



CBAC Executive Minister Shares Statement in Response to Kamloops Residential School

June 2nd, 2021

As a group of Christian Churches, we are shocked, saddened and dismayed at the recent discovery of the remains of 215 Indigenous children at a residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia. The legacy of genocide against Indigenous people in Canada is horrendous and evil. Knowing that many of the atrocities of the Residential Schools were committed by people claiming the name of Jesus, we should be stirred to repentance and to ask forgiveness from the First Nations people of this land.

Moreover, we can and we must go beyond this—we must become allies who call upon both the Federal and Provincial Governments to act now to afford some dignity to so many discarded lives and some recognition to their families and communities in the midst of their grief. We ask that you contact your MLA and Member of Parliament and demand action to immediately implement items 71-76 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, under the section titled “Missing Children and Burial Information.”

While we realize this is primarily the responsibility of the Federal Government, we look to the Provincial government to do what it can to join in this immediate action.

May God help us and give us courage to stand in solidarity with our Indigenous neighbors who continue to suffer such indignity. May His people be active in prayer and in deed to be a part of reconciliation.

Rev. Dr. Peter Reid
Executive Minister, Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada

Further Resources

Walking In a Good Way With Our Indigenous Neighbours (Online Course)
<https://courses.baptist-atlantic.ca>

TRC Calls to Action, “Missing Children and Burial Information”
<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524504992259/1557512149981>