

Why don't we do better when we know better? A First Nations children case study

Universities: Social Sciences and Humanities: Where were we?



IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

151,711--10

ALSO TO THE DATE OF THIS LETTER



Ottawa, August 22nd, 1895.

ADDRESS REPLY TO THE
DEPUTY SUP'T GENERAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
OTTAWA

Sir,

I have the honour to place herewith the copy of regulations relating to the education of Indian children, and to request you to have the goodness to furnish me at your early convenience with a form of warrant for the committal of an Indian child to an Industrial School, under Section 9 of the said Regulations. Our Agent has been instructed to give to the person in charge of the child whom it is proposed to commit the notice required by the aforesaid Section, and I should like if possible to be able to transmit the form of ~~affidavit~~ tomorrow.

Your obedient servant,

Acting Deputy Sup't General
of Indian Affairs.

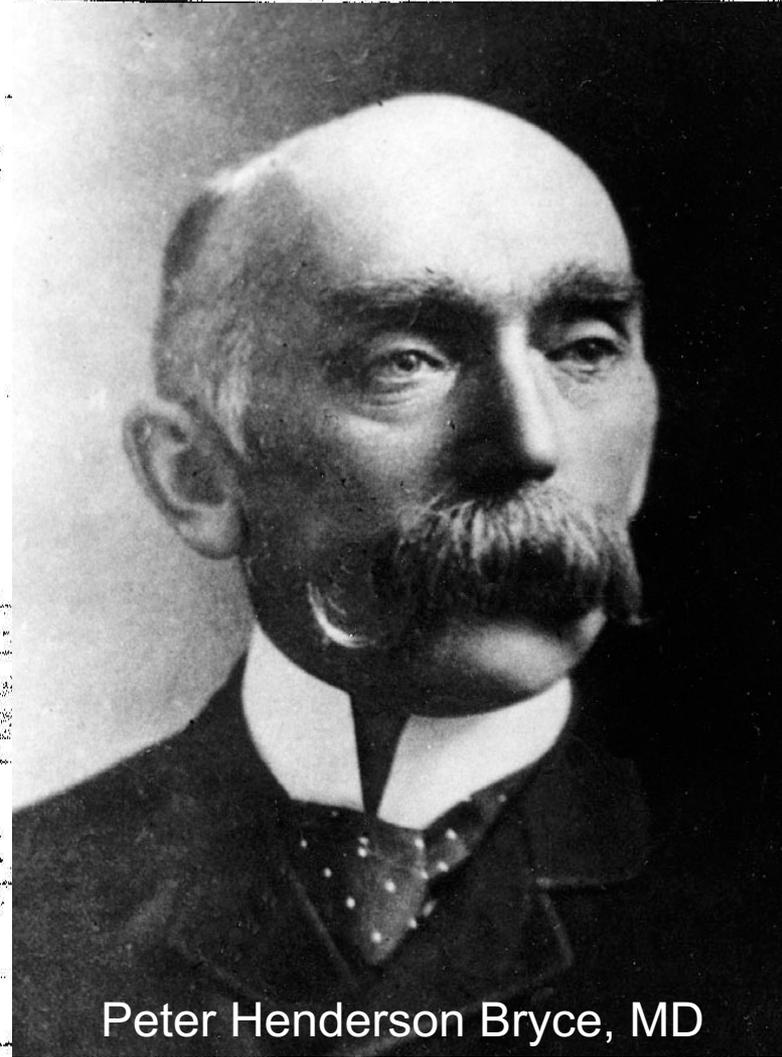
A. Power, Esq.,

Acting Deputy Minister of Justice,

Ottawa.

Whereas the undersigned, Indian Agent, being satisfied that name of child, an Indian child between six and sixteen years of age, to wit, of or about the age of ___ years, has **not been properly cared for or educated, or cared for and educated...** it has been shown to the satisfaction of the undersigned that adequate provision is not being made, and will not be made for the care...

These are therefore to command and authorize you in her Majesty's name forthwith to search for and **apprehend** (the child)

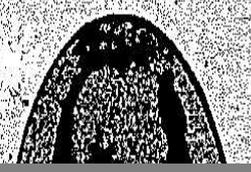


Peter Henderson Bryce, MD

Madame Gellinas, Ottawa. D. Lynch, Wintonburg. E. Roberts, Ottawa. M. Maloney, Mt. St. Patrick. E. McGuire, Iroquois.

