To Our Circle of Supporters,

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI) and its staff join Indigenous communities in mourning the recovery of 215 little relatives at the Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia. We grieve for those 215 children who had the extreme forces of boarding schools enacted on them. We hold their families and tribes in prayer along with boarding school survivors and the generations of families affected by this horrendous and genocidal practice implemented by colonial governments. Together, we offer healing and strength for the families and their community of young ones (our elders) who made their journey. We must re-center the value of all Indigenous children’s lives.

As an organization, we acknowledge that colonization happened and continues in some forms today. We support calls for accountability, including National Congress of American Indian Resolution #PHX-16-063: Call for the United States to Acknowledge its Role in the U.S. Boarding School Policy and to Account for the American Indian and Alaska Native Children Who did not Survive as a Result; and Resolution #MOH-17-014: Call to Collect Testimony about the American Indian and Alaska Native Children Who went Missing under U.S. Boarding School Policy, to ensure our children are not forgotten.

In recognition of our common trauma, we hope we will heal and leave the next seven generations a promising message. Together, we will be the advocates for our children, elders, and community, co-creating a future in which our people are held in sacred, joyous, and life-affirming equity. We hope our little relatives are sent home to the spirit world with ceremony, love, and prayers. When we wipe the tears today, we wipe the tears of our ancestors.

To assist with practicing self-care during this time, here are some resources from The Child Welfare Capacity Building Center for Tribes:

1) Self-Care Techniques for Tribal Child Welfare Professionals
2) Webinar Recording Healing and Wellness Page on the Tribal Information Exchange
3) Resource list on Intergenerational/Historical Trauma

June 14, 2021
To learn more about First Nations and Native American boarding school experiences and healing-informed efforts, here is a short-list of resources:


2) The nonprofit Orange Shirt Day has a website with more information on boarding school and survivor experiences: [https://www.orangeshirtday.org/about-us.html](https://www.orangeshirtday.org/about-us.html)

3) The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition also has information for United States boarding schools healing efforts: [https://boardingschoolhealing.org/healing/healing-voices-movement/](https://boardingschoolhealing.org/healing/healing-voices-movement/)


In community,

TLPI