



YMCA of Niagara
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Every Child Matters

June 2, 2021

On behalf of the YMCA of Niagara, President & CEO Steven Chuang offers his deepest sympathies to Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation and all Indigenous communities across the country.

We, at the YMCA of Niagara, are profoundly saddened by the disturbing and tragic discovery of the remains of 215 children at the site of the former Kamloops Indian Residential School. Our thoughts are with Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation, as well as with all Indigenous communities across Canada.

We are witnessing the beginning of a national reaction for calls to action as we make space to increase awareness and for the removal of historical secrets. There is much work for all of us as we continue the path of truth and reconciliation.

While we and our fellow Canadians recognise the appalling devastation and feel immense grief, there is no denying that many generations of our Indigenous brothers and sisters have lived with the trauma of the inequities inflicted upon them.

In order to work towards and create a better today and tomorrow, we must face our past. Each one of us is responsible and is an integral part of the solution as we educate ourselves and steadfastly focus on reconciliation.

To strengthen our community in Spirit, Mind and Body, we must strengthen our efforts to account for every child who went to residential schools.

For truth, healing, and peace.
#EveryChildMatters

Sincerely,

Steven Chuang
President & CEO

*Building healthy
communities*