DECEASED OTTAWAN. James S. Irvine, the baggage man on the Soo, was the only Ottawa man losing his life in the wreck. He resided at 601 Gilmour street, and was

A SAD TRAGEDY. (Special to the Evening Citizen.) Montreal, Nov. 14.—D. A. Clark, the express messenger who was killed in the wreck, lived at 159 Laparte street, Montreal. He was a native of Ganape, Ontario.



COMES OUT FOR TARIFF REFORM

LOCAL BRIEFS —The annual meeting of the Ottawa City Hockey League will be held on the evening of the 28th inst., at the O. A. C.

SCHOOLS AID WHITE PLAGUE

Startling Death Rolls Revealed.

AMONG INDIANS

Absolute Inattention To Bare Necessities of Health.

In his report upon the Indian boarding schools in Manitoba and the Northwest, Dr. P. H. Bryce, chief medical officer of the Indian department, emphasizes the absolute necessity for greater care in the selection of pupils and for sanitary precautions in the schools to prevent the spread of disease. During his recent tour of inspection Dr. Bryce instructed the principals of all the schools to report to Ottawa direct upon the past history and present condition of the health of the children who have been pupils at the schools.

Summarising the statistical statement thus obtained Dr. Bryce says, after alluding to the defective records of the schools: "It suffices for us to know however, that of a total of 1,647 pupils reported upon, nearly 25 per cent. are dead, of one school with an absolutely accurate statement, 69 per cent. of pupils are dead, and that everywhere the almost-invariable cause of death given is tuberculosis."

"Suffice it to say that of the 1537 pupils reported upon, 25% are dead of one school with an absolutely accurate statement 69% of ex pupils are dead... Dr. Bryce's description of the schools shows them to be veritable hotbeds for the propagation and spread of this disease."

to address the University club in the Normal School this evening and the Canadian club at luncheon in the Russell House at 1.30 p.m. tomorrow.

DEFINES AMATEUR

Olympic Games of London, 1908, and Skating Competition.

Col. Mansbury Williams sends to the Citizen an extract from the "amateur definition" as drawn up by the committee of the Olympic games of London, 1908, with reference to the skating competition. As the winter is opening

at Birmingham tonight by giving utterance to a speech wherein he disregarded the advice of the Times and the wishes of the Unionist Free Traders. He made a strong declaration on the fiscal question. After alluding to the absence of "the immortal statesman," Mr. Chamberlain, and appealing for the unity of the Conservative party, which meant everything, he referred to tariff reform, and, amid uproarious cheering, he asked had the fiscal proposal lost its force? "No," came the answer. "Had it gained force?" "Yes," was the reply. "You have given me your answer; I agree with that," answered Mr. Balfour. (Columbian Chicago.) He admitted that originally he had feared as to whether the policy of promoting free trade within the empire, which was the most important to our commercial interests, and must

the popular local athletic club. Almost double the number of young men are in the class this year than formerly, and are in earnest training for the Canadian championship next spring.

The O. A. A. C. will open a handicap pool journey for members on Monday. While Alex. Graham may not enter the competition, McBride, Laflamme, a new man from Montreal, Oscar Mather, Guy Smith, H. Edwards, G. Johnstone, G. Burgess, A. and J. McLaughlin, P. White, Chas. Graham and others will be in line.

PERSONAL

Mr. Hugh Guthrie, M.P., South Wellington, is in the city on departmental business.



16
C. 66
1922

THE STORY
OF
A NATIONAL CRIME

BY
P. H. BRYCE, M.A., M.D.
BEING
AN APPEAL FOR JUSTICE
TO THE
INDIANS OF CANADA

The Wards of the Nation:
Our Allies in the Revolutionary War:
Our Brothers-in-Arms in the Great War.

