June 28, 2021

Statement from the Adoption Council of Canada

The Adoption Council of Canada stands in solidarity with Indigenous communities across the country and would like to express our deepest sympathy to the families and communities of the children and youth found on the territories of Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc and Cowessess First Nations. We understand from the TRC report and testimonies of survivors that this is only the beginning. The discovery of these mass graves is a horrifying reminder of the intergenerational trauma caused by residential schools. Action and accountability are needed to fully address current and past injustices committed against Indigenous peoples.

Residential schools were part of a colonial policy that removed Indigenous children from their communities, culture and way of life. Thousands of children were taken away and never returned to their families.

Ten years ago, the Truth and Reconciliation Committee revealed the details of the role that residential schools played in the history of Canada from survivors and the tragic legacy that continues today. Today we are committed to listening, to learning and to ensuring action and accountability is taken. The ACC is committed to the TRC calls to action and to supporting Indigenous communities through their healing journeys.

Support is available through the National Indian Residential School Crisis Line at 1-866-925-4419.

Truth and Reconciliation Report Summary

Jennifer Inez MacKay
Chair, Adoption Council of Canada

Cathy Murphy
Executive Director