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Anahim Lake Dormitory School Narrative November 2009

This School Narrative summarizes documents that provide an over-view of the history and administration of the school.

NAME OF SCHOOL AND VARIANTS

Anahim Lake Dormitory, School and Teacherage [JOE-017534]
Anahim Lake Hostel [JOE-021794-0001]
Anahim Lake Student Residence [ALD-200144]
Anahim Lake Residence [ALD-200114]
Anahim Lake Students' Residence [ALD-200114]
Anahim Lake Indian Hostel [ANH-018403-0000]
Anahim Lake School Hostel [ANH-018403-0002]
Anahim Lake School Dormitory [ANH-018221-0001]
Anahim Lake Kindergarten and Student Residence [ANH-017502-0002]

Years during which the school was operated solely or in part by the Federal government as a residence for school age students:

- **September 1968 to June 1977**

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

Chronological History Pre-1968:

1960 A dormitory for girls has been constructed at Anahim Lake; the dormitory was built by the local Indian band and adjoins the Sisters' residence. The boys were boarded with other families [JOE-060142].

1963 A new dormitory was built at Anahim Lake in the summer of 1963 [ALD-200079] [ABV-002438]. The Archbishop of Vancouver provided a \$1000 to the Sisters of Christ the King so they could construct a dormitory for the children of Anahim Lake [ABV-002440].

1965 The Sisters of Christ the King met with a contractor to discuss the building of a dormitory at Anahim Lake [ALD-200529-0000].

1965 In November, the Williams Lake Agency set aside \$400 to move the Anahim Lake dormitory from the old school site to the new site [ANH-018346-0000].

1966 In December, the Sisters of Christ the King approached the Education Services office about the dormitory buildings for sale at the radar station in Punzti Lake. The Education Services office agreed to examine the buildings to determine their suitability for use at Anahim Lake [ALD-200611].

1967 The Regional Superintendent of Schools recommends building two 25-person capacity dormitories at Anahim Lake which serves as a base for the children on the Anahim Lake Reserve while the parents are away from home; these dormitories would be operated by the Sisters of Christ the King [JOE-018270-0002].

1967 In November, the Department agreed to the transfer of the surplus building from the Puntzi Mountain Airforce Base to Anahim Lake to be used as a dormitory [ALD-200628] [ANH-018257].

Chronological History 1968 – 1977 (Federal Operating Dates):

1968 In March, the surplus building from the Puntzi Mountain Base has not been transferred to Anahim Lake [ANH-018252]. By May, the building had not been transferred to Anahim Lake [ANH-018250]. The official turnover of the building was scheduled to take place in June [ANH-018241] [ANH-018240]. In November, the new dormitory at Anahim Lake was almost in operation [JOE-025969].

1969 The Anahim Lake Dormitory is completed. The building was moved from Puntzi “last autumn after taking two weeks to tear down, was eight months being re-constructed” [ALD-200822-0002].

1969 Staff and students moved into the Anahim Lake Dormitory on approximately April 30th, 1969 [ALD-200822-0001]

1969 In June, a request for additional funds was made to the Regional Superintendent of Education in order to complete work on the dormitory [ANH-018424]. Additional funds in the amount of \$12 000 are made available [ANH-018420].

1973 The Department decided to discontinue the Anahim Lake Indian Day School because the Williams Lake School Board No. 27 had decided to build a new school in Anahim Lake [ANH-200166].

1973 The Anahim Lake Indian Day School is closed as of September 1, 1973 [ABR-200943].

1975 Plans were put in place to turn the dormitory, school, and teacherage over to the Ulkatcho Band [JOE-017534].

1977 In May, the District Superintendent of Education proposed the idea of closing the Anahim Lake Dormitory at the end of the 1976-1977 school year. A boarding home program was to be set up for education purposes and was to be administered out of the Williams Lake District Office [JOE-014589] [JOE-014593]. However, in August, a decision was reached to operate the Anahim Lake Dormitory for another year; a committee was to be set up to examine the need for the dormitory in the future [ALD-200436] [ALD-200150].

MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL

Dates managed by Church

The Anahim Lake Dormitory was operated under the auspices of the Sisters of Christ the King and the Oblates of Mary Immaculate from at least 1960 to 1969.

In 1960, the supervision of the dormitory is given over to the Sisters of Christ the King [ALD-200231]. They continued to operate the non-authorized dormitory at Anahim Lake through 1966 [ANH-018283]. In 1969, the Principal was appointed to take on the role of administrator of the school and dormitory [ALD-200116].

The hostel, operated by the Sisters of Christ the King, at Anahim Lake is operated under contract by the Church and the administrator is an employee of the Church and not the Department [ALD-200349] [ALD-200359].

Dates managed by Government

The Anahim Lake Dormitory was operated by the Government from at least 1968 to 1977¹.

From 1968 to 1969 The Anahim Lake dormitory is a capital project controlled by Headquarters and under responsibility centre 131 [ANH-018210] [ALD-200680].

In 1970, the Anahim Lake dormitory setup is operated by the Sisters with the Department reimbursing them. This arrangement was decided by the Regional Superintendent of Schools and the Church [ALD-200360].

By 1971, there was still no formal contract for the operation of the Anahim Lake dormitory. The Regional Financial Advisor for the British Columbia Region advises that “pending a formal contract, it is suggested that you do not pay any costs for routine operation or routine maintenance.” The Regional Financial Advisor closes by stating that a formal contract will be developed [ALD-200374]. Further, in a separate memorandum the Regional Financial Advisor indicates “The only expenditures to be a legitimate charge to the Department are major repairs to the building which is owned by the Department of Indian Affairs. Running maintenance and material used in the board and room operation are considered to be the total responsibility of the Administrators of this Student Residence” [ALD-200375-0001].

In 1977, a decision was reached to operate the Anahim Lake Dormitory for another year; a committee is to be set up to examine the need for the dormitory in the future [ALD-200436].

Dates managed by Band²

A Band Council Resolution dated August 21, 1974 requested that the teacherage at the Anahim Lake School be turned over to the Ulkatcho Band. The Band accepts the building “as is” and will be responsible for future maintenance and repairs [ALD-200398-0000]. The transfer of the teacherage is authorized [ALD-200398-0001].

¹ Please note that in 1961, a report from the Williams Lake Agency Superintendent states “I am informed by the Indians that these buildings were originally constructed by them, I feel the Department has some responsibility since we are using them” [JOE-000420-0001]. Further, in 1962, the Department has changed its position on the dormitory at Anahim Lake and does not want to get involved in supporting the dormitory [ALD-200078].

² Please note that documents in this section indicate that the Ukatcho Band owned the day school, dormitory and teacherage but there was still federal involvement at this time.

A Band Council Resolution dated January 8, 1975 requests that the dormitory buildings, the old school building, and the teacherage be transferred from the Department of Indian Affairs to the Ulkatcho Band. Additionally, the Band wishes to take over administration of the dormitory program beginning August 1, 1976 [ALD-200422-0002].

An additional Band Council Resolution dated February 21, 1975 requests that the teacherage be transferred to the Ulkatcho Band. The Band agrees to accept the building “as is” and will be responsible for future maintenance and repairs [ALD-200409-0001].

A Band Council Resolution dated January 7, 1976 requests that the federal school, teacherage, and dormitory be transferred from the Department of Indian Affairs to the Ulkatcho Band for the purposes of operating a pre-school class, adult education, and curriculum programs as well as operating the dormitory. The Band agrees to accept the buildings “as is” and will be responsible for all future maintenance and repairs [ALD-200424-0005].

SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Schools Buildings Pre-1968:

1963 A Band Council Resolution dated May 15, 1963 indicates that the Ulkatcho Band is prepared to provide natural timber for walls, floor joists, and rafters, and labour for the construction of dormitories that will be operated under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Parish with Indian Affairs Branch contributing sums equal to those of the Province for the accommodation of pupils normally residing in isolated areas [ALD-200308].

1966 The Sisters cooked the meals for the dormitory students in the teacherage and used the teacherage basement as the mess hall; they cooked meals for approximately 30-40 students. A letter from the Regional Superintendent of Schools noted that the cooking facilities are not adequate for cooking meals for 30-40 students [ANH-018283].

The teacherage was eventually converted into a mess hall and cooking kitchen [ANH-018309-0001].

1967 There were no toilet facilities in the dormitory so approximately 60 children used the toilet facilities in the teacherage. The toilet in the clinic was not used because of the problems with the septic tank [ANH-018274-0000].

In November, one of the Sisters writes to the District Superintendent of Indian Schools to report that the furnace and pump in the dormitory did not function properly [ANH-018262-0001].

New Dormitory Building – 1967:

In July 1967 the Regional Superintendent of Schools recommended that two 25-person capacity dormitories be constructed at Anahim Lake. Surplus buildings in Puntzi were inspected and found to be suitable for use as dormitory accommodations [JOE-018270-0002].

The buildings at the Puntzi Mountain Airforce Base were an “H” type prefab. Each leg of the “H” is 84 ft. long and 20 ft. wide; the centre part of the building contains washrooms, toilets, and showers and is 40 ft. long and 20 ft. wide [ANH-018269]. The estimated cost of dismantling and

transporting the building from the Puntzi Mountain Airforce Base and erecting the building at Anahim Lake was \$40 000 [ANH-018261].

Schools Buildings 1968-1977 (Federal Operating Dates):

1968 In March, the transfer of the dormitory building from Puntzi Mountain to Anahim Lake was delayed [ANH-018252]. By May, the transfer of the dormitory building had not occurred [ALD-200640-0000]. In June, the turnover of the building is to occur which will make it possible for the dormitory to be ready for occupancy in September [ANH-018241]. Branch Headquarters set aside \$40 000 for the dismantling, transporting and re-erection of the building from Puntzi to Anahim Lake [ANH-018235].

The existing log dormitories at Anahim Lake are said to be “anything but satisfactory or convenient or comfortable, especially for some 50 children in 50° below temperatures” [ALD-200640-0001].

A basement was proposed under the central section of the new dormitory building to accommodate storage and a heating plant. An additional basement will also be provided under the boys’ wing if it additional funds are available [ANH-018223-0000].

In November, the dormitory was soon be in operation and \$15 000 was set aside for maintenance purposes [JOE-025969]. By December, progress has been made on the dormitory. The following works are yet to be completed: porches, siding on outside of main building, ceilings in kitchen and staff rooms, hardware on exit doors, finishing staff room, kitchen and bathroom, basement play room, electrical system installation, painting of the entire building [ANH-018433].

Additional funds are required to continue work on the dormitory, including: plumbing installation, wiring and lighting, painting, installation of floor tile and to cover the costs of labour [ALD-200665-0001].

1969 Additional funding in the amount of \$12 000 was requested and secured to complete the building of the dormitory [ANH-018424] [ANH-018419].

1969 The new dormitory “contains 6900 square feet of floor space including the basement which houses a recreation room, laundry equipment and forced air oil furnaces ... Two dormitories are equipped to house 25 to 35 youngsters, each with adjacent bathrooms having two showers, and a supervisor’s room as well, and one where a sister will always be on hand in the girls’ ... There is dining area sufficient for the entire company, with a small staff dining room off the kitchen” [ALD-200822-0002].

1969 Major work on the dormitory is complete; exterior painting and minor interior work will be completed during the summer recess [ALD-200822-0001].

