

SCADDING COURT COMMUNITY CENTRE STATEMENT ON CHILD VICTIMS IN COLONIAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Scadding Court Community Centre (SCCC) stands in solidarity with the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation, survivors of residential schools, and communities that are left behind to grieve and heal from the atrocities perpetrated against Indigenous peoples across this country.

The colonial policy in Canada that removed Indigenous children from their communities resulted in thousands of children being sent to residential schools. Lost to their families permanently, children were forbidden to speak their languages and practice their cultures. Children were often abused, abuse which included cruel medical experiments in the 40s and 50s, and so many, too many, died under tragic and shameful circumstances.

The Alexandra Park community will memorialize and honour these lost innocent children, and continue our efforts to advocate and address the systemic oppressions that continue to plague Indigenous communities here in Tkaronto, now known as Toronto, and across our country.

Kamloops Indian Residential School is one school. We know there are many others. Naming our collective national commitment to reconciliation, as documented in the Queen's Truth and Reconciliation Commission task force, and our Friendship Wampum covenant with local Indigenous communities, we send our condolences to the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nations for the unspeakable acts that have been perpetrated against their children.

Six ways for non-profits to take action to do better and more today

1. Refer those in need to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society Crisis Line (available 24/7) at 1 800 721 0066
2. Learn more about [residential schools](#) and the devastating impact on communities and generations of Indigenous Peoples or take a free course on Indigenous histories and contemporary issues through [University of Alberta](#).
3. Read the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action](#) and commit to ways your organization will be accountable.
4. Advocate to the federal government to ensure the Calls to Action are implemented. Currently only 8 out of 94 calls have been completed. [Read analysis](#) from the Yellowhead Institute about the lack of action.
5. Advocate to the Ontario government and your MPP for government to work with First Nations to survey sites for unmarked graves at Ontario's former residential schools.
6. Advocate for more public and private funding of nonprofits to be directed to Indigenous-led organizations and to issues Indigenous Peoples have identified need to be funded.

Sources: Government of Canada, Native Women's Association of Canada, Ontario Non-Profit Network, Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council

