Schooling and Cultural Change Terminology

**Assimilation**: a policy supported by the federal government in which the Aboriginal population was to accept the customs and attitudes of the prevailing European/western culture through a variety of processes.

**Indoctrination**: the process of repeating an idea or belief in order to persuade others to believe a similar point of view.

**Eurocentric**: a tendency to interpret the world in terms of western and European values, beliefs, and experiences.

**Cultural Identity**: a personal way of connecting to the customs, beliefs, values, and traditions of a group or society. A sense of relating to the customs, beliefs, values, and traditions of a group or society.

**Worldview**: Aboriginal peoples have a distinct worldview that differs from other Canadian mainstream cultures. The worldview of Aboriginal people stems from the belief that the universe was developed by the Creator and human beings should live in a harmonious respectful way towards one another, oneself, and with nature. Each Aboriginal culture expresses their worldview in a unique way with different stories, practices, and cultural products.