

Unlearning and Undoing White Supremacy & Racism Project

Foundational Obligations to Indigenous Peoples:

Treaties

November 20, 2025

























The Role of Health Systems in Reconciliation

- Health systems and reconciliation.
- Intersection of Indigenous rights, health equity, and treaties.
- Understanding treaties in the context of public health.

The TRC, National Inquiry, and UNDRIP

- TRC Calls to Action (2015)
 - Focus on health equity, culturally safe care.
- National Inquiry into MMIWG (2019)
 - Violence, trauma, and health outcomes.
- UNDRIP
 - Rights to land, resources, and selfgovernance.



 Treaties are binding agreements between nations.

 Common worldwide: peace treaties, trade agreements, alliances.

• In Canada: nation-to-nation agreements with Indigenous peoples.

• Treaties are legal, living agreements, not just history.





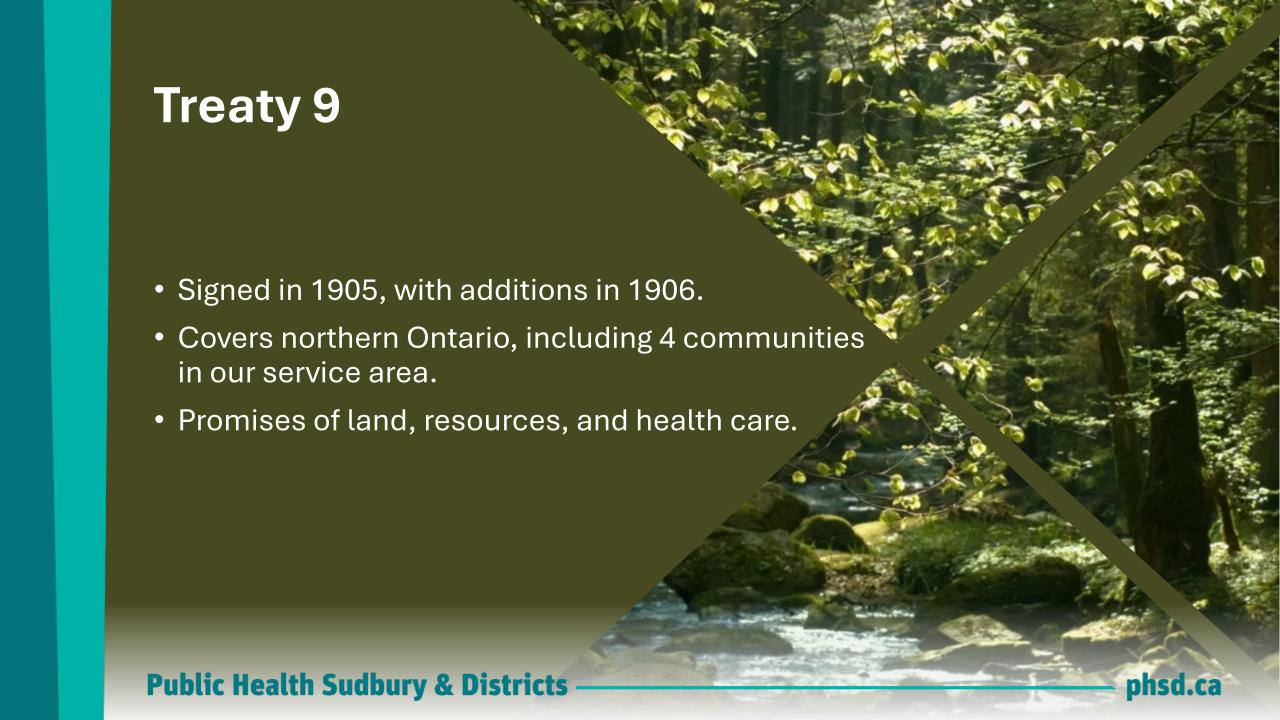
• Symbol of health care commitment





Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850

- Signed by 21 Anishinaabe nations in 1850.
- Territory covers much of northeastern Ontario.
- Sharing of the land, Anishinabek did not cede land.
- Promised annuities, resource sharing, and support.
- Modern legal cases show ongoing treaty obligations.



The Importance of Treaties to Public Health

- Treaties as the foundation for health services.
- Unmet promises lead to health disparities.
- Culturally safe, accessible care is essential.







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