



ANISHINABEK NATION
RECONCILIATION DEPARTMENT
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NISHNAWBE ASKI NATION



Trigger Warning: readers may be triggered by the recount of Indian Residential Schools.

24h National Indian Residential School Survivors and Family Crisis Line:
1-866-925-4419.

Crisis Services Canada:
1-833-456-4566 or text 45645

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line:
1-855-242-3310

Exclusively for NAN First Nations:
NAN HOPE:
1-844-NAN-HOPE (626-4673)

Exclusively for AN First Nations:
Community Assistance Program, for crisis support:
1-800-663-1142

Indian Residential School Newsletter for the Province of Ontario

WINTER 2023 TO 2024

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2023-2024 Winter Newsletter

The following pages are resources and information from some of the independent initiatives occurring at the previous Indian Residential Schools across Ontario. This is not a complete list of all initiatives and more information will come quarterly. For more information, contact the initiatives directly.

Community Highlights



Survivors' Secretariat hosted a Gathering from Nov 28-30 in Thunder Bay - "Truth is Sacred; Knowledge is Healing" to explore themes of how Survivors own and share their lived experiences.

On December 5, in Ohsweken, they hosted their holiday luncheon and Annual General Meeting covering the April 2022 - March 2023 fiscal year.

Contact

Ashly Monture, Manager,
Outreach and Engagement:
ashly@survivorssecretariat.ca
226-966-4312

Mohawk Institute, Brantford, ON

The Survivors' Secretariat was established in 2021 to organize and support efforts to uncover, document and share the truth about what happened at the Mohawk Institute during its 140+ years of operation.

SURVIVORS' SECRETARIAT WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!



ARE YOU A SURVIVOR OF THE MOHAWK INSTITUTE?



Uncover. Document. Share
Find out more about Survivors' Secretariat's efforts to Uncover, Document, and Share the truth about what happened at the Mohawk Institute during its 140+ years of operation.

Bring Our Children Home
We'd like to seek your guidance and insight as we work to uncover the truth and Bring Our Children Home.

Contact Us!
Share your contact information with us to receive regular updates, including progress reports, news, invitations to our events and more!





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Spanish Boys and Spanish Girls Indian Residential Schools

The Nisoonag Partnership (representing Serpent River First Nation, Sagamok Anishinawbek, and Mississaugi First Nation) is initiating the process of searching and uncovering the truth about the Spanish Schools.

This investigation will come from a multi-year Indigenous-led process that ensures survivors' needs are met, and we find answers about the children who attended the former schools but never made it home.

Contact

Crystal Chiblow, Nisoonag
Community Manager:
crystal.chiblow@serpentriverfn.com
705-261-4500

Rhea Assinewe, Nisoonag
Community Coordinator:
rhea.assinewe@serpentriverfn.com

Nisoonag Partnership

Bringing Home Our Children:
Girls and Boys Spanish Residential
Schools, Spanish, Ontario



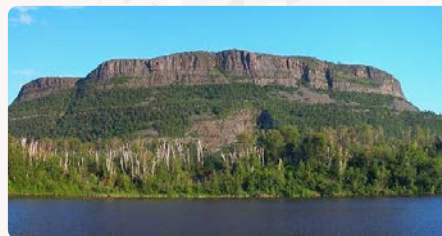
Contact

Liz Esquega, SJIRS
Survivors Project:
lizesquega@fwfn.com
807-622-8802
ext 240

Angele Solomon, Program
Assistant:
angelesolomon@fwfn.com
807-622-8802
ext. 273

St. Josephs Indian Residential School

Fort William First Nation is seeking Indian Residential School Survivors and family members of those who attended.



ST. JOSEPH'S INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL



LOCATED IN
THUNDER BAY, ON

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Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School

Contact

Nathan DeGagne:
nathan.degagne@treaty3.ca
807-788-1003
ext. 218



**GRAND COUNCIL
TREATY #3**
The GOVERNMENT of THE ANISHINAABE NATION in TREATY #3

presents

Cecilia Jeffrey Survivors Gathering

January 23-24, 2024 | 9:00AM - 4:30PM
Seven Generations Education Institute
240 Veterans Drive, Kenora, ON

This event is open to anyone who attended
Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School.

Breakfast & Lunch will be served.

Dinner provided on the 23rd along with evening entertainment.

This event provides an opportunity for all CJ Survivors to come together and reconnect as well as to share their testimonials. If you cannot make it in person but still want your voice to be heard, please reach out to Nathan DeGagne to schedule a meeting.

