

***Expression of Condolence to the
Nadleh Whut'en First Nation by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Mayor Olivia Chow

Seconded by: Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the news that 23 potential unmarked graves have been identified by the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation near the site of the former Lejac Indian Residential School in Fraser Lake, British Columbia.

This announcement is another reminder of the trauma that Canada's residential and day school system has had on First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people across the country. Tragically, this horrific legacy has been known to elders, knowledge keepers, survivors, and Indigenous communities for generations.

We stand with the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation in the wake of these findings and pause to mourn with them for the children who never came home. These lives include the 38 children whose deaths were documented at the school, and others whose graves are marked at a cemetery on the school's grounds.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation, as well as all First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities across the country. During this difficult time, the City of Toronto recognizes the need to remain firmly committed to truth, justice, and reconciliation.

December 17, 2024