



November 2022 Newsletter

The content in this newsletter may be upsetting for some. If you require immediate support, please contact the **Hope for Wellness Help Line** at 1-855-242-3310 to access toll-free, 24/7 counselling and crisis intervention.



Reclaiming Their Sacred Role

This summer, a group of young Indigenous adults joined the Survivors' Secretariat for 16 weeks as part of the new Reclaiming Our Role – Youth Supporting Survivors program. The employment program created a community-focused environment for young people to reclaim their sacred role as helpers.

READ THE BLOG POST »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/rising-up-lifting-the-voices-contributions-of-indigenous-youth/>

The Time is Now: Survivors Urge Governments and Churches to Release Records

At a special council meeting held in May, Brantford City Council unanimously supported a Notice of Motion that calls on the government and the Anglican Church to release all documents in the possession of the Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the Anglican Church related to the former Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School to Survivors' Secretariat immediately.

READ THE BLOG POST »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/survivors-urge-canadian-government-and-anglican-church-to-release-all-records/>



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Special Event: A Year in Review

At the end of August, the Secretariat welcomed community members to their new location for a year in review presentation and meaningful conversations.

READ THE BLOG POST »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/welcoming-the-community-survivors-secretariat-august-2022-open-house-event/>



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Smoke Signals Student Newspaper, Sea Cadets – Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School

What Survivors' Testimonies and Records Reveal About the Mush Hole

The local Sea Cadet chapter in Brantford, Ontario, known as RCSCC Admiral Nelles (named for Admiral Percy W. Nelles) was established in 1943-1944. The Royal Canadian Sea Cadets are a youth organization in Canada sponsored by the Canadian Armed Forces and the Navy League of Canada, funded by the Department of National Defense. The Sea Cadets were a prominent community organization in the Brantford area, and members would learn skills like knot-tying, navigation, and shooting.

Cadet groups in the residential school system gained popularity as administrators saw an opportunity for a cheaper extracurricular activity for their students. Boys from the former Mohawk Institute took part in Sea Cadets in the early 1960s. Mohawk Institute students' involvement in this program was part of a trend at residential schools during the 1960s that encouraged educational integration.

As we continue to discover, uncover and confirm new information from documents and records, and hear from Survivors, we encourage you to learn more on our [website](#), through our [newsletters](#) and by following us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



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Do You Recognize Anyone?

Every month we will share a new photo from [Know History](#), a historical services company that helps organizations like ours research and document the past. We invite you to help us identify the children. If you recognize someone, please contact us at info@survivorssecretariat.ca.



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Volunteer Opportunities

On our website, we have opportunities to volunteer with the Survivors' Secretariat. As a volunteer, you are committed to helping the Survivors' Secretariat fulfill its mandate and supporting Survivors and their families. Click the button below to view our current opportunities.

VIEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/employment-opportunities/how-to-volunteer/>

News Stories About The Survivors' Secretariat

Looking for news about the Survivors' Secretariat? We have added a page on our website with links to news stories, radio shows and TV reports. Click the button below to visit the page and read the latest about the Survivors' Secretariat in the news.

READ THE NEWS »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/in-the-news/>



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Standing With Survivors

We would like to acknowledge those individuals and companies who have contributed to the work of the Survivors' Secretariat. With kindness being **one of the Haudenosaunee legal principles**, it is important to thank those who have made it part of their nature to bring communities together through working partnerships.

FIND OUR ACKNOWLEDGMENTS HERE »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/standing-with-survivors/>

Services Available to Survivors, and Intergenerational Survivors

If you require immediate support, please contact the **Hope for Wellness Help Line** at **1-855-242-3310** to access toll-free, 24/7 counselling and crisis intervention. The Hope for Wellness Help Line offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention to all Indigenous peoples across Canada. Experienced Helpline counsellors, many are Indigenous, can help if asked to find wellness supports that are available in your area.

The Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line (1-866-925-4419) is available 24 hours a day for anyone experiencing pain or distress as a result of their residential school experience.

The Indigenous Victim Services at Six Nations Line (1-866-964-5920).

After hours & weekends: 1-866-445-2204. Available to people living in Brantford, Hamilton or the Six Nations community.



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