



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Canada

Government of Canada Programs & Services

Addressing the Legacy of Residential Schools



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Send updates to IRS-ISC.PI-SAC@sac-isc.gc.ca. Ce document est disponible en français.

Program or Service	Summary	Contact and Information Links
Crown Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)		
Residential Schools Missing Children – Community Support Funding	<p>The Residential Schools Missing Children – Community Support Fund supports Indigenous communities and partners to develop and implement community-led initiatives to locate, document, and memorialize cemeteries and burial sites associated with the 140 residential schools included in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) and the 5 schools included in the Newfoundland and Labrador Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (<i>Anderson</i>), and to honour families' wishes to identify and repatriate children's remains.</p> <p>Through the Fund, CIRNAC provides funding for eligible activities related to fieldwork investigation, research, knowledge gathering, community engagement, commemorating of the children who did not return home, memorializing of their resting places, and identifying and repatriating their remains. Funding is also available to eligible recipients to support coordination and implementation of eligible activities, including salary and professional services costs.</p> <p>National Advisory Committee</p> <p>Established in July 2022, the National Advisory Committee on Residential Schools Missing Children and Unmarked Burials (the Committee) brings together experts to serve as a source of independent and trusted technical advice for communities in their efforts to locate, identify, honour, and memorialize children who died while in the care of</p>	<p>To request funding from CIRNAC, please contact: enfants_disparus-missing_children@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca</p> <p>For information about eligibility, please visit: https://rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1622742779529/1628608766235</p> <p>For a list of funded recipients, see: https://rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1647884354823/1647884389372</p> <p>For the 140 residential schools recognized by the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, see: https://www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca/schools.html</p> <p>For information about the Newfoundland and Labrador Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, see: https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1511531626107/1539962009489</p> <p>For information about the National Advisory Committee, please visit: https://nac-cnn.ca</p>

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	residential schools. The Committee includes a diverse range of expertise in areas such as Indigenous laws and protocols, archival research, search technologies, privacy laws, and preservation of evidence.	
Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)		
Interactive Indian Residential Schools Mapping Application	<p>ISC's Geomatics Services developed an Indian Residential Schools (IRS) Mapping Application, by using site location data provided by the NCTR (Orlandini, 2018) and layering it with Government of Canada Open Data (First Nation and Inuit Communities, reserve boundaries, and historical air photos provided by Natural Resources Canada). In addition to the collection of geospatial data to situate and provide historical context to the Indian Residential School sites, the application has search, filtering, measurement, and print tools to assist users with analysis or the creation of their own maps.</p> <p>Users also have the ability to download static maps of the IRS site locations for both Canada wide or for a specific province and territory.</p> <p>Related to the IRS Mapping Application, ISC maintains an Indian Residential School environmental scan of the current status of former residential school buildings and sites. ISC also facilitates an IRS Mapping Network to bring together researchers and experts working on mapping and research projects related to former IRS sites and buildings, to facilitate informal information sharing and collaboration.</p>	<p>To access the Indian Residential Schools Mapping Application: https://geo.sac-isc.gc.ca/ACPI-IRSMA/</p> <p>Questions about the Mapping Application, the Mapping Network, or the Indian Residential School environmental scan? Contact: IRS-ISC.PI-SAC@sac-isc.gc.ca</p>
Funding to Address Former Residential School Buildings	Funds to help First Nations begin to address on-reserve school buildings and associated sites that were once used for residential schools. Activities eligible for funding include:	<p>For more information, see: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1671541388659/1671541533458</p> <p>Contact your regional Indigenous Services Canada office:</p>

