



Anglican Church of Canada

80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

April 4, 2011

Subject: Residential School Staff Interviews

Dear

I have been reminded again recently about the efforts of the majority of the residential school staff members who carried out their role as care givers to the children who attended the residential schools. One cannot listen to the staff and student experiences without also knowing that there were Christian people who found their calling in the midst of these distant places.

You may know that a Truth and Reconciliation Commission has been established to gain an understanding of the legacy of the residential schools and they are especially interested in hearing from the former staff of the schools. Attached you will find a request from The Honourable Mr. Justice Murray Sinclair, Chair of the TRC who is asking that we contact known former staff and inquire whether they would be interested in sharing their recollections of their time at the school and to learn from the subsequent impact of their experience.

You can be assured that if you agree to share your memories, a trained interviewer will help you and make sure the circumstances for your interview are comfortable. Your privacy will be respected and it will be up to you if your memories are shared beyond the TRC. I would also like to assure you that if you would like someone from the church to be with you as you share your memories, we are willing to provide a support person. You are, of course, free to work directly with the TRC and not include the church.

We are also seeking names and contact information for staff who once worked in any of Anglican Residential Schools and we are maintaining a contact list within the General Synod Archives. A map of the Anglican Residential Schools and Hostels is attached. Please let us know if you would like to have your name retained or removed from our list.

If you are interested and willing to participate in this opportunity, you may contact the TRC through Helen Harrison at 613-947-1093 Helen.harrison@trc.ca or you may wish to contact your Diocesan Bishop, or Nancy Hurn, General Synod Archivist at 416-924-9199, Ext 279 nhurn@national.anglican.ca to discuss this further or set up this contact.

I hope that you will consider participating in this project and any memories, no matter how simple or detailed, will be an important contribution to the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Archbishop Fred Hiltz
Primate

Two attachments: 1. Letter from the Chair, Truth and Reconciliation Commission
2. Map of Anglican Residential Schools and Hostels