



Diocese of Kamloops
BISHOP'S OFFICE

24 September 2021

Dear Chief Rosanne Casimir,

The Bishops of Canada are profoundly saddened by the Residential Schools legacy and appreciated your work in educating our leaders about the historical and ongoing trauma experienced by Indigenous survivors.

In addition to conversations with our local Indigenous neighbours, the Bishops of Canada are engaged in discussions with First Nations, Métis and Inuit survivors across the country, with a goal of healing and reconciliation.

The subject has been central to our annual plenary, which took place this week. We know that no single measure will alleviate the historical and ongoing trauma caused by the residential school system and the legacy of suffering that persists to this day. We also understand the power of contrition and hope that a collective apology from the Bishops of Canada will help to advance the trusted collaboration between Indigenous leaders and the Bishops of Canada.

To that end, I solemnly submit the attached apology on behalf of the Bishops of Canada. As an assembly, we are fully committed to listening, learning, and taking meaningful measures that can advance the healing journey.

I look forward to discussing these plans in more detail with you and will be pleased to schedule a meeting at your nearest convenience.

Sincerely,

✠ Joseph Phuong Nguyen
Bishop of Kamloops