Registration Deadline is January 12th

Please contact Nathan DeGagne
to register:

 nathan.degagne@treaty3.ca

 1-807-788-1003 ext.218



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Wawanosh Home and Shingwauk Indian Residential School

Ketegaunseebee, Garden River First Nation, is the First Nation leading Sahkahjewaosa, the research, recovery, and healing project at the previous Wawanosh Home and Shingwauk sites, within their traditional territory. The team consists of three dedicated staff: Cultural & Special Events Manager, an IRS Historian, and a Mental Health Coordinator. The work is guided by a Survivor Advisory group.

Sahkahjewaosa has engaged with various experts to aid in our understanding and capacity building. In addition to Kim Murray and Dr. Huyer, the community met with Dr. Sarah Hazel and Dr. Scott Hamilton. Their expertise, kindness, and guidance is greatly appreciated.

Wawanosh Home

In early October, 2023, notice was received from the current land owners (Royal Canadian Legion Branch 25) of the previous Wawanosh Home site that skeletal and pottery remains were uncovered during excavation for the building of a multi-level housing project for Veterans. In a moment of serendipity, the community had the Historic Human Remain Detection Dogs attending the site that same week, scheduled before notice of the uncovering was announced. The K-9s alerted at the site where the remains had been uncovered. Upon the uncovering of the remains, in following appropriate protocols, the authorities were contacted, an archaeologist was brought in, and the community provided a Cultural Monitor to maintain the traditional integrity of the site. The remains were determined to be animal, and with great cooperation from the Legion, it was agreed that even further archaeological work would occur, additional skeletal remains which were determined to again be animal were uncovered. The community commends the quick thinking of Sahkahjewaosa, the commitment to reconciliation by the Legion and the developers, and the tremendous support from Kim Murray, Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Huyer, Dr. Hazel, and Anishinabek Nation.

Community Highlights



In 2023, the community welcomed Kim Murray, the Special Interlocutor on Unmarked Burials and Dr. Dirk Huyer, the Chief Coroner for Ontario. Two important supports in the sacred work.



Contact

Darrell Boissoneau, Cultural & Special Events Manager:
dboissoneau@gardenriver.org
705-989-6172

Nicole Seabrook, Mental Health Coordinator:
nseabrook@gardenriver.org
705-989-6065



Sahkahjewaosa
Ketegaunseebee
Bring Our Children
Home Initiative
Bigii Weh Wok



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McIntosh Indian Residential School

Welcome to Wiikwogaming Tiinahtisiwin, a collaborative effort to shed light on the dark history of the McIntosh Residential School. We aim to bring healing to former McIntosh Students and their communities. We also aim to bring recognition and justice for Students that never made it home. Our project is guided by our vision, mission, and goals, with the purpose of righting past wrong and creating a more just and equitable future for First Nation peoples.

Find more information, and to sign up for the newsletter, visit:
www.wiikwogaming.ca

Contact

Grassy Narrows:

ON POX 1B0

Phone: 807-925-2201

Toll-Free : 1-800-668-1790



Contact

BringingOurChildrenHome

@lacseulfn.org

1-807-738-3282

Pelican Lake Indian Residential School

The Bringing Our Children Home Initiative is led by Lac Seul First Nation, representing 33 First Nations communities in developing protocols for healing, gathering, communication, searches / findings and repatriation of survivors of Indian Residential Schools operating in Treaty #3 Territory.

We currently operate out of two locations: Frenchman's Head and Thunder Bay.

We are a team of nine employees that work to ensure that the Search at the site of the former Pelican Indian Residential School is completed according to the direction of Survivors.

Find more information, visit: www.bikiiwewinig.com



BIKIIWEWINIG
NINDAWAASHISHIIMINAANAK

BRINGING OUR CHILDREN HOME INITIATIVE

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We would like to acknowledge the bravery of all Survivors, Thrivers, Warriors, and their families who have shared their truths and made this sacred work possible.

Additional Funding Opportunity

Na-mi-quai-ni-mak
(I remember them)
Community Support Fund

\$10,000 per project.

Questions? Email:
Jennifer.Wood
@umanitoba.ca

Future Generations Foundation

Provides funding for programs aimed at education, healing and reconciliation, and cultural knowledge building.

Questions? Contact:
1 (888) 268-0520
info@fgfoundation.ca

First Nation Community Funding

Residential schools missing children - community support funding. Support for Indigenous-led, Survivor-centric and culturally sensitive initiatives and investments to help Indigenous communities respond to and heal from the ongoing impacts of residential schools. Available to all communities impacted by Residential Schools.

Funded through Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Not allocation based, determined on case by case basis. Right now applications are accepted for 2024-2025. This can fund activities within: Local research, engagement and knowledge gathering, Memorialization or Commemoration, and Bringing Children Home.

More information? Contact:
Resolution & Partnerships,
Settlement Agreement & Childhood Claims Branch,
25 Rue Eddy - 6th floor, Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0H4
Email: enfants_disparus-missing_children@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca

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