

***Expression of Condolence for
Wauzhushk Onigum Nation by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Mayor John Tory

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie

The Mayor and Members of Council are deeply saddened to learn it is believed there are 171 burial sites at the St. Mary's Indian Residential School in Northern Ontario.

They were recently announced by the Wauzhushk Onigum Nation and acknowledge the tragic reality of Canada's residential and day school system, which has been known to elders, knowledge keepers, survivors and Indigenous communities for generations. With every discovery of possible burial sites, we are reminded of the horrific legacy of trauma that Canada's residential and day schools have had on First Nations, Inuit and Métis people across the country.

We must continue to remember all those whose graves have been confirmed, the graves that are still to be uncovered, the Indigenous children who didn't come home, the survivors and their families. We pause to mourn them and we recognize the ongoing trauma being experienced by the Wauzhushk Onigum Nation, including survivors of the residential school system, along with the enduring pain and anguish for families who have lost children.

During this difficult time for Indigenous communities in and around Toronto and across the country, the City of Toronto recognizes the need to remain firmly committed to truth, justice and reconciliation.

The City Clerk is asked to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to the Wauzhushk Onigum Nation, and all First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities.

February 7, 2023