

RESOLUTION 2017/03

Submitted by: QFHSA Resolutions Committee

HISTORY OF RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Whereas the history, traditions, culture and heritage of Canada's Indigenous Peoples: First Nations, Métis and Inuit have not been fully recognized and appreciated in the fabric of Canadian history overall; and

Whereas beginning with missionary schools in the 1840s, the Government of Canada after Confederation (1867) declared a colonial policy of cultural assimilation of Indigenous Peoples into the dominant Canadian society with a view to eradicating the 'Indian out of the child'; and

Whereas to accomplish this goal the federal government implemented and administered a system of isolated and regimented church-run Indian Residential Schools (IRS); and

Whereas the long-term impact on the 150,000 children and their descendants on family life, education and the overall physical and psychological health of Indigenous Peoples has left a legacy of deep-rooted inter-generational abuse and neglect; and

Whereas in June, 2008 a *Truth and Reconciliation Commission* was set up with a mandate to discover and reveal past wrongdoing by a government at Indian Residential Schools (IRS) and to report its findings to all Canadians; and

Whereas in June of 2015 the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission* in its final report recommended that provincial and territorial departments of education work in concert with the Commission to develop age-appropriate educational materials about residential schools for use in public schools; and

Whereas it is incumbent on every Canadian to learn about this dark and complex period in Canada's history and to pledge 'never again'

Therefore Be It Resolved that Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. urge the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research to incorporate the History of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) as an integral compulsory part of the Elementary and Secondary curriculum; and

Be It Further Resolved that Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. urge The Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research to develop the curriculum on the history of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) in collaboration with leading Indigenous Peoples educators.

Background: This resolution affirms Resolution 2015/02

Please visit the Truth and Reconciliation Commission website