



July 2022 Newsletter

The content in this newsletter may be upsetting for some. If you require immediate support, please contact the **Hope for Wellness Help Line** at 1-855-242-3310 to access toll-free, 24/7 counselling and crisis intervention.



Searching Mohawk Lake: Insights and Updates

The Survivors' Secretariat may be one of the first Survivors' groups to have searched a waterway for missing children of Indian Residential Schools. At the request of Survivors, the Police Task Force coordinated with Ontario Provincial Police and Brantford Police Underwater Search Teams to conduct the search of the Lake.

[READ THE BLOG POST »](#)

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/searching-mohawk-lake-insights-and-updates/>



Survivors Share Their Truths

Survivors Share Their Truths

This video, which will later be featured as a mini-documentary, focuses on Survivors' stories through the unearthing and harsh unrooting realities of what occurred on the grounds of the Mohawk Institute.

The video premiered on May 24th, when the Survivors' Secretariat welcomed visitors at the Mohawk Village Memorial Park for a commemorative apple tree planting event and press conference.

The apple orchard will be a central and relatable component of the film. So many Survivor stories are deep-rooted in memory of their time at the Mohawk Institute and the apple orchard, and this documentary will allow for voices to be unearthed, shared and no longer oppressed.

READ THE BLOG POST »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/pressreleases/commemorative-apple-tree-planting-event-and-press-conference/>



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What Survivors' Testimonies and Records Reveal About the Mush Hole

This new section will be included in every edition of the Survivors' Secretariat newsletter. In it, we will share one or two facts identified about the former Mohawk Institute that we learned about from Survivors and the research team at Know History.

The Mohawk Institute Tunnel

In this edition, we share with you the fact of the tunnel that runs from the former Mohawk Institute to the Woodland Cultural Centre.

While there is no confirmation of what the tunnel was used for, many believe the piping within the tunnel provided heat between the two buildings. It is also believed children may have used the tunnel to go back and forth between the school and museum, as there was enough crawlspace. However, some Survivors of the former Mohawk Institute do not remember the tunnel at the time of operation.

As we continue to discover, uncover and confirm new information from documents and records, and hear from Survivors, we encourage you to learn more on our [website](#), through our [newsletters](#) and by following us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



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Do You Recognize Anyone?

Every month we will share a new photo from **Know History**, a historical services company that helps organizations like ours research and document the past. We invite you to help us identify the children. If you recognize someone, please contact us at info@survivorssecretariat.ca.



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Volunteer Opportunities

On our website, we have opportunities to volunteer with the Survivors' Secretariat. As a volunteer, you are committed to helping the Survivors' Secretariat fulfill its mandate and supporting Survivors and their families. Click the button below to view our current opportunities.

READ THE BLOG POST »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/employment-opportunities/how-to-volunteer/>

New Stories About The Survivors' Secretariat

Looking to learn more about the Secretariat? On our website, there are web pages with links to news stories, radio shows, press releases and TV reports. Click the buttons below to visit these pages and read the latest news and releases.

READ THE NEWS »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/news/in-the-news/>

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/news/latest-press-releases/>



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Standing With Survivors

We would like to acknowledge those individuals and companies who have contributed to the work of the Survivors' Secretariat. With kindness being one of the Haudenosaunee legal principles, it is important to thank those who have made it part of their nature to bring communities together through working partnerships.

READ THE NEWS »

<https://www.survivorssecretariat.ca/standing-with-survivors/>

Services Available to Survivors, and Intergenerational Survivors

If you require immediate support, please contact Hope for Wellness Help Line at **1-855-242-3310** to access toll-free, 24/7 counselling and crisis intervention. Hope for Wellness Help Line offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention to all Indigenous peoples across Canada. Experienced Helpline counsellors, many are Indigenous, can help if asked to find wellness supports that are available in your area.

The Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line (**1-866-925-4419**) is available 24 hours a day for anyone experiencing pain or distress as a result of their residential school experience.

The Indigenous Victim Services at Six Nations Line (**1-866-964-5920**). After hours & weekends: **1-866-445-2204**. Available to people living in Brantford, Hamilton or the Six Nations community.



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