



Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador

June 1st, 2021

To my Innu and Mi'Kmaq Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Grace and peace in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador, I would like to express my deepest sorrow and my heartfelt support and prayers on the news of the large discovery of children that had died while attending the Indian Residential School in Kamloops.

I realize that this news is probably only the tip of the iceberg, confirming the oral history of your Elders, and your worst fears in regards to similar questions around other Residential School Sites, re-opening wounds that are still far from being healed.

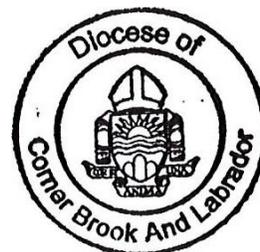
In moments like this, I can only pray that God may have mercy, that he may bring consolation and strength to troubled hearts, and heal the sins of the past in ways that only he knows how. I also pray that he may grant us the courage to confront the past together, bring to light the full truth of what took place, so that we may be able to take the next steps necessary for reconciliation and shared respect to take root in this Land.

Together with you, I lift up my prayers on behalf of the many children who were snatched away from their parents and the deep wounds that continue to fester in so many of your families. I pray that the children, and their memory, may finally come to rest and that God's gift of healing and peace may dawn upon you and your families, and our journey together.

Fraternally in Christ,

† *Bart van Roijen*

(Most Reverend) Bart van Roijen
Bishop of Diocese of Corner Brook and
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