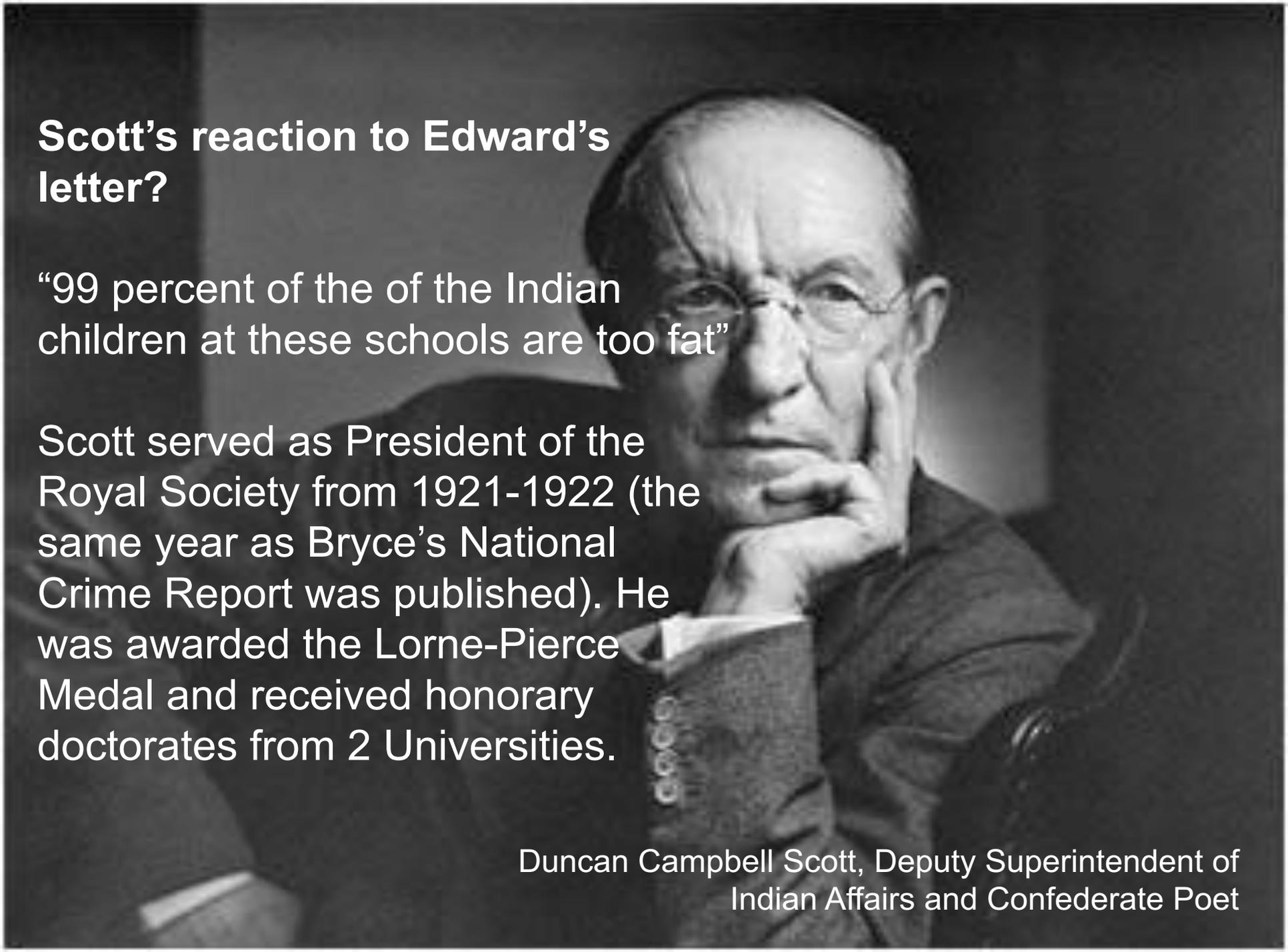
Published by James Hope & Sons, Limited
OTTAWA, CANADA
1922
PRICE, 35 CENTS

NEIL JOHN MACLEAN HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

Dear Parent

We are going to tell you how we are treated. I am always hungry. We only get two slices of bread and one plate of porridge. Seven children ran away because they were hungry... I am not sick. I hope you are the same too. I am going to hit the teacher if she is cruel to me again. We are treated like pigs, some of the boys always eat cats and wheat. I never ask anyone to give me anything to eat. Some of the boys cried because they are hungry. Once I cry to because I was very hungry.

Edward B., December 14, 1923



Scott's reaction to Edward's letter?

“99 percent of the of the Indian children at these schools are too fat”

Scott served as President of the Royal Society from 1921-1922 (the same year as Bryce's National Crime Report was published). He was awarded the Lorne-Pierce Medal and received honorary doctorates from 2 Universities.

Duncan Campbell Scott, Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Confederate Poet

KANLOOPS INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
KANLOOPS, B. C.

November 18, 1948.

