

Asked by:

Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh

June 1, 2023

**Unresolved Matter of the Federal Indian Day Schools**

My questions are for the Premier regarding the unresolved matter of the Federal Indian Day Schools:

1. On April 1, 1969, the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches relinquished control of the Federal Indian Day schools and transferred the program to the Northwest Territories (NWT). There were 29 Federal Indian Day schools in the NWT where Indigenous children and youth were subjected to physical, emotional, and sexual abuse and cultural genocide. Can the Premier provide in detail the steps the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has taken to formally acknowledge and document these abuses;
2. Survivors want an opportunity to share their experiences and stories and preserve these for historical records. Can the Premier describe in detail what the GNWT has done to set up a commission to listen to these experiences and stories, and establish an archive for on-going learning and research, similar to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada;
3. The Prime Minister of Canada and the Pope formally apologized to residential school survivors and acknowledged the inter-generational damage caused by residential schools. What is the rationale for the Premier not apologizing for the GNWT's role in its abuses and cultural genocide of Indigenous children and youth with Federal Indian Day schools; and
4. What position would the GNWT take on a class action lawsuit brought forward by survivors of the Federal Indian Day schools?