



Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

(Kamloops Indian Band)

Brief for Kukupi7 and Councils of the Secwepemc Nation and Chiefs of the unceded lands now known as BC

June 3, 2021

- **Key Messages / Facts at a Glance**
- **May 31, 2021 Statement from Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Kukupi7 Rosanne Casimir**
- **May 27, 2021 Media Release**
- **Media Coverage- Thursday May 27- Monday May 31 at 6 pm:** This includes from first coverage (arranged exclusive with local and regional trusted journalists) to resulting coverage from media presser on Friday May 28, and the resulting momentum.
- **June 3, 2021 How to Support Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Explainer** (separate document so it can be easily shared)

KEY MESSAGES

As First Nations, we have been collectively grappling with the heart wrenching truth brought to light by Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc.

Our families, our people and our communities are grieving and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is at the center of this pain. We know our response is to go and be present to hold healing gathering, but at this time we must be thoughtful. For the safety of Tk'emlúps and those who are gathering we must remember that we are still in the midst of a pandemic and ensure when we meet we adhere to appropriate protocols.

Ceremonies, protocols, and justice are top of mind for all. This is only the beginning, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is working with their community members regarding their role as caretaker for these children. We need to respect their space, to host their ceremony, and plan an approach. There will be a time to gather and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc will take the lead on when that is best. **This is only the beginning, there is still so much work to be done yet.**

Now is the time that we do some of important grieving and healing work in our own communities.

- We are all grieving – this is unprecedented
- We need to do this right and there is no road map
- We have to work together. While the reality is shocking and we each feel some level of anger, it is time to be gentle with ourselves and with each other. It's time to reach out to our loved ones to care for each other.

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FACTS AT A GLANCE

- On May 27, 2021 Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc confirmed the remains of 215 children buried at the Kamloops Indian Residential School.
- Using ground-penetrating radar (GPR) this was confirmed by a scientist specializing in this technology.
- RCMP and the Chief Coroner have been made aware and are engaged with Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc leadership.
- This is an example of the horrific legacy of the Residential school system in Canada.
- Kamloops Indian Residential School was the largest school of the federally run Indian residential school system and opened in 1890 by the Roman Catholic Church. At its peak, there were up to 500 students attending the school. In 1969, the federal government took over the administration of the school, which no longer provided any classes and operated it as residence for students attending local day schools until 1978, when the residence was closed.
- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission estimates at least 3,200 students died over 115 years of this genocidal federal policy. The TRC final report has an entire volume on this topic (Volume 4).
- Steps being taken by Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc:
 - Reaching out to home communities who had children who attended
 - Taking measures to ensure that the locations of the remains are protected
 - The Secwépmc Museum Archivist is working with the Royal British Columbia Museum, among others, to seek out any existing records of these deaths.
 - Further work and investigation into the site will continue.
- Requesting Provincial and Federal government support via resources to ensure remains are protected, cultural protocols are followed and healing supports (counsellors, cultural workers, knowledge keepers) are available.
- There can't just be symbolic gestures such as empty apologies provided by government or the Catholic Church or other churches. The Kamloops Indian Residential School was run by the Roman Catholic church until 1969.
- Real acceptance, awareness, sympathy, and action must be taken by governments, religious institutions and others to show real support.
- Must take into account and be aware of the survivors and the stories they continue to carry.
- Be cognizant of the heaviness of those experiences and how those experiences continue to impact our families, our communities and our Nations.
- On the question of what should be done with the graves and the remains, this is something for Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc as well as the grieving families and home communities of children who attended Kamloops Indian Residential School to determine.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement from the Office of the Chief, Kukpi7 Rosanne Casimir

5 pm, May 31, 2021, Kamloops – As the last logs go on our sacred fire, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for the outpouring of support to our community. Thank you for helping us bring to light such hard truths that came from the preliminary findings regarding the unmarked burial sites of Kamloops Indian Residential School students so that we may begin the process of honouring the lost loved ones who are in our caretaking. We love, honour, and respect these children, their families, and communities.

To the Prime Minister of Canada and all federal parties, we acknowledge your gestures, but as a community who is burdened with the legacy of a federally mandated Indian Residential School, Canada must face ownership and accountability to Tkemlúps te Secwépemc as well as all communities and families. Our community is still gathering all the facts in this evolving tragedy. We will keep you informed as more information comes to light.

We have heard from many survivors, from our own community and beyond. They are finally being heard after so many years of silence and disbelief about the deaths of children in the residential schools. No words are sufficient to express the comfort and love we wish to extend to survivors and intergenerational survivors. We see you, we love you, and we believe you. We are thankful to the many who are working hard with us to ensure supports are there as you come to terms with these latest findings as well as your own truths and traumas.

We are deeply disturbed to learn that the Saint Joseph's church was vandalized. The church was built from the ground up by Tkemlúps te Secwépemc members. We understand the many emotions connected to a Roman Catholic run residential school. At the same time, we respect the choices that Tkemlúps te Secwépemc ancestors made, over a 100 years ago, to erect this church.

Regrettably, we know that many more children are unaccounted for. We have heard that the same knowing of unmarked burial sites exists at other former residential school grounds. It was something that the TRC raised in the early days of their work. However, it was not part of their original mandate. The TRC sought for it to be included and were turned down twice by the federal government. That said, the TRC was nonetheless able to do some important work on the topic and we encourage you to revisit *Canada's Residential Schools: Missing Children and Unmarked Burials: The Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, Volume 4*.

