



Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table and Burnaby Together Statement

215 Children Who Never Came Home

We are grieving and saddened to hear about the discovery in Kamloops, on the traditional ancestral and unceded homeland of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc. It hurts our hearts to learn about the remains of 215 children taken into the Residential School system and who never returned home.

From the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report in 2015 only 10 have been completed. These actions provide a framework for us to begin readdressing the legacy of Residential Schools and to advance Reconciliation across the country. The Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table and the Burnaby Together would create opportunities to learn about the true and full history of Canada.

We encourage all levels of government to accelerate the completion of the remaining Truth and Reconciliation 84 calls to action, and to make genuine and long-lasting changes to repair the intergenerational harm done to Indigenous People, Inuit, and Métis communities so that we may have a stronger, more inclusive Canada.

If anyone needs supports a new National Indian Residential School Crisis Line is available to provide support (1-866-925-4419). In B.C., a toll-free First Nations, and Indigenous Crisis Line (1-800-588-8717) is offered through the KUU-US Crisis Line Society. Both Crisis Lines are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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