



For Immediate Release

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Honouring the Children's Lives Lost at Kamloops Residential School

During this past Victoria Day weekend, 215 children were found buried on the grounds of the Kamloops Residential School which operated from 1890 until 1969. First Nations communities have long been saying that more children were buried on the grounds than were documented.

Today, we lower our flags in Port Edward in honour of the 215 children and for the many more that suffered abuses at residential schools. This shameful discovery demonstrates that there is much work to be done to understand the true history and work towards reconciliation with the indigenous peoples of this country.

We mourn with the families and communities who are hurting. Today, we challenge everyone to read and carefully consider the 96 calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation report.

"The [Truth and Reconciliation] Commission has established guiding principles and a framework for reconciliation. It is now up to Canadians to take action." <https://nctr.ca/>

"It is with much sadness that I learned of 215 children who were buried at the residential school in Kamloops. I am ashamed of the systems that allowed this to happen. We need to do better as Canadians." *Mayor Knut Bjorndal*