

## Office of Mayor George V. Harvie *City of Delta*



June 2, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Office of the Prime Minister 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

Re: Kamloops Indian Residential School

On behalf of Delta Council, I am adding our voice to the collective call for action following the recent discovery of the buried remains of 215 children on the property of the former Kamloops Indian Residential School.

This tragedy represents the worst of Canada's colonial history and is devastating for so many people in communities across the country. This is a time to mourn the lost children, reflect on the testimony of residential school survivors, and support those who continue to be traumatised by a legacy of violence and systemic racism in Canada.

We call on the federal government to implement, as a matter of urgency, the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, and in particular, those that relate to missing children and burial information, and for the full disclosure of related records by the federal government and churches involved in the administration of residential schools.

As a community, we are shocked and saddened by the loss of these children and all that they represent of a dark and repressive time in our history. It is time for the Canadian government to make good on its promises of reconciliation, to take affirmative action to uncover hidden truths, and to take positive steps towards healing and renewal.

Yours truly,

George V. Harvie Mayor

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cc: The Hon. Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion
The Hon. Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation Ian Paton, MLA Delta South
Delta Council
Sean McGill, City Manager