



**YUKON  
REGION**

**News Release**  
**A Yukon that Leads**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **AFN Yukon Acknowledges the Final Report on the Summary of the Geophysical Results at the Site of the Former Chooutla Residential School in Carcross, Yukon**

**The Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region responds to the Yukon Residential Schools Missing Children Project findings, releasing their report on the results of 15 potential graves at Chooutla Residential School in Carcross, Yukon.**

The Yukon Residential Schools Missing Children Project released their thorough report on the ground search at the Chooutla Residential School located on the traditional territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation. This investigation uncovered the truth and addressed the Yukon's consequential scars. Of the 33 individuals whose resting places remain unknown or unverified, the report's ground-penetrating radar (GPR) has identified 15 potential unmarked graves. Today, we honour the lives of the countless students who were separated from their families to attend this school.

This discovery is a testament to the tireless efforts and dedication of the Chooutla Residential School committee members who have devoted their time and expertise to this project. We recognize and deeply appreciate the support and leadership from the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, who have been invaluable during this process.

Furthermore, we acknowledge and express our gratitude to the survivors, intergenerational survivors, the families of the missing children, and the many individuals and institutions who assisted this journey toward truth and reconciliation. Their contributions are integral to the progress that has been made and will help to guide the next steps on the path that lies ahead.

Acting Regional Chief Mary Jane Jim shared, "today, my thoughts are with the families of the missing children and the survivors who continue to carry this heavy burden. I

want to acknowledge and thank all those who bravely shared their stories and whose traumatic experiences form the foundation of these findings.”

“I also raise my hands to each of the Chooutla Residential School committee members for their diligent work, to Carcross/Tagish First Nation for opening up their traditional territory for this work to commence, and to the Yukon Residential Schools Missing Children Project for facilitating Yukon-wide residential school searches,” said Acting Regional Chief Mary Jane Jim.

During these challenging times, we encourage all communities to find ways to show support, understanding, and, most importantly, compassion for one another and all those impacted by these findings. We ask everyone to be gentle with one another as we navigate this difficult period of collective mourning and healing.

As we approach the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we must remember that before reconciliation, there must be truth. We continue to uncover the truths of our past, we honor those who have been lost, and strengthen our resolve to ensure their memories are never forgotten.

**Available support resources to those who need them:**

**Indian Residential School Survivors Society:** 1 (800) 721-0066

**National Residential School Crisis Line:** 1 (866) 925-4419

**First Nation and Inuit Hope and Wellness 24/7 Help Line:** 1 (855) 242-3310

**National Indian Residential School Crisis Line:** 1-866-925-4419

**Kids Help Phone Line:** 1 (800) 668-6868 or text 686868

**For media requests related to this statement, please contact:**

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