For further important context, we also direct your attention to the report "Where are the Children buried?" completed by Dr. Scott Hamilton. The report "addresses the question where deceased Indian Residential School (IRS) students are buried. This is difficult to answer because of the varying circumstances of death and burial, coupled with the generally sparse information about Residential School cemeteries. It requires a historic understanding of school operations that contextualizes the patterns underlying death and burial." (Link to report here

<https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/AAA-Hamilton-cemetery-FInal.pdf>)



We ask all Canadians to reacquaint themselves with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report and Calls to Action – upholding the heavy lifting already done by the survivors, intergenerational survivors, and the TRC. In addition, to show your solidarity, we encourage you to wear an orange shirt and start conversations with your neighbours about why you are doing so.

Tkemlúps te Secwépemc is now accepting donations that will automatically be deposited into a separate account set up for this initiative. The email is: donations@kib.ca There is no other fundraising initiative that Tkemlúps te Secwépemc has authorised or is participating in at this time.

Media – please respect our need to attend to our loved ones, to the ceremonies and protocols required at this time. Defer from visiting our community until further notice. We are grieving these lost children that are in our care. During this time of pandemic, we do not wish to have a tragedy upon a tragedy. We are concerned for the well being of all with the growing crowds that are coming to our community. We have yet to suffer a loss due to COVID-19 and we also want to ensure that anyone who comes to our community is not put at risk either.

– 30 –

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Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

(Kamloops Indian Band)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2021, Kamloops – It is with a heavy heart that Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Kukpi7 (Chief) Rosanne Casimir confirms an unthinkable loss that was spoken about but never documented by the Kamloops Indian Residential School. This past weekend, with the help of a ground penetrating radar specialist, the stark truth of the preliminary findings came to light – the confirmation of the remains of 215 children who were students of the Kamloops Indian Residential School.

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is the home community of the Kamloops Indian Residential School which was the largest school in the Indian Affairs residential school system. As such, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Leadership acknowledges their responsibility to caretake for these lost children.

“We had a knowing in our community that we were able to verify. To our knowledge, these missing children are undocumented deaths,” stated Kukpi7 Rosanne Casimir. “Some were as young as three years old. We sought out a way to confirm that knowing out of deepest respect and love for those lost children and their families, understanding that Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is the final resting place of these children.”

This work was undertaken by the C7élksteñs re Secwépemc ne Ckúltens ell ne Xqwelténs (Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Language and Culture Department) with ceremonial Knowledge Keepers who ensured that the work was conducted respectfully in light of the serious nature of the investigation with cultural protocols being upheld.

Given that these lost loved ones are buried within the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc community, and with all community members still grappling with the effects of residential school, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Chief and Council first reached out to their community members to make them aware of the situation, albeit that it is still developing.

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc will continue to work with the ground penetrating radar specialist to complete the survey of the former Kamloops Indian Residential School grounds. In undertaking this current investigation, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Chief and Council would like to acknowledge the preliminary work that was carried out in the early 2000's. With access to the latest technology, the true accounting of the missing students will hopefully bring some peace and closure to those lives lost and their home communities.

Kukpi7 Rosanne Casimir stated, “We are thankful for the Pathway to Healing grant we received to undertake this important work. Given the size of the school, with up to 500 students registered and attending at any one time, we understand that this confirmed loss affects First Nations communities across British Columbia and beyond. We wish to ensure that our community members, as well as all home communities for the children who attended are duly informed. This is the beginning but, given the nature of this news,



we felt it important to share immediately. At this time we have more questions than answers. We look forward to providing updates as they become available.”

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is following the necessary steps regarding these preliminary findings. This includes:

- Engaging with the coroner.
- Reaching out to the home communities who had children who attended the Kamloops Indian Residential School.
- Taking measures to ensure that the locations of the remains are protected.
- The Secwépemc Museum Archivist is working with the Royal British Columbia Museum, amongst others, to seek out any existing records of these deaths.

Please note that the Heritage Park is closed to the public and no one will be permitted on site for the duration of this sensitive work.

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc expect to complete preliminary findings by mid- June and will be providing updates as they become available.

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To arrange interviews:
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Context: Missing Children

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) noted that large numbers of Indigenous children who were sent to residential schools never returned to their home communities. Some children ran away, and others died at the schools. The students who did not return have come to be known as the Missing Children. The Missing Children Project documents the deaths and the burial places of children who died while attending the schools. To date, more than 4,100 children who died while attending a residential school have been identified. (Source: <http://www.trc.ca/events-and-projects/missing-children-project.html>)

Brief Background about the Kamloops Indian Residential School:

Source: <https://collections.irshdc.ubc.ca/index.php/Detail/entities/46>

Kamloops (BC)

Dates of Operation

May 19, 1890 - July 31, 1978

Description

The Kamloops Industrial School (later known as the Kamloops Indian Residential School) was opened, under Roman Catholic administration, in 1890. It became the largest school in the Indian Affairs residential school system. Enrolment peaked in the early 1950s at 500. In 1910, the principal said that the government did not provide enough money to properly feed the students. In 1924, a portion of the school was destroyed by fire. In 1969, the federal government took over the administration of the school, which no longer provided any classes and operated it as residence for students attending local day schools until 1978, when the residence was closed. ([National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#))

[Read More](#)



Denomination

Catholic Church

Home Communities of Students*

Neskainlith, North Thompson, Kamloops, Pavilion, Penticton, Adam's Lake, Bonaparte, Fountain, Douglas L., Okanagan, Quilchena, Shulus, Little Shuswap, Coldwater, L. Nicola, Bridge R. Enderby, Deadman's Cr., Hope, Leon's C., Cayoose, Salmon R., Canoe C., Lillooet, Mount Currie (Lilwat Nation), D'Arcy (Nquatqua), Seabird Island, Skwah, Kamloops, Union Bar, Head of L., Deroche, Spuzzum, Shalalth, Spalumcheen.