1970 The outside of the dormitory is painted [JOE-014792].

1973 The School District begins construction on an addition to the school [ALD-200384].

1974 A band council resolution requests the transfer of the teacherage adjacent to the Anahim Lake Day School to the Ulkatcho Band. The transfer of the teacherage is authorized [ALD-200398-0000] [ALD-200398-0001].

1976 The teacherage, dormitory, and federal day school are transferred to the Ulkatcho Band [ALD-200424-0003, ALD-200424-0002, and ALD-200424-0004].

1977 The Anahim Lake Dormitory has to be brought up to National Building Code standards which require buildings over 5000 sq.ft. to have sprinkler systems installed [ALD-200431].

LAND

1968 A band council resolution makes an additional parcel of land in the Squinas Indian Reserve No. 2 available for Indian School purposes [ALD-200141-0009].

The band council resolution makes available reserve land for Indian school purposes to accommodate a dormitory to be erected in the summer of 1968 [ALD-200141-0008].

1969 A band council resolution sets aside a parcel of land for the use of the Indian Affairs Branch for school purposes “for as long as it is required for such purpose and when it is no longer required for school purposes the land will revert to the band” [ALD-200111] [ALD-200112].

CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ANAHIM LAKE DORMITORY AND ANAHIM LAKE INDIAN DAY SCHOOL

Connection between the Day School and the Dormitory Pre-1968:

1960 Due to low regular school attendance at Anahim Lake Indian Day School, the Department proposed that dormitories be constructed by the Indians with materials paid for by the Department. “It is further suggested that the supervision of the dormitories be entrusted to the Sisters of the Order now employed as teachers in the day school” [ALD-200231].

1965 Dormitory buildings are to be moved to the Anahim Lake Indian Day School [ANH-018345].

A new teacherage is built at Anahim Lake and the 40-50 students living in the dormitories are fed three meals a day in the new teacherage [JOE-018270-0002].

1966 A two-room day school is in operation and to ensure regular attendance of the students, they stay in dormitories. “Regardless of the policy that parents maintain they children at home when attending as day pupils it is obvious that they parents do not have any economic stability at Anahim Lake ... whether we like it or not this pattern necessitates a dormitory operation” [ALD-200607].

1967 Students living in the dormitory have to use the toilet facilities in the day school and teacherage because there are no facilities in the dormitory [ANH-018274-0000].

The building from Puntzi Mountain Airforce Base was to be made available for a dormitory at Anahim Lake Indian Day School [ANH-018256].

Connection between Day School and Dormitory 1968-1977 (Federal Operation Dates):

1968 A dormitory is proposed for the Anahim Lake Indian Day School and is set to open in September 1968 [ANH-018222].

1969 “Up to 70 children can be accommodated in the spacious new dormitory building at Anahim Lake where Sisters at the Indian Day School care for native children in attendance at the school” [ALD-200822-0002].

With the new dormitories in operation, the principal of the day school wants to care for the students in grade six and seven instead of sending them to the provincial school [ANH-200350]. The dormitories are to be restricted to a need-only basis [ALD-200104].

The Missionary Sisters of Christ the King continue to staff the school and dormitory and provide cooks for the hostel [ALD-200114].

The principal of the day school was authorized to admit students to the dormitory on a case by case basis [ALD-200107] [ALD-200108].

Dormitory lists of children for the Anahim Lake Indian Day School [ALD-200109].

PHOTOS, PLANS AND OTHER MEDIA

Item #	Date	Description
ALD-200077	00/00/0000	Hand-drawn map showing the day school, teacherage and hostel installation on the Squinas Indian Reserve No. 2, Anahim Lake.
ANH-018254-0001	00/00/0000	Plan of the buildings at Puntzi Mountain to be moved to Anahim Lake.
ANH-200525-0001	00/00/0000	Plan of health room.
ANH-018469-0011	00/00/0000	Plan of kitchen at the Anahim Lake Dormitory.
ANH-018442-0001	00/00/0000	Plan for the electrical service at Anahim Lake.
ANH-018223-0001	07/00/1968	Plan of the proposed dormitory at Anahim Lake Day School.
ANH-018482	08/00/1968	Plan of proposed heating plan for the main floor of the dormitory at Anahim Lake Day School.
ANH-018483	09/00/1968	Plan of proposed heating plan for the basement of the dormitory at Anahim Lake Day School.
ANH-200750-0001	06/00/1972	Hand drawn map showing the location of the Anahim Lake School.

GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

Year	Number of Students
1967-1968	Approximately 50 students
1968-1969	Approximately 35 – 50 students
1969-1970	Approximately 50 students
1970-1971	Approximately 40 students
1971-1972	Approximately 40 students
1972-1973	Approximately 40 students
1973-1974	Unknown/Inconclusive ³
1974-1975	Approximately 44 students
1975-1976	Approximately 39 students
1976-1977	Unknown/Inconclusive

STUDENTS FROM OTHER RESERVES

Students from at least the following bands attended the Anahim Lake Dormitory:

Alexis Creek, Anaham, Anahim Lake, Bella Bella, Blackwater, Chilcotin, Kluskus, Salmon River, Okanogan, and Ulkatcho.

There may be alternate ways of spelling these band names.

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Missionary Sisters of Christ the King [ANH-200729-0001] [ALD-200231]
 Oblates of Mary Immaculate [ALD-200127]

WRITTEN AGREEMENTS

An agreement is signed on September 18, 1973 between the School District No. 27 (Williams Lake) and the Department of Indian Affairs and the Ulkatcho Band for use of the two-classroom school at Anahim Lake until construction on the new school is completed [ALD-200388-0004].

The Oblate Fathers agree to pay to the Ulkatcho Band \$50 per month for rental of the teacherage in 1975 [ALD-200408].

An Agreement for Transportation is signed between the Department of Indian Affairs and the School District #27 of Williams Lake for transportation of students from the Anahim Lake

³ A letter dated July 21, 1977 which states that the average enrolment was between 30 – 40 students per year [ALD-200148]. Another letter dated September 18, 1967 states that the average enrolment never exceeded 50 students [ANH-200339].

Dormitory to the Anahim Lake School from September 1, 1975 to June 30, 1976 [ALD-200204].

An Agreement for Transportation is signed between the Department of Indian Affairs and the School District #27 of Williams Lake for transportation of students from the Anahim Lake Dormitory to the Anahim Lake School from September 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977 [ALD-200205].

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at Anahim Lake Dormitory or of any convicted abusers present at the school.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional Information Pre-1968:

1963 The Department is prepared to make a contribution of \$30 per month per pupil for those students whose parents live away from Anahim Lake [ALD-200079].

Safety measures and sanitary conditions have to be comparable with those in provincial dormitories [ALD-200162].

1964 The Sisters of Christ the King provide meals and clothing for students living in the dormitory [ANH-017528].

1965 The students living in the dormitory take their meals in the dining area of the teacherage basement and all meals are cooked on the teacherage stove [JOE-018270-0002].

Additional Information 1968-1977 (Federal Operating Dates):

1968 New furniture was purchased for the dormitory [ALD-200673-0001].

1969 Construction of the new dormitory had run over budget by 30%; more funds were required to complete the project [ALD-200665-0000].

1971 An inspection of the fire safety equipment was conducted at the Anahim Lake School for the Department of Indian Affairs [JOE-014795].

1976 In September, an on the job training program had been started at the dormitory [ALD-200144].

1977 In July, the budget for the dormitory for the fiscal year 1977-78 had been approved by the Department [ALD-200148].

Family Allowances (Pre-1968):

1964 Students living in the dormitory were no longer eligible for Family Allowance payments [ANH-017526]. In October, the Family Allowance Division agreed to look into possibly reinstating family allowances for students living at the Anahim Lake Dormitory [ANH-017515].

