



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

June 4, 2021

Statement from Most Reverend Gerard Bergie following the recent discovery at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation

The news of the discovery of the remains of 215 children at the Kamloops residential school is indeed shocking and deeply troubling. As Bishop of St. Catharines, I offer my profound sorrow and regret for all the pain and suffering experienced by children who were forced to attend these schools run by Catholic bishops, priests and nuns. It is a dark period of our history and one that we can never forget. The Indigenous Peoples in Canada deserve our love, respect, and profound sorrow for what has been done to them. We remember in prayer the lost lives of 215 children and the Indigenous communities who are grieving at this time. It is my sincere hope that we can all move forward with a listening and compassionate heart, so that necessary healing can take place. I also reaffirm my commitment to protect children, especially those most vulnerable.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
Bishop of St. Catharines

Statement from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops:

<https://www.cccb.ca/announcement/ccb-statement-regarding-discovery-at-former-kamloops-indian-residential-school/>

Statement from the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate:

<https://omilacombe.ca/media-release/>