**Note: It is our understanding that there were children that came from other communities not listed here.*

Media Coverage – To 6 pm Monday May 31

International Media Coverage

Al Jazeera

May 29, 2021

Indigenous people in Canada grapple with ‘unthinkable loss’

Remains of 215 Indigenous children were found at a former residential school in the province of British Columbia this week.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/29/indigenous-people-in-canada-grapple-with-unthinkable-loss>

Al Jazeera

May 30, 2021

Canada’s Trudeau orders flags lowered for Indigenous children

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/30/canada-trudeau-orders-flags-lowered-for-indigenous-children>

Euro News

May 29, 2021

Remains of 215 children found at Canadian Indigenous school

<https://www.euronews.com/2021/05/29/remains-of-215-children-found-at-canadian-indigenous-school>

Daily Mail (UK)

May 28, 2021

215 pairs of tiny shoes are displayed as mass children’s grave is found at Catholic Church-run ‘Indian residential school’ in Canada

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9630875/Remains-215-children-former-indigenous-school-site-Canada.html>

The Guardian (UK)

May 28, 2021

Canada: remains of 215 children found at Indigenous residential school site

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/may/28/canada-remains-indigenous-children-mass-graves>

Note: also appeared in Australia News Online

<https://australianonlinenews.com.au/2021/05/29/canada-remains-of-215-children-found-at-indigenous-residential-school-site-the-guardian/>

Aletho News

May 29, 2021

Remains of 215 Canadian indigenous children found at former residential school

<https://alethonews.com/2021/05/29/remains-of-215-canadian-indigenous-children-found-at-former-residential-school/>

New York Times

May 28, 2021

‘Horrible History’: Mass Grave of Indigenous Children Reported in Canada

By [Ian Austen](#)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/28/world/canada/kamloops-mass-grave-residential-schools.html?searchResultPosition=1>

New York Post May 29, 2021
Canadian tribal chief, survivors ‘devastated’ by mass grave of Indigenous kids
By [Dana Kennedy](#) and [Isabel Vincent](#)
<https://nypost.com/2021/05/29/canadian-tribal-chief-survivors-devastated-by-mass-indigenous-kids-grave/>

Washington Post May 29, 2021
Discovery of mass grave of Indigenous children prompts grief and questions in Canada
By [Antonia Noori Farzan](#)
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2021/05/29/residential-school-grave/>

Washington Post May 30, 2021
Canada lowers flags after discovery of bodies at school site
https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/canada-lowers-flags-to-honor-residential-school-children/2021/05/30/1dc1c1b2-c171-11eb-89a4-b7ae22aa193e_story.html

Newsweek May 28, 2021
Remains of 215 Children Found at Former School
By Dania Hajjaji
<https://www.newsweek.com/remains-215-children-found-former-school-canada-1595834>

Forbes May 29, 2021
Remains of 215 indigenous kids found at former boarding school in Canada
<https://forbesalert.com/news/world/europe/remains-of-215-indigenous-kids-found-at-former-boarding-school-in-canada/>

CNN May 28, 2021
'Unthinkable' discovery in Canada as remains of 215 children found buried near residential school
By Paula Newton, CNN
<https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/28/world/children-remains-discovered-canada-kamloops-school/index.html>

Fox News May 29, 2021
Remains of 215 indigenous kids found at former boarding school in Canada
<https://foxnewsupdates.com/news/world/europe/remains-of-215-indigenous-kids-found-at-former-boarding-school-in-canada/>

ABC News May 30, 2021
'Unthinkable loss': More than 200 bodies of children found at Indigenous school in Canada
<https://abc7news.com/canada-school-bodies-canadian-residential-schools-indigenous-children-215-found-in/10714965/>

News Nation USA May 29, 2021

Remains of 215 indigenous kids found at former boarding school in Canada

<https://newsnationusa.com/news/world/europe/remains-of-215-indigenous-kids-found-at-former-boarding-school-in-canada/>

EFE is the largest newswire service for Spanish speaking countries as well as for Hispanic media in USA and Canada

EFE.com

May 30, 2021

Remains of 215 indigenous kids found at former boarding school in Canada

<https://www.efe.com/efe/english/portada/remains-of-215-indigenous-kids-found-at-former-boarding-school-in-canada/50000260-4549224>

Note: story also appeared in the following publications:

La Prensa Latina

<https://www.laprensa-latina.com/remains-of-215-indigenous-kids-found-at-former-boarding-school-in-canada/>

Latin America Herald Tribune

<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2502322&CategoryId=12395>

Times News Express

<https://timesnewsexpress.com/news/europe/remains-of-215-indigenous-kids-found-at-former-boarding-school-in-canada/>

Reuters (Note: Reuters is one of the world's largest international news agencies. It provides tailor-made broadcast news and print reports to media outlets worldwide. Having a Reuters journalist as part of the presser on Friday afternoon meant that the story was going to go worldwide)

Remains of 215 children found at former indigenous school site in Canada

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XNQJswDQuE>

Note: also distributed through Metro News:

<https://www.metro.us/remains-of-215-children/>

Daily Mail UK:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9630875/Remains-215-children-former-indigenous-school-site-Canada.html>

Fox News:

<https://www.fox19.com/video/2021/05/29/remains-indigenous-kids-found-canadian-school/>

Daily Sun (Bangladesh):

<https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/555476/Remains-of-215-children-found-at-Canadian-school>

Netherlands News Live

<https://netherlandsnewslive.com/horrific-discovery-remains-of-215-children-on-site-of-former-canadian-boarding-school/164363/>

Wionews.com (India):

<https://www.wionews.com/world/remains-of-215-children-of-kamloops-indian-residential-school-discovered-387995>

AOL.com:

<https://www.aol.com/news/remains-215-children-found-former-211955716-224223082.html>

South China Morning Post

<https://www.scmp.com/news/world/united-states-canada/article/3135281/remains-215-indigenous-children-found-former>

Cebu Daily News (Philippines)

<https://cebudailynews.inquirer.net/379874/remains-of-215-children-found-at-former-indigenous-school-site-in-canada>

Granthshala News (Asia)

<https://granthshala.com/remains-of-215-children-found-buried-at-former-b-c-residential-school-first-nation-says/>

The Daily Star (India)

<https://www.thedailystar.net/world/news/remains-215-children-found-former-indigenous-school-site-canada-2101021>

Islam Religion Guardian

<https://www.islamreligionguardian.com/remains-of-215-children-as-young-as-three-are-discovered-at-catholic-church-run-indian-residential-school-for-indigenous-children-in-canada-that-closed-in-1978/>

The Hill

<https://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/556084-remains-of-215-children-found-near-canadian-residential-school>

China Daily Xinhua | Updated: 2021-05-29
Remains of 215 indigenous children found at former residential school in Canada
<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202105/29/WS60b1b538a31024ad0bac2487.html>

The Straights Times (Singapore) May 28, 2021
Remains of 215 children found at closed Canada indigenous boarding school
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yg9NSDBjsH8>

TheStar.com May 28, 2021
Children's remains found at Canadian school
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMxFjtBCT5w>

News Leader May 28, 2021
Mass Grave of Indigenous Children Is Reported in British Columbia
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Q6KtggYVAY>

Axios May 28, 2020
Renewed calls for Catholic Church apology after Canada mass grave find
Rebecca Falconer
<https://www.axios.com/canada-school-site-indigenous-children-remains-found-4da0daf9-3d80-437e-a450-fb4ec7f325e7.html>
Note: story also circulated here:
<https://capitalbay.com/us-news/63242-renewed-calls-for-catholic-church-apology-after-mass-grave-of-indigenous-children-found-in-canada.html>
<https://www.newsbreak.com/news/2265941802463/mass-grave-of-indigenous-children-uncovered-at-former-canadian-school> (Cox Media Group)

UPI.com May 28, 2021
Remains of 215 children found buried at former Canadian residential school
By Clyde Hughes
https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2021/05/28/Canada-remains-children-215-residential-school/5051622216563/

USA Today May 29, 2021
Mass grave with remains of 215 children found at Indigenous school in Canada, an 'unthinkable loss'
By Associated Press
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2021/05/29/mass-grave-215-bodies-found-indigenous-school-canada/5262768001/>
Note: also distributed through Yahoo News

USA Today May 30, 2021
Mass grave of 215 children in Canada a stark reminder of the dark history of Native American boarding schools in US
By Grace Hauck

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2021/05/30/native-american-boarding-schools-abused-neglected-thousands-us/5263769001/>

The U.S. Sun (owned by UK Sun)

May 29, 2020

CHILLING DISCOVERY: Remains of 215 children found in mass grave on grounds of a former residential school where students ‘smelled of hunger’

<https://www.the-sun.com/news/2976673/remains-children-found-mass-grave-former-residential-school/>

MSN.com

May 30, 2021

Ottawa to lower flags in honour of 215 children who died at B.C. residential school site

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/ottawa-to-lower-flags-in-honour-of-215-children-who-died-at-bc-residential-school-site/ar-AAKxznJ>

MSN.com

May 30, 2021

Memorials grow after remains of 215 children are discovered

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/sports/watch/memorials-grow-after-remains-of-215-children-are-discovered/vp-AAKv4gU>

Yahoo.com (from CBC)

May 30, 2021

Kahnawake residents create memorial for 215 children found buried at B.C. residential school site

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/kahnawake-residents-create-memorial-215-205437293.html>

Las Vegas News

May 29, 2021

Why so many children died at Indian Residential Schools

By Tristan Hopper, National Post

<https://presslasvegas.com/news/canada/why-so-many-children-died-at-indian-residential-schools/>

World News Era

May 29, 2021

Why so many children died at Indian Residential Schools

By Tristan Hopper, National Post

<https://worldnewsera.com/news/canada/why-so-many-children-died-at-indian-residential-schools/>

TZTA International Ethiopian Newspaper

May 29, 2021

Why so many children died at Indian Residential Schools

By Tristan Hopper, National Post

<https://mytzta.com/why-so-many-children-died-at-indian-residential-schools/>

National Media Coverage

Globe and Mail May 28, 2021
Discovery of children’s remains at Kamloops residential school ‘stark example of violence’ inflicted upon Indigenous peoples
By Jana G. Pruden
<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-bodies-found-at-kamloops-residential-school-site-in-bc/>

Globe and Mail May 28, 2021
Forensics experts planning to repatriate children’s remains from B.C. residential school site
By Andrew Snucins, Canadian Press
<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/british-columbia/article-forensics-experts-planning-to-repatriate-childrens-remains-from-bc/>
Note: CP story also appeared in:
<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/remains-of-215-children-found-at-former-residential-school-in-british-columbia-574512722.html>

