



MEDIA RELEASE: JANUARY 25, 2022

School District 27 would like to acknowledge the ongoing efforts of Williams Lake First Nation with regards to their investigation into the lands of the former St. Joseph's Residential School. Following the discovery at the Kamloops Indian Residential school in June, we have seen this sad discovery repeated across Canada at these sites.

We offer our condolences to the Williams Lake First Nation and all of the local First Nations communities who have been and are impacted by this discovery, reaffirming the stories shared by residential school survivors for many years. Your communities continue to endure the hurt, oppression, and intergenerational trauma from Canada's forced residential schooling for Indigenous children.

School District 27 is committed to Truth and Reconciliation, and we recognize we have a tremendous amount of learning and work to be done. We have the opportunity to correct the wrongs of the past by continuing work in the days, months and years to come.

Through this difficult time, we will continue working with communities to see how we can best support them, as they also help us on our path to reconciliation as we actively and thoughtfully move forward.

Former Justice, Murray Sinclair, clearly outlined a path forward when he commented that, it was through education "that we got into this mess", and it will be through education that we will get out of it. We have much work to do, and we look forward to working with indigenous communities, organizations and families to create a more just and equitable society.

As of January 25, we asked that schools fly their flags at half-mast and asked that school staff be extra vigilant and mindful of the triggering response this information may have for many families.

[Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Calls to Action](#)

[Child Friendly Calls to Action](#)

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