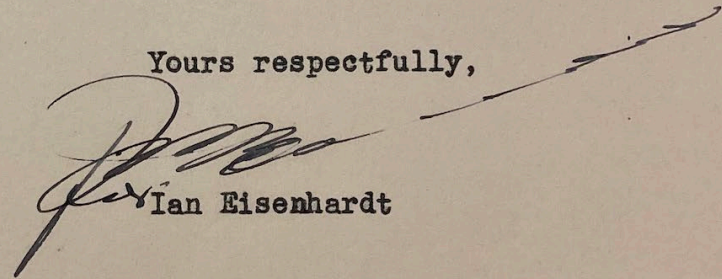
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Indian - White Schools Relationship

It may be harsh to say, but it looks to me that with the odd exception we shall not find much interest in Indian Schools by White School principals and therefore, to break the ice our teachers will have to make the first move in regard to school teams competing with white teams in various Field Days, tournaments, etc. Wherever possible for our Indian Schools to participate in such activities I suggest that our teachers be asked to make an estimate and why not occasionally have our schools invite White teams to come and play with our children.

Yours respectfully,



Ian Eisenhardt

IE/eh

Ian Eisenhardt, Supervisor of Physical Education and Recreation, to B.F. Neary, Superintendent of Education, Indian Affairs, Oct. 10, 1950. Western Archives and Special Collections, Western University, AFC 451, Jan Eisenhardt Fonds.





Is sport a culturally neutral activity?  
A sociological response.









physical culture

was used, purposefully

to transform Indigenous lives

Source: B. Te Hiwi, "Indigenous Peoples' Cultures and Physical Activity,"  
in C. Adams (ed.), *Sport and Recreation in Canadian History* (2021).





What do we do now?  
What's at stake?



1

2

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