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and Sites On Reserve	Community Engagement, Site Clean-up and Remediation, Building Demolition, Building Replacement or Renovation.	https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100016936/1534342668402 Or, you may email: IRS-ISC.PI-SAC@sac-isc.gc.ca
Trauma-Informed Health and Cultural Support Program, including the Indian Residential School Resolution Health Support Program	The Indian Residential School Resolution Health Support Program funds access to mental health counselling, and emotional and cultural support services to Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors of Indian Residential Schools. The program was established in 2006 and has over 580 full-time and part-time resolution health support workers and cultural support providers providing services to individuals, families, and communities. There is significant overlap in the network of health and cultural support providers for the IRS RHSP and the other programs within the Trauma-Informed Health and Cultural Support Program.	For more information and link to regional offices: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581971225188/1581971250953 In British Columbia, the program is administered by the First Nations Health Authority: https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/mental-wellness-and-substance-use/residential-schools
	The Federal Indian Day Schools Health and Cultural Support Program funds access to mental health counselling, and emotional and cultural support services to Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors of Federal Indian Day Schools. This program was established in 2020.	For more information and links to regional offices: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1594067962949/1594068284591 In British Columbia, the program is administered by the First Nations Health Authority: https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/mental-wellness-and-substance-use/mental-health-and-wellness-supports
	The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Health and Cultural Support Program funds access to mental health counselling, and emotional and cultural support services to all those impacted by the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people. This program was established in 2018.	For more information and links to regional offices: https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1548700698392/1548701361628 In British Columbia, the program is administered by the First Nations Health Authority: https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/mental-wellness-and-substance-use/mental-health-and-wellness-supports

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	<p>In 2021, the Trauma-Informed Health and Cultural Support Program expanded eligibility for cultural and emotional support services to all Indigenous people impacted by the legacy of Indian Residential School and other colonial traumas.</p>	<p>For more information and link to regional offices: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581971225188/1581971250953</p> <p>In British Columbia, the program is administered by the First Nations Health Authority: https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/mental-wellness-and-substance-use/residential-schools</p>
<p>Hope for Wellness Help Line</p>	<p>Hope for Wellness Help Line provides telephone and online-chat based support and crisis intervention to all Indigenous people. Service available 24/7 and upon request in Cree, Ojibway (Anishinaabemowin), and Inuktitut.</p>	<p>For more information on the Hope for Wellness Helpline: https://sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1576089519527/1576089566478</p> <p>Call the toll-free Helpline at 1-855-242-3310 or connect to the online chat at https://www.hopeforwellness.ca/</p>
<p>Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line</p>	<p>Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors, as well as anyone affected by Indian Residential Schools, can contact the National Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line for immediate emotional support and referrals.</p>	<p>The National Indian Residential School Crisis Line provides 24-hour crisis support to former Indian Residential School students and their families toll-free at 1-866-925-4419.</p>
<p>Other mental wellness supports</p>	<p>Non-Insured Health Benefit Program Mental Health provides coverage for professional mental health counselling to complement other mental wellness services that may be available to clients or in communities. The program provides eligible clients with coverage for benefits not available under other federal, provincial, territorial or private health insurance.</p> <p>Jordan's Principle responds to unmet needs for First Nations children living in Canada to access the products, services and supports they need, when they need them. Funding can help with a wide range of health, social and educational needs, including the unique needs that First Nations Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA+ children and youth and those with</p>	<p>For information on mental health counselling benefits under the Non-Insured Health Benefit Program: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1576441552462/1576441618847</p> <p>For information on submitting a request under Jordan's Principle: https://sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396296543/1582657596387#sec2</p> <p>For support on applying for funding, contact your regional focal points: https://sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396296543/1582657596387#repres</p>

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	disabilities may have. Offers mental health supports and therapeutic services for groups and individuals.	Or call the national call centre at 1-855-572-4453, which is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
	The Inuit Child First Initiative ensures Inuit children have access to the essential government funded health, social and educational products, services and supports they need, when they need them.	<p>For information on the Inuit Child First Initiative: https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1536348095773/1536348148664</p> <p>For support on applying for funding, contact your regional focal points - https://sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396296543/1582657596387#repres</p> <p>Or call the national call centre at 1-855-572-4453, which is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.</p>
Canadian Heritage		
Commemorating the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – as part of <i>Commemorate Canada Program</i>	<p>This program provides funding (up to a maximum of \$10,000 per organization) to eligible recipients for initiatives that increase awareness and commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30).</p> <p>The deadline to apply for 2024 funding was January 23, 2024.</p>	<p>Application Guideline may be found at: https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/commemorate-canada/legacy-residential-schools/application-guidelines.html</p> <p>For more information, contact Canadian Heritage at: commemorationpensionnats-commemorationresidentialschools@pch.gc.ca</p>
National Residential Schools Monument	<p>On August 10, 2021, the Government of Canada announced \$20 million had been set aside to build the national monument to honour residential school Survivors and all the children who were lost to their families and communities.</p> <p>The site selected by the Steering Committee is on the ancestral lands of the Anishinabe Algonquin Nation on the west side of Parliament Hill. The site is highly visible in the heart of downtown Ottawa.</p>	<p>For information on upcoming projects – monuments: https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/art-monuments/upcoming-projects.html#a6</p> <p>For information on the 16 members of the survivor-led steering committee announced in April 2022, see: https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2022/04/biographies-members-of-the-survivor-led-steering-committee-for-the-residential-schools-national-monument.html</p>

