



Yasodhara Ashram

YOGA RETREAT & STUDY CENTRE

May 31, 2021

To:

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

The Honourable Ross Morrison, Member of Parliament

The Honourable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia

Ms Brittny Anderson, Member of Legislative Assembly

We are writing to you today from Yasodhara Ashram Yoga Retreat and Study Centre, on the shores of Kootenay Lake in Southeastern British Columbia and on the traditional lands of the Ktunaxa, Sinixt, Silyx and Secwepemc Nations.

Today we are all experiencing pain and grief for the children and families who were so severely damaged by the Residential School System in Canada. We are asking for healing and justice for the 215 children who died in the Kamloops Residential School and for all children who died in Residential Schools across Canada.

As Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi said, “we are also asking for accountability for all of the organizations who were essential to implementing the government’s (Residential School) policies. They must answer, sincerely and justly, for the harm that was inflicted upon Indigenous peoples by their hand.”

We want to know why only 8 of the 94 Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action have been implemented in the last five years. Where is the determination and willingness to follow-through? How can the Canadian Governments on all levels, allow this inaction which presents Canada as a country that does nothing to remedy its history of genocide?

Please listen and act. Make this a priority so that our children and our children’s children can be proud that justice has been served, that we are a country that stands up for the vulnerable and honours our Indigenous peoples. Not by lowering a flag, but by making sure racism is not tolerated and there is equity and access to economic prosperity for all Indigenous peoples.

Sincerely

The residents of Yasodhara Ashram