Globe and Mail May 30, 2021
The discovery of a mass gravesite at a former residential school in Kamloops is just the tip of the iceberg
By Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond
<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-the-discovery-of-a-mass-grave-at-a-former-residential-school-is-just/>

Globe and Mail May 30, 2021
Students could be triggered by Kamloops residential school discovery, B.C. teacher says
By Camille Bains
<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-bc-teacher-says-students-could-be-triggered-by-residential-school/>

Globe and Mail May 31, 2021
Discovery of remains of 215 children at former Kamloops residential school prompts calls from Indigenous leaders to investigate all sites
By Andrea Woo and Jeffrey Jones
<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-calls-for-action-follows-discovery-of-childrens-remains-at-kamloops/>

Globe and Mail May 31, 2021

The Kamloops residential school's mass gravesite: What we know about the 215 children's remains, and Canada's reaction so far

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/british-columbia/article-kamloops-residential-school-mass-graves-215-children-explainer/>

Globe and Mail

May 31, 2021

Indigenous leaders, Saskatchewan want federal action on residential school deaths

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-indigenous-leader-saskatchewan-want-federal-action-on-residential/>

National Post

May 29, 2021

Why so many children died at Indian Residential Schools

By Tristin Hopper

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/newly-discovered-b-c-graves-a-grim-reminder-of-the-heartbreaking-death-toll-of-residential-schools>

National Post

May 31, 2021

Mass grave found at residential school is disturbing, but shouldn't come as a surprise

By Matt Gurney

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/matt-gurney-mass-grave-found-at-residential-school-is-disturbing-but-shouldnt-come-as-a-surprise>

National Post (YouTube)

May 31, 2021

Know Your History

By Matt Gurney

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bApkjY9M2ek&t=9s>

National Post

May 31, 2021

Mass grave at Kamloops residential school the reality of odious system

By Colby Cosh

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/colby-cosh-mass-grave-at-kamloops-residential-school-the-reality-of-odious-system/ar-AAKz5dP>

The Star

May 31, 2021

Under fire over Indigenous children's mass grave, Trudeau defends his government's work on reconciliation

By [Stephanie Levitz](#) Ottawa Bureau

<https://www.thestar.com/politics/federal/2021/05/31/trudeau-cant-just-say-he-is-sorry-about-the-discovery-of-a-mass-grave-of-indigenous-children-jagmeet-singh-says.html>

CTV National News

'I can't imagine my child dying at school': 215 pairs of children's shoes set up as tribute after residential school discovery

[Kendra Mangione](#) Producer, CTVNewsVancouver.ca

May 28, 2021

<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/i-can-t-imagine-my-child-dying-at-school-215-pairs-of-children-s-shoes-set-up-as-tribute-after-residential-school-discovery-1.5447455>

CTV National News

May 28, 2021

B.C. residential school survivor recalls 'horrific' mistreatment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUTfeDtgBx4>

CTV.ca

May 28, 2021

'We do not want this to be hidden': Remains of 215 children discovered on site of former residential school

By Brooke Taylor and Jackie Dunham

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/we-do-not-want-this-to-be-hidden-remains-of-215-children-discovered-on-site-of-former-residential-school-1.5446837>

CTV National News

May 31, 2021

Trudeau "appalled by the shameful policy that stole Indigenous children from their communities"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5Ev5m0NQgM>

CBC Radio National News

May 28, 2021

Remains of 215 children found at former B.C. residential school

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-aEZFxA4bQ>

CBC TV The National

May 28, 2021

Remains of 215 children found on grounds of B.C. residential school

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRzrVpiHAb4>

CBC TV The National

May 28, 2021

Residential school remains

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ijRWJ5AnEs>

CBC

May 29, 2021

Work underway for forensic experts to identify, repatriate children's remains from B.C. residential school

The Canadian Press

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/returning-childrens-remains-b-c-1.6045807>

CBC

May 30, 2021

Flags on federal buildings being lowered in memory of Kamloops residential school victims

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/flags-lowered-residential-school-victims-1.6046152>

Note: also distributed by MSN News

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/flags-on-federal-buildings-to-be-lowered-in-memory-of-kamloops-residential-school-victims/ar-AAKxjMo>

CBC May 30, 2021

Indigenous leaders, experts call for protection of sites of former residential schools

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/bodies-kamloops-residential-school-not-isolated-incident-leaders-warn-1.6046394>

CBC PEI May 30, 2021

P.E.I. First Nation to honour residential school victims from Kamloops, B.C.

By Tony Davis

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-shoes-first-nation-residential-school-victims-may-2021-1.6046224?cmp=rss>

CBC PEI May 31, 2021

Mi'kmaq, supporters hold vigil for 215 residential school children at Sir John A statue

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-john-a-macdonald-statue-vigil-1.6046618>

CBC PEI May 31, 2021

Sir John A. Macdonald statue to be removed from Charlottetown corner

The resolution came in light of the discovery that local Indigenous leaders in B.C. believe to be the remains of 215 children on the grounds of a former residential school in Kamloops.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-john-a-statue-removed-charlottetown-1.6047595>

CBC Montreal May 30, 2021

Kahnawake residents create memorial for 215 children found buried at B.C. residential school site

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/kahnawake-residents-create-memorial-for-215-children-1.6046193>

CBC London (ON) May 30, 2021

Residential school victims mourned outside St. Peter's Basilica in London

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/residential-school-victims-mourned-outside-st-peter-s-basilica-in-london-1.6046247>

CBC Radio May 30, 2021

Remains found at Kamloops residential school 'not an isolated incident,' Indigenous experts and leaders warn

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/remains-found-at-kamloops-residential-school-not-an-isolated-incident-indigenous-experts-and-leaders-warn/ar-AAKxUwi>

CBC Radio May 30, 2021
They Died Alone
By The Current with Matt Galloway
<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-63-the-current/clip/15846185-calls-accountability-remains-215-children-found-former-kamloops>

CBC Documentary May 31, 2021
In Canada, colonization is so powerful we name our roads after it
https://gem.cbc.ca/media/firsthand/season-2/episode-9/38e815a-00b9abca4fc?cmp=GEM_cbc.ca_homepage_shelfnew

CBC Radio May 31, 2021
Chief calls on feds to cut 'red tape' and find all of Canada's residential school burial sites
As It Happens
<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/as-it-happens-monday-edition-1.6047156/chief-calls-on-feds-to-cut-red-tape-and-find-all-of-canada-s-residential-school-burial-sites-1.6047159>

CBC May 31, 2021
Days after children's remains reported, Trudeau says more help coming for residential school survivors
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/kamloops-remains-debate-1.6046692>

CBC News Calgary May 31, 2021
More than 800 residential school students died in Alberta — advocates say it's time to find their graves
At least 1 in 5 residential school student deaths took place in Alberta
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/residential-school-graves-alberta-1.6046329>

CBC Saskatoon May 31, 2021
Sask. First Nations leaders, premier call for federal government to examine residential school sites
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/kamloops-follow-1.6047180>

CP24.com (part of CTV/Bell Network) May 28, 2021
'It was devastating,' chief recalls after remains of 215 children found at B.C. residential school site
By Nick Wells, The Canadian Press
<https://www.cp24.com/news/it-was-devastating-chief-recalls-after-remains-of-215-children-found-at-b-c-residential-school-site-1.5447466>

Global TV National News May 28, 2021
Investigation underway after remains of 215 children found at BC residential school site

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D—i9TlzMWO>

Global TV National News

May 28, 2021

Discovery of remains at former BC residential school rocks nation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77jgssrMnc0>

Global TV

May 30, 2021

‘Every site checked’: FSIN demand governments search residential school sites for remains

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7906873/indigenous-residential-school-sites-checked/>

Global TV

May 31, 2021

Calgarians pay tribute to 215 children found dead at former B.C. residential school

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7907551/calgary-tributes-b-c-residential-school-victims/>

Global TV

May 31, 2021

‘It’s blood-curdling’: Calls for accountability after mass grave found at B.C. residential school

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7908683/reaction-accountability-215-children-mass-grave-kamloops-bc-residential-school/>

Global TV

May 31, 2021

Experts say technology could find more residential school graves as Alberta survivors share grief

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7908856/alberta-unmarked-graves-residential-schools-penetrative-radar/>

Global TV

May 31, 2021

Trudeau vows ‘concrete action’ after discovery of 215 bodies at former residential school site

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7908050/residential-schools-215-bodies-unmarked-graves-trudeau/>

APTN National News

May 28, 2021

Remains found at residential school

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZhSTsPzduk>

APTN National News

May 31, 2021

Survivor shares her story, Memorials across the country

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QP7RZfisdw>

City News Toronto

May 28, 2021

Memorials grow after remains of 215 children are discovered

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3x_Xy4-b0fk

Note: televised across Canada on City News network and on City News radio affiliates

City News Calgary May 28, 2021
Calgarians mourn the 215 children whose remains were found at Kamloops residential school
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BjzoZteF50>

CPAC May 28, 2021
Chief Rosanne Casimir discusses discovery of remains of 215 children in Kamloops
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8s3Ne_eib64

Toronto Star May 28, 2021
The remains of 215 children have been found. Now, Indigenous leaders say, Canada must help find the rest of the unmarked graves
By Douglas Quan and Omar Mosley
<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2021/05/28/the-remains-of-215-children-have-been-found-now-indigenous-leaders-say-canada-must-help-find-the-rest-of-the-unmarked-graves.html>

Toronto Star May 29, 2021
We grew up hearing horror stories of residential schools. The Kamloops children's remains show — yet again — the truth of our peoples' nightmare
By Mary Culbertson, contributing editor
<https://www.thestar.com/opinion/2021/05/29/we-grew-up-hearing-horror-stories-of-residential-schools-the-kamloops-childrens-remains-show-yet-again-the-truth-of-our-peoples-nightmare.html>

Toronto Star May 30, 2021
'Heartbreaking reminder': Calls grow for identifying unmarked graves and a national day of mourning to honour children who died at residential schools
By Cheyenne Bholla
<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2021/05/30/heartbreaking-reminder-calls-grow-for-national-day-of-mourning-flags-lowered-to-honour-lost-residential-school-children.html>

Toronto Sun May 30, 2020
Trudeau asks for flags to be lowered to honour Kamloops residential school children

The Canadian Press (participated in the presser on Friday- Canadian Press provides news to newspapers, TV, radio and online content across Canada. Most daily newspapers in Canada rely on content from The Canadian Press)

<https://torontosun.com/news/national/trudeau-asks-for-flags-to-be-lowered-to-honour-kamloops-residential-school-children>

Note: Story also appears in:

Ottawa Citizen:

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/local-news/ottawa-to-lower-flags-in-honour-of-215-children-who-died-at-b-c-residential-school-site>

Globe and Mail:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-trudeau-asks-for-flags-to-be-lowered-to-honour-kamloops-residential/>

National Post:

<https://nationalpost.com/news/trudeau-asks-for-flags-to-be-lowered-to-honour-kamloops-residential-school-children?r>

Winnipeg Free Press

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/trudeau-asks-for-flags-to-be-lowered-to-honour-kamloops-residential-school-children--574528082.html>

Windsor Star

<https://windsorstar.com/news/canada/remains-of-215-children-found-at-former-residential-school-in-british-columbia/wcm/9b4ad116-a901-4b18-8939-279ab46f0d35>

Provincial Media Coverage

CTV News Vancouver May 29, 2021
Calls for accountability over Kamloops residential school discovery
[Alissa Thibault](https://bc.ctvnews.ca/calls-for-accountability-over-kamloops-residential-school-discovery-1.5448481) Multi-skilled Journalist, Published Saturday,
<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/calls-for-accountability-over-kamloops-residential-school-discovery-1.5448481>

CTV News Vancouver May 28, 2021
Remains of 215 children discovered at former residential school
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_uJleXq_qi8

CTV News Vancouver Island May 28, 2021
'There has to be more': Vancouver Island residential school survivor mourns bodies found at Kamloops school
By Scott Cunningham
<https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/there-has-to-be-more-vancouver-island-residential-school-survivor-mourns-bodies-found-at-kamloops-school-1.5447714>

CTV BC May 30, 2021
B.C. teachers to wear orange shirts in memory of kids whose bodies were found at Kamloops residential school
<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/b-c-teachers-to-wear-orange-shirts-in-memory-of-kids-whose-bodies-were-found-at-kamloops-residential-school-1.5449115>

Global TV May 30, 2021
B.C. teachers to wear orange to honour kids found buried at Kamloops residential school
<https://globalnews.ca/news/7906543/bc-teachers-orange-shirts-kamloops-residential-school/>

CBC BC May 29, 2021
Teachers in B.C. to wear orange, hold special ceremonies over discovery of children's remains
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/teachers-in-b-c-to-wear-orange-hold-special-ceremonies-over-discovery-of-children-s-remains-1.6045964>

CBC BC May 31, 2021
UBC reviewing honours given to Catholic bishop and former Kamloops residential school principal
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/ubc-ogradey-prince-george-kamloops-residential-school-1.6047229>

Vancouver Sun May 28, 2021

'It was devastating,' chief recalls after remains of 215 children found in Kamloops
"It's a harsh reality and it's our truths. It's our history and it's something we've always had to fight to prove." — Tk'emlups te Secwepemc Chief Rosanne Casimir

Nick Wells, The Canadian Press

<https://vancouversun.com/news/it-was-devastating-chief-recalls-after-remains-of-215-children-found-in-kamloops>

Vancouver Sun

May 29, 2021

Work underway for forensics experts to identify and repatriate B.C. school remains

The Kamloops Indian Band wants to undertake the "heart-wrenching" process to eventually tell the stories of the children and bring peace to their families.

Dirk Meisner, The Canadian Press

<https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/work-underway-for-forensics-experts-to-identify-and-repatriate-b-c-school-remains>

Vancouver Sun

May 31, 2021

Unmarked graves prove Canada's genocide of Indigenous children

By Daphne Bramham

<https://vancouversun.com/opinion/columnists/daphne-bramham-unmarked-graves-prove-canadas-genocide-of-indigenous-children>

Vancouver Sun

May 31, 2021

An emotional, powerful day in B.C. legislature

By Vaughn Palmer

<https://vancouversun.com/opinion/columnists/vaughn-palmer-an-emotional-powerful-day-in-b-c-legislature>

Vancouver Sun

May 31, 2021

Band office flooded with flowers in tribute to children buried at residential school

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AIBQgfknu5s&list=PLqRRaOIZ10cWtpewPP-IsEfQCv2n3gMEe&t=2s>

Vancouver Sun

May 31, 2021

Call to examine St. Paul's Indian Residential school site after children's graves found in Kamloops

<https://vancouversun.com/news/call-to-examine-st-pauls-indian-residential-school-site-after-childrens-bodies-found-in-kamloops>

Vancouver Sun

May 31, 2021

How ground-penetrating radar is used to uncover unmarked graves

<https://vancouversun.com/news/canada/how-ground-penetrating-radar-is-used-to-uncover-unmarked-graves/wcm/a09efc7d-081c-494d-b80c-aa60cdd2db33>

Victoria Times-Colonist

May 28, 2021

Burial site for 215 children discovered at Kamloops residential school

The Canadian Press

<https://www.timescolonist.com/burial-site-for-215-children-discovered-at-kamloops-residential-school-1.24324246>

Victoria Times-Colonist

May 29, 2021

More than 200 bodies found at Indigenous school in Canada

AP Wire

<https://www.timescolonist.com/more-than-200-bodies-found-at-indigenous-school-in-canada-1.24324490>

Victoria Times-Colonist

May 29, 2021

Work underway for forensics experts to identify children buried at Kamloops site

The Canadian Press

<https://www.timescolonist.com/work-underway-for-forensics-experts-to-identify-children-buried-at-kamloops-site-1.24324455>

Victoria Times-Colonist

May 30, 2021

Trudeau asks for flags to be lowered to honour Kamloops residential school children