Dear Parents,

It will be your privilege this year to have your children spend Christmas at home with you. The holidays will extend from DECEMBER 18th. to JANUARY 3rd. This is a privilege which is being granted if you observe the following regulations of the Indian Department.

1. THE TRANSPORTATION TO THE HOME AND BACK TO THE SCHOOL MUST BE PAID BY THE PARENTS.

The parents must come themselves to get their own children. If they are unable to come they must send a letter to the Principal of the school stating that the parents of other children from the same Reserve may bring them home. The children will not be allowed to go home alone on the train or bus.

2. THE PARENTS MUST BRING THE CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL STRICTLY ON TIME.

If the children are not returned to School on time they will not be allowed to go home for Christmas next year.

I ask you to observe the above regulations in order that this privilege of going home for Christmas may be continued from year to year. It will be a joy for you to have your children with you for Christmas. It will be a joy also for your children and it will bring added cheer and happiness to your home.

INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

A research study of the child care programs
of nine residential schools in Saskatchewan

Prepared for:

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
Government of Canada
Ottawa

1967

Project Director: George Caldwell, M.S.W.

“Although 80 percent of admissions in the 8 residential schools were for child welfare reasons, there is no social work staff at any stage..(p.67)”

“Recommendation is that the agency will need to direct more resources and energy into services for children in their own homes and where alternative care is required, homes in the Indian community should be helped to provide this service.” (p. 149)

The Education of Indians in Ontario

by

R. Alex Sim

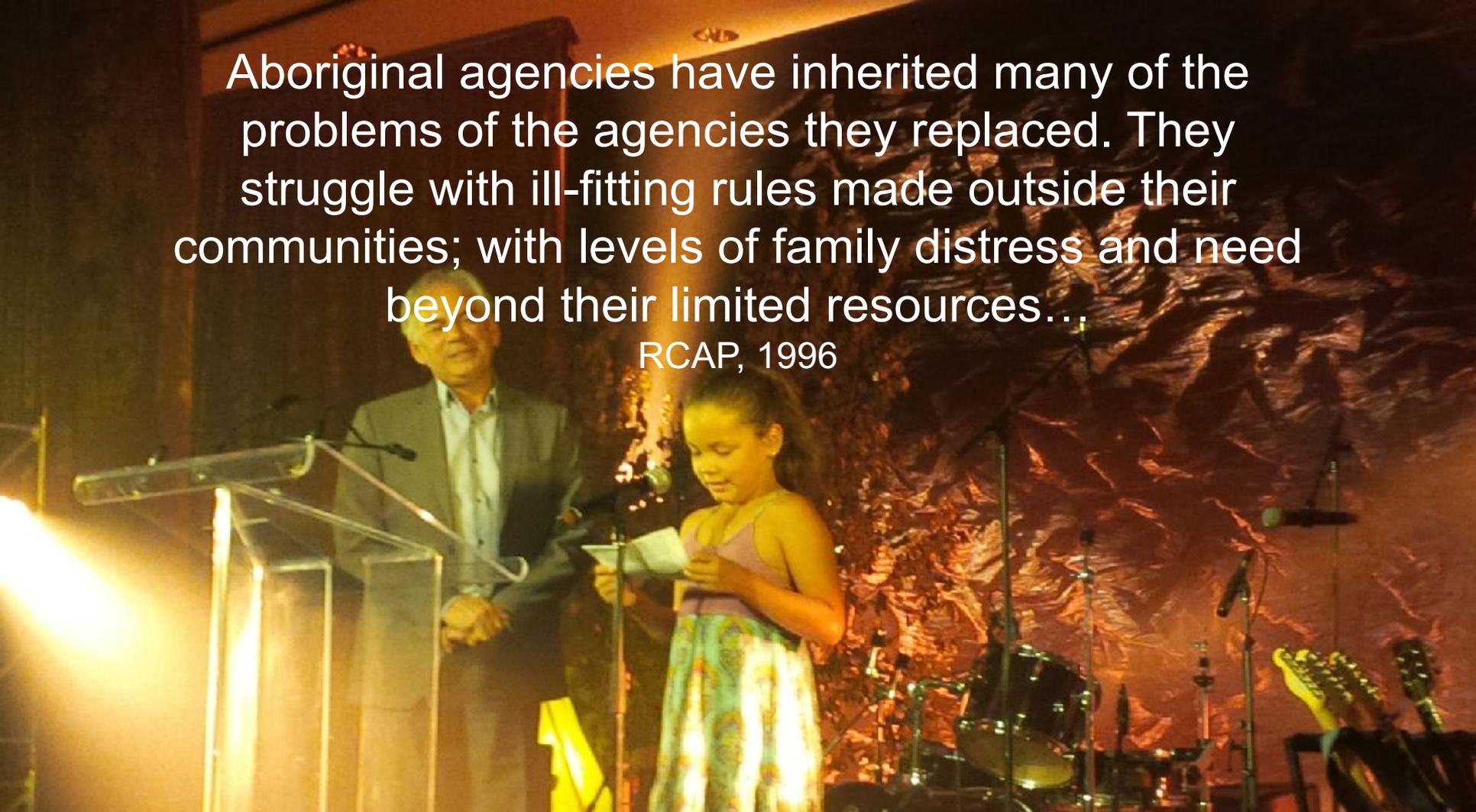
to the Provincial Committee on the Aims and
Objectives of Education in Ontario Schools.

