



# Prince Albert Grand Council

## Media Release

Tuesday, June 29th, 2021

**For Immediate Release**

### **PAGC JOINS IN CALLS TO CANCEL CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS**

(Treaty 5, 6, 8 & 10) Prince Albert, SK – The leadership of Prince Albert Grand Council (PAGC) is cancelling plans to celebrate Canada Day in response to the hundreds of children’s remains discovered at Indian residential schools.

Grand Chief Brian Hardlotte said that the holiday should be a day to mourn and grieve together.

“In an act of solidarity, we are asking our fellow Canadians to refrain from engaging in any celebratory events after the recent discoveries of children at burial sites at Tk’emlúps te Secwépemc and Cowessess First Nations. This is the time we need to step back and think about the colonial history of Canada, and how the residential schools were one of many attempts at genocide and innumerable injustices experienced by our people,” said Grand Chief Hardlotte.

“The discovery of the mass graves is a reminder that we need to honour the children who never came home, and this is the time to rethink the damaging effects of the residential schools. Instead of joining in the festivities, we are urging our fellow Canadians to spend this day learning about the truth of these injustices, and to think about what is needed for us to promote healing. Let these events move us on a path toward reconciliation and be the impetus for true, lasting, meaningful change,” said Grand Chief Hardlotte.

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