



**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Stephen McNiven, B.Ed., M.A., Superintendent of Schools
Barbara Ross, C.P.A., C.G.A., Secretary Treasurer

P.O. Box 4100, 1550 Chapman Street, Merritt, B.C., V1K 1B8, Phone: (250) 378-5161, Fax: (250) 378-6263

May 30, 2021

Sent via email

Chief Bonnie Jacobsen
Upper Similkameen Indian Band
161 Snaza'ist Drive
PO Box 220
Hedley, BC
VOX 1K0

Dear Chief Jacobsen,

On behalf of the district, we are writing you today in recognition of the grief and sorrow that many of our families and communities will be experiencing due to the announcement of the remains of 215 children being found at the Kamloops Residential School. This tragic news, confirming the unthinkable losses experienced by families during a very dark period of our history, reinforces the importance of Truth and Reconciliation.

We know that many of our families struggle with the effects of residential school and that this news will impact them greatly. Knowing this and understanding that the Reconciliation process can only happen in partnership we extend an offer of support. If there is something you believe we can do to assist you, or your community members let us know and we will do our best to work alongside you.

Our hearts and thoughts go out to our students and families during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SMcN', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Stephen McNiven
Superintendent of Schools

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G.B. Swan', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Gordon Swan
Board Chair

SMcN/sc