a  study

“Can Ontario afford to wait for this glacial change? ...Let someone hazard a guess as to what year or what century significant changes in the achievement of the children”

Aboriginal agencies have inherited many of the problems of the agencies they replaced. They struggle with ill-fitting rules made outside their communities; with levels of family distress and need beyond their limited resources...

RCAP, 1996



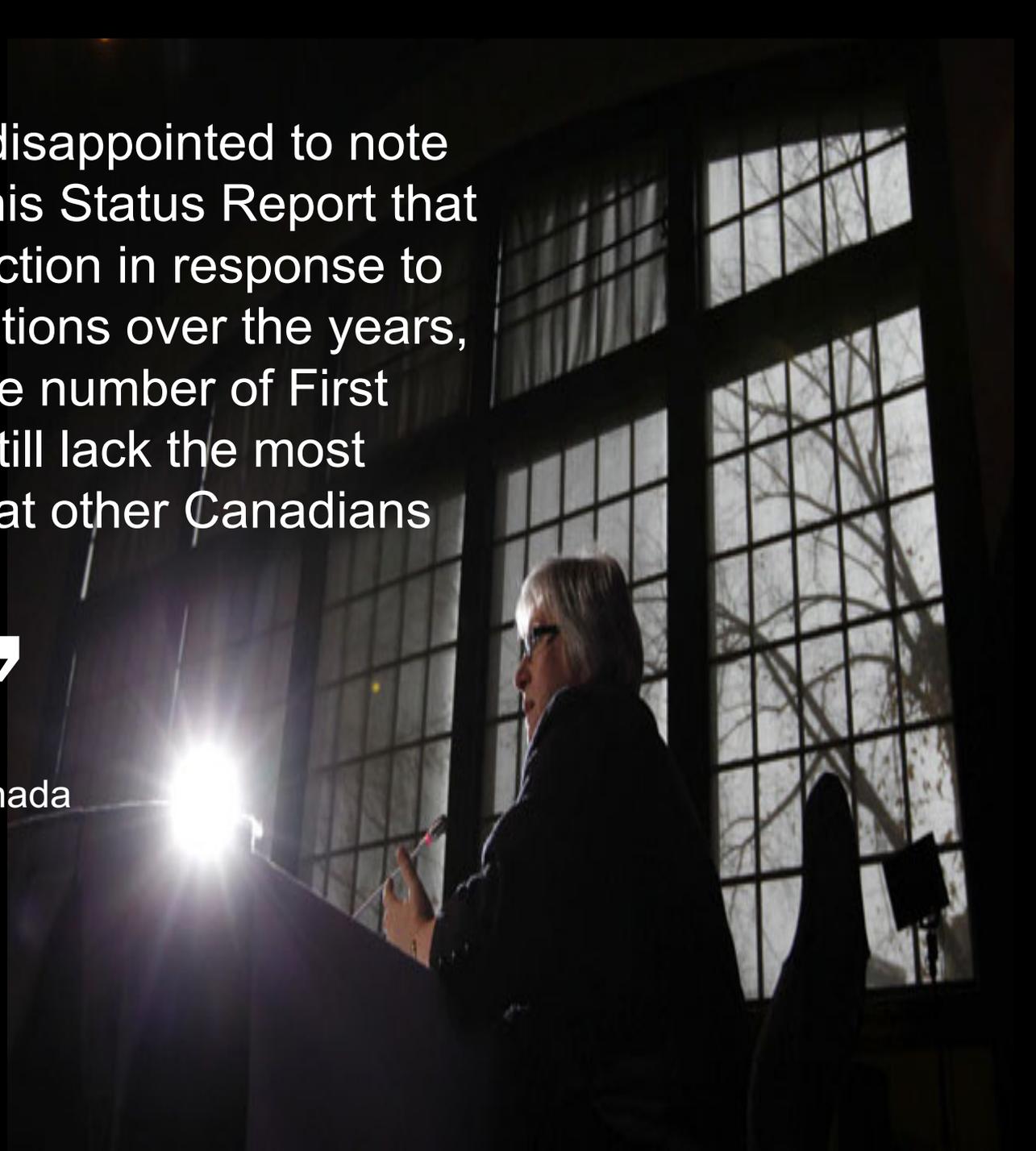
Immediate action:
rehabilitation services
preventive services
continued reform of existing services

