



# Nova Scotia Native Women's Association

May 31, 2021

## **Statement from the NSNWA regarding the 215 remains of children found at the Kamloops Residential School, Kamloops, BC**

The Nova Scotia Native Women's Association would like to express their sincerest condolences to the families and communities of the 215 Indigenous children found in a mass grave at Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation, known as the Kamloops Residential School site last week.

“Our hearts go out to all of these children, their families and community members. Who knows how many more Residential School sites covered up the deaths of our children. These were our ancestors, our families. We, as a Nation, are mourning these losses and we should all be calling for the Government of Canada to check every Residential School site with ground-penetrating radar”, said Bernadette Marshall, Interim President of the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was formed to further reconciliation between Canadians and Indigenous peoples, which had 94 Calls to Action as of 2015 and only 10 Calls have been completed to date.

Bernadette Marshall stated, “As Indigenous peoples in this country, we have been waiting for these Calls to Action to be completed, as well as, the 231 Calls to Justice for our Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls. Canada should be ashamed.”

The Nova Scotia Native Women's Association will show our solidarity and support for the 215 children, their families, communities and for all of those who have lost their lives at a Residential School across Turtle Island (Canada), by placing an orange shirt, teddy bear or shoes on our steps and leaving our porch lights on for 215 hours, in the hopes that these souls will find their way home.