



## Wahta Mohawks

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### **Flags Lowered at Wahta for the Lost Children at Kamloops Residential School**

In tribute to the 215 children who lost their lives and were buried at the Kamloops residential school, Wahta Council has asked for the community's flags to be lowered. Once more we witness a reminder of the horrific method people were treated with under the more than a century long system of so-called education of Indigenous children.

We also remember the families that were affected, those who had no idea what ever became of their children, and those who were reunited with children who were so tragically affected by these schools. The system changed the fabric of thousands of families, and indeed the Indigenous society across the whole country.

Canada's prime minister took to twitter and called this "a painful reminder of that dark and shameful chapter of our country's history". This is not history, the effect of the residential schools lives on, over generations of families, it is alive and well in this country today.

The revelation of masses of missing children from these schools is not news. Survivors of the school system have long talked about it. It is only recently discoveries of unknown children's resting places have started to turn up.

At the very least it is time the government of Canada undertake a full-scale search of the grounds and surrounding areas of each and every residential school site so hopefully the remains of these children can be returned to where they came from, and to their families, to receive the respect they were never shown as living human beings.