“

I am profoundly disappointed to note in Chapter 4 of this Status Report that despite federal action in response to our recommendations over the years, a disproportionate number of First Nations people still lack the most basic services that other Canadians take for granted.

”

Sheila Fraser,
Auditor General of Canada
(June 2011)



I am a witness

- Human Rights case alleges Canada 's provision of child welfare and failure to properly implement Jordan's Principle is discriminatory pursuant to the *Canadian Human Rights Act*
- **2016- Panel Finds Federal Government is discriminating against 163,000 children**
- **Canada fails to comply – 2 non-compliance orders issued; more non-compliance hearings scheduled for March 2017**



15, 295 Registered
Witnesses

Private donor steps in to help Wapekeka First Nation after Health Canada refused

Since the deaths of Jolynn Winter on January 8 and her friend Chantell Fox, who followed Winter two days later, another four girls were medevaced out of the community and are still receiving treatment.



Ongoing Colonial Patterns in Political Thinking/Action

- Consultation on government's own terms as an action deferral tool;
- Use of ideas of “incremental change” to defer action
- Omnibus budget announcements over 5 years with largest investments to come in year of election or year following;
- Deflecting responsibility for inaction onto others
- Proclamation of superior knowledge of community need as reason to reject or minimize Indigenous calls for action
- Use the “can't throw money at the problem” rhetoric to deflect from ongoing discrimination.



Why Should Universities and HSS engage in Reconciliation?

- Historical moment demands it; many HSS orgs and scholars actively involved in pro-colonial efforts over time.
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report has specific calls to action for post-secondary and research.
- TRC stressing reconciliation is everyone's business.
- Implementation of RCAP and other solutions requires it.
- Aboriginal scholars, students and non-Aboriginal allies demanding greater respect in HSS for Aboriginal knowledge, cultures and languages.
- Aboriginal students deserve the same opportunity as other students to attend university.

Touchstones of Hope

Guiding Principles

- **Self Determination** (i.e.: Aboriginal peoples in best position to determine what works for them)
- **Holistic Approach:** (i.e.: Acknowledge historical impacts in contemporary understandings of HSS; promoting reconciliation across all post-secondary and at national, regional and local levels.
- **Culture and Language** (i.e.: Respecting Aboriginal cultures and understanding cultural undercurrents of Universities and the humanities and social sciences).
- **Structural Interventions** (i.e.: Addressing contemporary diminishment of Aboriginal knowledge)
- **Non Discrimination** (i.e.: Ensuring non-Aboriginal board/staff and partners are supported in working in respectful non-discriminatory ways)

Examples of Principles in Process

Relating

Working respectfully with partners and with Aboriginal peoples to design, implement, and monitor a reconciliation strategy within universities and the HSS



Restoring

Embed Touchstones of Hope in mission, values, administration and programs of the Fed.
Promote partners to undertake similar activities. Develop ongoing invigilation and evaluation framework.

Truth Telling

Devaluation/negation of Aboriginal knowledge and peoples; roles of universities and HSS in perpetrating colonization and failing to take meaningful action on injustices.

Acknowledging

Taking responsibility for the role of the University and HSS in colonization and understanding the thinking that made it possible so as to rinse it from current ways of operating and relating.

Developing plans for reform and ongoing contemplation.

Implementation

Increased Indigenous content in Congress

Big Thinking Lectures by Indigenous Scholars on matters of concern to Indigenous peoples.

