



October 28, 2021

TO: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.

Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, M.D., P.C., M.P.

Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
carolyn.bennett@parl.gc.ca

AND TO: Mr. Chris Lewis, M.P.

Member of Parliament – Essex
35 Victoria Avenue, Unit 7B
Essex, ON N8M 1M4
chris.lewis@parl.gc.ca

RE: Completion of the Truth and Reconciliation 94 Calls to Action

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Bennett,

The discovery earlier this year of the remains of Indigenous children at the sites of former Residential Schools shook the nation and reignited the national tragedy concerning Canada's treatment towards Indigenous people.

This tragedy represents the worst of Canada's colonial history and is devastating for so many people in communities across the country.

The Council of the Town of Essex, recognizing the continuing need for reconciliation passed the following motion on July 5, 2021.

R21-07-290

Moved by Councillor Verbeek
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Meloche



That Council send a letter to the Federal government to demand completion of the 94 Calls to Action put forth in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Carried

On behalf of the Council of the Town of Essex, we are calling on the federal government in cooperation with all levels of government to take immediate and continuing steps to implement all of the 94 Calls to Action put forth by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and in particular, those that relate to the missing children and burial information.

While recognizing the meaningful and necessary work of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, more needs to be done. The Truth and Reconciliation 94 Calls to Action are critical to Canada's path of reconciliation.

The slogan "Every Child Matters" is recognition that Indigenous children have been historically treated as less important and less valuable than non-Indigenous children, and is a call to reconciliation. The Town of Essex is committed to reconciliation and continuing to take steps with the cooperation of the federal government to bring healing and reconciliation to Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples.

We are looking to the federal government to move forward in addressing these important issues in an appropriate and expeditious manner.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns, and we look forward to receiving a response from you on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Auger".

Robert W. Auger, L.L.B.
Town Solicitor/Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services
Ext. 1132
Email: rauger@essex.ca

Sent from the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat Peoples.

RWA/mjd