AP Wire

<https://www.timescolonist.com/trudeau-asks-for-flags-to-be-lowered-to-honour-kamloops-residential-school-children-1.24324754>

Victoria Times-Colonist

May 30, 2021

Island flags lowered to honour dead children found at former Kamloops residential school

<https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/island-flags-lowered-to-honour-dead-children-found-at-former-kamloops-residential-school-1.24324813>

Victoria Times-Colonist

May 31, 2021

Island schools working to support community after graves found at B.C. residential school

<https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/island-schools-working-to-support-community-after-graves-found-at-b-c-residential-school-1.24325223>

Kamloops This Week

May 27, 2021

Tk'emlups says remains of 215 children of Kamloops Indian Residential School have been discovered

<https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/tk-emlups-says-remains-of-215-children-of-kamloops-indian-residential-school-have-been-discovered-1.24323987>

Kamloops This Week

May 28, 2021

Burial site for 215 children discovered at Kamloops residential school

The Canadian Press

<https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/burial-site-for-215-children-discovered-at-kamloops-residential-school-1.24324246>

Note: also appeared in Black Press Media community newspapers throughout BC, Alberta, and Yukon as well as The Western Standard (successor to The Alberta Report)

Kamloops This Week May 28, 2021
BC Coroners Service issues statement on burial site found at former residential school
<https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/bc-coroners-service-issues-statement-on-burial-site-found-at-former-residential-school-1.24324287>

Kamloops This Week May 28, 2021
Claims of mass grave at Tk'emlups go back years
<https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/claims-of-mass-grave-at-tk-emlups-go-back-years-1.24324160>

Kamloops This Week May 29, 2021
More remains expected to be found as survey at Tk'emlups continues
<https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/more-remains-expected-to-be-found-as-survey-at-tk-emlups-continues-1.24324498>

Kamloops This Week May 31, 2021
Religious order that ran Kamloops Indian Residential School reaches out to Tk'emlups
<https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/religious-order-that-ran-kamloops-indian-residential-school-reaches-out-to-tk-emlups-1.24325143>

Kamloops This Week May 31, 2021
Trudeau vows help after Indigenous kids' unmarked graves found, but offers no details
The Canadian Press
<https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/trudeau-vows-help-after-indigenous-kids-unmarked-graves-found-but-offers-no-details-1.24325018>

CFJC (Kamloops) May 27, 2021
Tk'emlups confirms bodies of 215 children buried at former Kamloops Indian Residential School site
<https://cfjctoday.com/2021/05/27/tkemplups-confirms-bodies-of-215-children-buried-at-former-kamloops-indian-residential-school-site/>

Vernon, Kamloops, Penticton, Kelowna News May 29, 2021
Syilx Okanagan Nation calls on provincial and federal governments to directly address atrocities of Kamloops Indian Residential School
[Kathy Michaels
https://infotel.ca/newsitem/syilx-okanagan-nation-calls-on-provincial-and-federal-governments-to-directly-address-atrocities-of-kamloops-indian-residential-school/it83350](https://infotel.ca/newsitem/syilx-okanagan-nation-calls-on-provincial-and-federal-governments-to-directly-address-atrocities-of-kamloops-indian-residential-school/it83350)

CBC Daybreak Kamloops

May 28, 2021

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Kukpi7 (Chief) Rosanne Casimir

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-108-daybreak-kamloops/clip/15845842-tkemlups-te-secwepemc-kukpi7-chief-rosanne-casimir>

CBC Daybreak Kamloops

May 31, 2021

Sacred Fire burning at Moccasin Square Gardens in Kamloops

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-108-daybreak-kamloops/clip/15846291-sacred-fire-burning-moccasin-square-gardens-kamloops>

CBC Daybreak Kamloops

May 31, 2021

Support available to help grief over the remains found at the Kamloops Indian Residential School

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-108-daybreak-kamloops/clip/15846293-support-available-help-grief-remains-found-kamloops-indian>

CBC Daybreak Kamloops

May 31, 2021

Grand chief Stewart Phillip on the announcement by Tk'emlups te Secwépemc

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-108-daybreak-kamloops/clip/15846292-grand-chief-stewart-phillip-announcement-tkemlups-te-secwepemc>

Georgia Straight

May 28, 2021

Remains found of 215 children from Kamloops Indian Residential School

By Charlie Smith

<https://www.straight.com/news/remains-found-of-215-children-from-kamloops-indian-residential-school>

Daily Hive Vancouver

May 28, 2021

Remains of 215 children found buried at former residential school in BC

By Zoe Demarco

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/remains-215-students-kamloops-indian-residential-school>

The Tyee

May 29, 2021

'It Shook Me to the Core'

By David Beers, founding editor

https://thetyee.ca/News/2021/05/29/Shook-My-Core/?utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=310521

News 1130

May 28, 2021

Memorials grow after remains of 215 children are discovered

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICJDKb9eII>

The Star Vancouver

May 31, 2021

Beyond thoughts and prayers: Actions you can take to support residential school survivors in Canada

By [Danica Samuel](#), Staff Reporter

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2021/05/31/beyond-thoughts-and-prayers-actions-you-can-take-to-support-residential-school-survivors-in-canada.html>

Castanet News

May 29, 2021

'We've been saying it for years'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4e_x_qi98Lk

Richmond News

May 29, 2021

Vancouver memorial pays tribute to 215 children found buried at B.C. residential school

By Megan Lalonde

<https://www.richmond-news.com/highlights/vancouver-memorial-pays-tribute-to-215-children-found-buried-at-bc-residential-school-photos-3822477>