Collaboration with 20th anniversary of RCAP and assistance with Indigenous scholarship in CIHR

Further work:

Entrenching philosophical approach throughout all FHSS operations.

Increasing range of reconciliation supports for members



A man with a beard and glasses, wearing a dark blue trench coat, stands on the left side of the group, looking towards the sign.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark blue double-breasted coat and a patterned scarf, stands in the center-left, looking at the sign.

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a purple coat and glasses, stands in the center-right, looking down at the sign.

A man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit and a red poppy, stands on the right side of the group, looking towards the sign.

Informational sign with text on a black post.

PRICE ON

START STAT DIS

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Rev. George M.
What Travers
he is Called
Witness.

Special to
Toronto, July

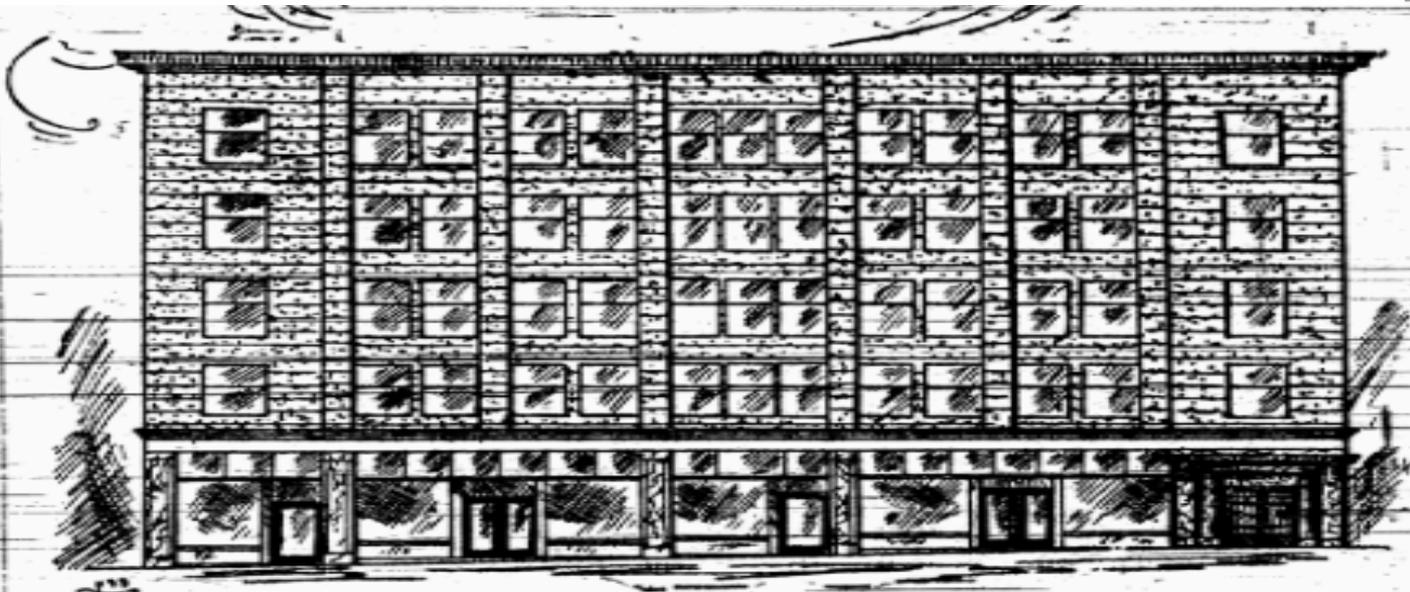
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Aboriginal Peoples Television Network



The new stores and offices now in course of erection on Sparks street, between Bank and O'Connor for Messrs. P. Jackson Booth and J. A. D. Holbrook will form another handsome addition to the commercial premises of the city. The foundations are out and it is hoped to complete the structure by January next. The cost is estimated at about \$50,000 and the building will be a five story one. The architect is Mr. J. A. Ewart, B.A.

C.P.R. TUNNEL IS NOT TO STARTED THIS SUMMER

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7 FREE WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

First Nations Child and Family Caring
Society of Canada
www.fncaringsociety.com
[@Caringsociety](https://twitter.com/Caringsociety)



Jordan's Principle



Cindy Blackstock, PhD: Board Member, Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences
First Nations Child and Family Caring Society and University of Alberta
January 28, 2017