

The Residential School System



Acknowledgement

- We acknowledge that we currently reside on the shared traditional ancestral territory of the Sumas and Matsqui First Nations

Learning Target:

- To understand how the residential school system impacted Aboriginal people in Canada.



Inquiry Question

- What does this picture tell us about the intent of the residential school system?



Thomas Moore before and after his stay
at residential school

Reserve Law

- In order to open up land for European immigrants the Canadian government moved Aboriginal communities onto reserves
- Reserve law made it illegal to leave the reserve without written permission from the Indian Agent



Question

- How do reserves and the reserve system affect your communities?



Leading up to Residential School

- Indian Day Schools were started on your reserves
 - Intent of the school was to “Civilize and Christianize” the students
 - Students attended school during the day and went home to their families after school

Day schools not affective

- Why weren't Indian Day Schools affective in "Civilizing" Aboriginal students?



The problem with Indian Day Schools

- “When a white child goes to his home, the father and mother talk to him in the language that he will use through his life. His surroundings are the best. Everything tends to advance the white boy. Not so the Indian. Four hours at school – 20 hours with his parents talking the Haida language and continuing the ways of the Indian...learning nothing that is useful, and seeing a great deal that the young should avoid.” Thomas Deasey, Indian Agent

Residential schools are established

- In partnership with Canadian churches
- Residential schools were built throughout Canada to “Civilize and Christianize” Aboriginal children
- Attendance at residential school was mandatory for children age 5 to 15

The Residential School



Mandatory attendance





Aboriginal
Education

Question:

- How does the removal of the children affect your community?















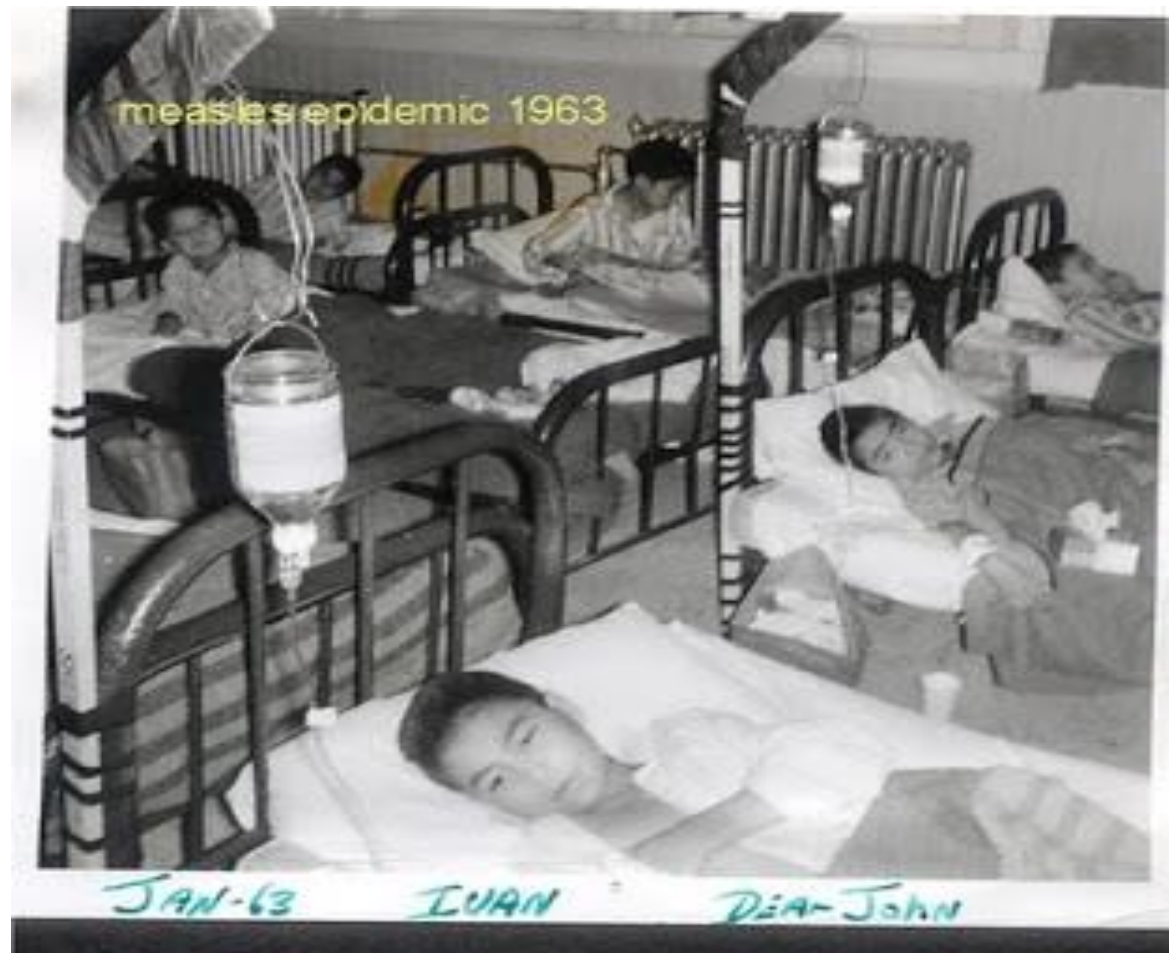






Illness and Disease

- Measles
- Tuberculosis
- Small Pox
- Influenza



Time to go home





Question:

- Is an official apology from the government of Canada sufficient?



Inquiry Question

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