

Truth and Healing Commission of The Episcopal Diocese of Alaska
Report to 2026 Diocesan Convention

Who are we?

An Indigenous-led commission working together to gather, document, and preserve records and artifacts of Indigenous experience of boarding/residential schools, for the purpose of reconciliation and healing as a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska.

What do we do?

We listen to the stories and experiences of survivors of the indigenous boarding and residential school system, and their descendants.

We preserve the historical record of how the Episcopal Church participated in the Indigenous boarding and residential school system and contributed to the abuse and cultural wounds of this system.

We communicate and tell the truth of the Indigenous experience, and support the work of reconciliation for the Diocese.

We work for the healing, reconciliation, and restoration of wholeness for all people in the Diocese of Alaska.

Truth and Healing Commission members commit to the following:

- Monthly online meetings, currently scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of each month at 4pm
- No more than two in-person gatherings per year
- Term commitment - minimum of 2 years

Mission - Vision - Values

The Episcopal Diocese of Alaska grieves with all Alaska Natives, Native Americans, Indigenous and First Nations People who carry the heavy burden of historic and intergenerational trauma from the experience of Boarding Schools and Residential Schools that was imposed by institutions of government and church.

The Episcopal Diocese of Alaska condemns the abuse of all children and affirms the Baptismal vow to strive for justice and peace among all people respecting the dignity of every human

being. The Diocese of Alaska recognizes the important work of truth and reconciliation and coming to terms with our history.

The Truth and Healing Commission of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska recognizes the important need to hear Indigenous voices, listen to stories and history, and seek wisdom about how we can reconcile.

It is the vision of the Truth and Healing Commission that through the work of story telling and reconciliation, the harm that has been done can be acknowledged in the light of day and work of healing can progress.

Possible Outcomes of this work:

Formal apology from the Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Alaska

Engage with the Bishop in developing a message of reconciliation

Create specific liturgy of healing

Prepare prayers of healing with emphasis on trauma from boarding school experiences

Media component: book, photo gallery, traveling exhibit, historical timeline, videos, audio stories, brochure

Report on findings and work of commission

Reconciliation/Educational/Curriculum for wider use in the church

Something like Traces of the Trade (movie)

Recognition from the Anglican Communion (a day of prayer, a day of recognition)

Repatriation of Remains

Investigations

Calls to action for Diocese of Alaska and The Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion

For questions you are invited to reach out to any of the following commission members:

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