



Quewich and his children, Qu'Appelle Industrial School, ca. 1900. University of Saskatchewan Archives, Brock Silversides fonds (MG 289), file 2.2 – 21B.

Since Time Immemorial

Anna Flaminio

SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL...

Creator

Creator as Source of Life and Laws

Mother Earth

**Indigenous peoples' Jurisdiction and Stewardship of Land, Air,
Water, Fire**

Sovereign Nations

Indigenous Nations as Sovereign Nations

Independent Nations

**Determination of all Political, Economic, Social, Educational, and
Familial realms**

Nations

Balanced Individuals, Families, Communities, Nations

RESIDENTIAL / BOARDING / INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

Euphemism:

“Schools”

More accurately deemed

(Total) Institutions

Tool of the Colonizer

Forced Removal of Children

Deliberate Abduction and Captivity

Cut off from Land, Family, Community, Language, Culture

Tool of the Colonizer

Intended Incarceration of Children

Deliberate Death and Disease

Imposed Sexual Physical Emotional Spiritual Violence

Euphemism:

“Assimilation”

More accurately deemed

(Attempted) Genocide

TRAIL OF COLONIZATION AND DESTRUCTION

COLONIZATION

Systemic attack on the LANDS, CULTURES, BODIES, MINDS, HEARTS and SPIRITS of Nations

PRE-CONTACT

Papal Bull issued by Pope in 1493 to DISPOSSESS Indigenous peoples of their lands

CONTACT

Land was NOT DISCOVERED; Lands were OCCUPIED by Indigenous Peoples

INDIAN ACT

Imposed system of Apartheid to Dominate, Subjugate and Eradicate Indigenous peoples and Nations

TREATIES

**International Peace and Friendship Agreements; State claims
Lands were surrendered**

MISSIONARIES

**Eurocentric, Paternalistic Mission to Denigrate Indigenous
Spiritual, Cultural, and Familial Laws**

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

**Tool to Divide and Decimate Individuals, Families, Communities
and Nations**

CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

**Systemic Removal and Custody of thousands of Indigenous
Children**

POLICE/ COURTS/ JAILS

Oppression, Control and Over-Incarceration of Indigenous peoples

CONTINUED LEGISLATION

**Past, Current, and Proposed Law intended to usurp Indigenous
Lands and Jurisdiction**

GENOCIDE and RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

The United Nations Convention on Genocide states Genocide means the intent to destroy a group by:

- (a) Killing members of the group;**
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm;**
- (c) Inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction;**
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;**
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.**

CANADIAN CRIMINAL CODE

Sections b), d), and e) of the Genocide Convention are NOT included in the Criminal Code

INSTITUTIONALIZATION BACKGROUND

Number of Schools

130+ Residential Institutions in Canada that were operated by four main Churches:

Churches Collaborating

The Roman Catholic Church

The Anglican Church

The United Church

The Presbyterian Church

Funding

Churches were funded by the Federal Government to run the schools

Attendance

**More than 150,000 children attended the schools
Almost 80,000 of those children, now adults, are still alive today.**

INSTITUTIONAL TIMELINE

1620 – Franciscans establish the first known boarding school in New France

1800s – Missionaries running several institutional schools

1842 – Bagot Commission recommends training children in manual labour schools far from parents

1857 – Gradual Civilization Act legislates the assimilation of Indians

1876 – Indian Act legislates all Indian peoples as Wards of Federal Government

1879 – Davin Report calls for church-run, off-reserve, ‘aggressive civilization’ schools

1883 – Industrial Schools are built far from reserves to limit parental and cultural influence

1920 – Indian Act legislates compulsory attendance; Children forcibly taken/ parents fined or jailed

1931 – 80 residential institutions in operation

1980s – Adult students begin disclosing sexual and other abuses while attending the schools

1996 – Last government-run institution in Saskatchewan closes

INSTITUTIONAL ATROCITIES AGAINST CHILDREN

Substandard Living Conditions

Poor Construction and Ventilation

Malnutrition

Separation from Siblings

Manual Labour for Half of School Day

Physical Assaults

Sexual Violence

Emotional/ Mental Abuse

Forced Confinement

Religious Fear and Indoctrination

Cultural Theft

Language Tortures

Hatred, Racism, and Oppression

Forced Sterilization

Medical Experimentation

Disease and Inaction

Unsolved Child Deaths and Burials

INSTITUTIONAL AFTERMATH

Litigation / Alternative Dispute Resolution/ Class Action

Thousands of legal claims against the Church and Government

Common Experience Payment

In 2007, approval was received for a settlement payment to only eligible survivors

Truth and Reconciliation Commission

In 2008, the Settlement Agreement's Truth and Reconciliation Commission begins

National Survivors Support Line:

1-866-925-4419

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