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Legacy Fund – Building Communities through Arts and Heritage	<p>Provides funding for community-initiated capital projects, intended for community use. Recipients may receive up to 50 per cent of eligible project expenses up to a maximum of \$500,000. Eligible projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • commemorate a significant local historical event or pay tribute to a significant local historical personality • mark a 100th anniversary or greater, in increments of 25 years (e.g., 125th, 150th) • involve the restoration, renovation, or transformation of existing buildings or exterior spaces with local community significance that are intended for community use; • encourage arts and heritage activities in the local community that are intended for and accessible to the general public. 	<p>For information about the Legacy Fund program including application and budget forms, see: https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/building-communities/legacy-fund.html</p> <p>Contact the Department of Canadian Heritage to discuss your project with a program officer before preparing your application via email: dcap-bcah@pch.gc.ca</p>
Parks Canada		
National Historic Sites Commemorations related to the history and legacy of residential schools	<p>On September 1, 2020, the Government of Canada announced the designation of the Residential School System as a national historic event under the National Program of Historical Commemoration.</p> <p>The National Program for Historical Commemoration is a public history program that relies on nominations of historic persons, events and sites from the public, and welcomes new nominations related to the history and legacy of residential schools in Canada. Since 2020, four former residential schools have been designated as national historic sites.</p>	<p>For information on designations related to Residential Schools in Canada, visit: https://parks.canada.ca/culture/designation/pensionnat-residential</p> <p>Communities interested in commemorating residential school sites, the history and legacy of residential schools, and the contributions of Indigenous peoples to Canada’s history should contact Parks Canada at clmhc-hsmbc@pc.gc.ca.</p> <p>For information on how Parks Canada is responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Call to Action 79: https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524505403680/1557513866487</p>
Natural Resources Canada		

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National Air Photo Library	<p>The National Air Photo Library (NAPL) of Natural Resources Canada archives over 6 million aerial photographs covering all of Canada, some of which date back to the 1920s. The NAPL indexes and stores federal aerial photography for Canada, and maintains a comprehensive historical archive and public reference centre.</p>	<p>Information on the National Air Photo Library may be found at: https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/maps-tools-and-publications/satellite-imagery-and-air-photos/air-photos/national-air-photo-library/9265</p> <p>To access air photos, you can visit the Earth Observation Data Management System.</p> <p>For more information on products and services, please contact National Air Photo Library.</p>
Library and Archives Canada		
Indian Residential School Records	<p>There are several types of records that may be accessed when researching residential schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Federal government resources 2. Church records 3. Private Records of Superintendents General of Indian Affairs 4. Photographs of residential schools and students 5. Maps and plans of residential schools 6. Published histories <p>In order to obtain information concerning Indian Residential Schools and children who were forced to attend these schools, people may contact Library and Archives Canada.</p> <p>As well, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) holds a large collection of historical documents related to Residential Schools, the majority created or collected by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.</p>	<p>Information on accessing records held by LAC may be found at: https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/collection/research-help/indigenous-heritage/Pages/residential-schools.aspx</p> <p>To find out how to file an Access to Information and/or Privacy request, information on the Access to Information and Privacy online request process may be found here: https://atip-aiprp.apps.gc.ca/atip/welcome.do.</p>