Family Allowances are cancelled, effective March 1, 1964, for students living in the dormitory [ANH-017524].

Parents of students living in the dormitory are asked to contribute clothes for their children [ANH-017517]. In November, the Regional Director of the Department of Health and Welfare requested that the Sisters keep a list of the contributions made by parents on behalf of their children and the issue of family allowances will be reviewed again [ANH-017513-0001].

Monthly Grants (Pre-1968):

1965 The Indian Affairs Branch contributed \$30 per month for board for 37 students at the Anahim Lake Dormitory [JOE-013719].

1966 The Sisters of Christ the King make a request for an increase in the monthly grant for the children living at the dormitory [ANH-200320].

1967 In February, the pupil allowance for the maintenance of Indian children in the dormitory is increased to \$50 per month and is retroactive to September 1, 1966 [ALD-200613]. In September, the pupil grant is increased from \$50 to \$75 per student per month effective September 1, 1967 [ANH-200339].

Monthly Grants (1968-1977, Federal Operating Dates):

1969 The Department paid the school \$5 a day for each student staying in the dormitory for a total of \$150 per month. The fact that the students come and go from the dormitory did not affect the final monthly payment [ALD-200114].

1970 The monthly grant for students living in the dormitory was increased to \$150 per student [ALD-200128].

Health at the Dormitory and IDS (Pre-1968):

1968 The living conditions in the dormitory are considered to be better than the homes on the reserve [ALD-200140-0000].

1967 Sewage problems have existed at the school since February 1967; the sewage disposal field needs to be completely rebuilt [ANH-018267] [ANH-018264-0001] [ALD-200324-0001]. The sewage problems at the school have contaminated the well water, making it unsuitable for use [ANH-018274-0000]. The water problems are caused by the large amounts of water and detergents flushed through the septic system by the laundry operations [ALD-200325].

Health at the Dormitory and IDS (1968-1977, Federal Operating Dates):

1968 In February, the school is closed for a week due to an outbreak of chicken pox and the measles. The Sisters are involved in the nursing since most of the students live in the dormitories [ALD-200089] [ANH-200070-0000] [ANH-200070-0001] [ANH-200638-0002].

In March 1968, additional problems with the septic tank are reported by the Sisters to the Cariboo Health Unit. The Sisters state that the septic tank is running off into the river and that the

drinking water is beginning to smell and taste foul [ALD-200326]. A subsequent inspection of the septic tank finds that everything is in working order [ALD-200328]. A water sample was analyzed and found to be free of contamination [ALD-200329].

1969 In January, attendance is low due to an outbreak of the flu [ANH-200073].

1978 A health inspection of the dormitory was carried out on November 2, 1978 and the conditions in the dormitory were found to be generally good [ALD-200440].

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Sister Leona Dugas	Principal	1967 – November 1969
Sister Lucienne Landry	Principal	December 1969
Sister Leona Dugas	Principal	January – June 1970
Sister Irma Perrault	Principal	At least August 1970
Father Edward Clark, O.M.I.	Administrator	1969-1970
Father Edward Clark, O.M.I.	Administrator	1970-1971
Sister Irma Perrault	Principal	1970-1971
Sister Leona Dugas	Principal	1971-1972
Reverend Maurice Coffin, O.M.I.	Administrator	1971-1972
Reverend Maurice Coffin, O.M.I.	Administrator	1972-1973
Reverend Maurice Coffin, O.M.I.	Administrator	1973-1974
Reverend Maurice Coffin, O.M.I.	Administrator	1974-1975
Reverend Maurice Coffin, O.M.I.	Administrator	1975-1976
Brother Hubert Spruyt, O.M.I.	Administrator	1976-1977

Narrative Completed: December 12, 2008

Narrative Updated: November 4, 2009

Narrative Updated: June 1, 2011

The original school narrative document produced by Canada also contains a number of records that have been separated pending review.



National Centre for
Truth and Reconciliation

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA