



Brock University Graduate Students' Association Special Statement

June 7, 2021 – (St. Catharines, ON)

Special Statement: Kamloops Indian Residential School Mass Grave

On Thursday, May 27, the remains of 215 Indigenous children were discovered, buried within the grounds of where the former Kamloops Indian Residential School once operated in Kamloops, British Columbia.

215 young lives taken.
215 future ancestors stolen.
215 immeasurable memories, legacies, stories.

And to think that the Kamloops Indian Residential School was only one of the 130 residential schools that operated throughout Canada.

Though commonly regarded as part of a dark history of Canada, the negative consequences of the residential school systems are still present-day traumas felt by all Indigenous people across Turtle Island (an Indigenous name used to reference America and/or Canada). As Indigenous communities across these lands continue to combat the ongoing legacies of colonization, the GSA believes that it is the responsibility of settlers to learn about the [history of residential schools](#), [the 60s scoop](#), [missing and murdered indigenous women and girls \(MMIWG\)](#), as well as ongoing land reclamation and sovereignty efforts.

We encourage everyone to find ways to support Indigenous communities as they grieve this recent discovery, in addition to the grief they have already had to endure.

Below, you will find a compiled list of resources (including places and organizations you can donate to, if you are financially able) to better support those impacted by the genocidal residential school system. We encourage you to find ways to spread awareness by sharing these resources, by educating your friends, families, and communities, and by urging them to read the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#).

We encourage you to take meaningful steps with us towards ending the legacies of colonization.

Resources and Information:

- [Brock Service] [Aboriginal Student Services](#)
- [Website] [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada](#)
- [Article] Statement by Dr. Robyn Bourgeois, Acting Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement: [Brock University mourns victims in Kamloops](#)
- [Website] [Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society](#)
- [Website] [Indian Residential School Survivor Society](#)
- [Article] CBC: [Stop asking how you can help — and listen, says B.C. residential school survivor](#)
- [Course] Free 12-week [Indigenous Canada course from University of Alberta](#)
- [Website] [ON Canada Project: Settlers Take Action](#)
- [Interactive Map] [Native Land: Find out whose traditional territory you live on](#)

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Artistic Expression:

[YouTube] @raunchykwe ([Quill Christie-Peters: On Settler Colonial Violence and Environmental Justice](#))

[Facebook] @lukeswinsonart; [Artist's Website] <https://lukeswinsonart.com>

[Instagram] @morningstardesigns; [Artist's Website] <https://morningstardesigns.ca>

[Instagram] @tanyatagaq

[Instagram] @nalakwsis

Other avenues to support:

[Website] <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/newfriendshipcentre>

[Website] <https://unistoten.camp/supportertoolkit/>

[Website] <https://ca.gofundme.com/f/legal-fund-1492-land-back-lane>

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