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- **101 people surveyed**
 - 78% First Nations,
 - 15% Métis, and
 - 8% Inuit

- Plus: Lawyers; additional separate conversations with Indigenous people



EXPANDING OUR VISION

*Cultural Equality
& Indigenous Peoples'
Human Rights*

Access to Justice Indigenous Peoples not using human rights process:

1. Discrimination is seen as so pervasive so as to be a way of life, and
2. Filing a complaint is seen as futile
3. Ask: how might our processes duplicate exclusion?





Most common
reasons for not
filing a
complaint:

- Wouldn't make a difference (68%);
- Did not know they could, or how to (53%);
- Did not think they would be believed (45%);
- Experience so much discrimination that this was just another example (40%)

Photo: Nadya Kwandibens RedWorks Studio (Testify Project)



Common areas identified:

- Criminal Justice and Policing
- Child Welfare
- Workplace
- Healthcare
- Education
- Micro-Discriminations (Or Micro Aggressions)

Photo: Arthur Dick (Namgis)

Coming to terms with Indigenous difference

Walter Echo-Hawk:
Domestic law, applied to
Indigenous Peoples, has
been “bereft of the
human rights principle”

Indigenous people seen to
be at fault or somehow
deserving – problems
remain unaddressed

Photo: Arthur Dick (Namgis)





Photo: Arthur Dick (Namgis)

**Two areas of focus
which could make a
difference :**

- **Indigenous
Identity**
- **Micro
Discriminations –
Microaggressions**
- **Overall: Connect
lack of human
rights to present
conditions**

Broaden the concept of human rights to *acknowledge Indigenous Peoples' collective and shared human rights:*

1. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

2. Incorporate Indigenous Legal Traditions in defining human rights and resolving breaches

Photo: Arthur Dick (Namgis)




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2. Add “Indigenous identity” as a protected ground to the Code.
 - Indigenous difference is not (solely) race or cultural / spiritual identity
 - Historic and ongoing relationship

Photo: Arthur Dick (Namgis)



**Address
Micro-Discriminations
Micro-Aggressions**

Over 90% of Indigenous respondents identified this as a problem

(or, Shopping – Banking – Seeking medical help – while Indigenous)

Could help to explain why human rights violations continue to be prevalent



4. Public Education for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities

- Indigenous Peoples human rights and history within Canada and how this continues to impact current realities