

This narrative history of a Residential School was researched and produced by the Government of Canada as part of its response to litigation and the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has not verified the content of this document. It is provided here for reference purposes only. Documented incidents of sexual and physical abuse are based on the documentary record and do not take into account survivor testimony.



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**Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset / Kinngait
IAP School Narrative**

NAME IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (Schedule F)

Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset / Kinngait

OTHER NAMES KNOWN AS (AKAs)

1962 Cape Dorset, N.W.T Pupil Residence [CPS-000001]

1962 Hostel Buildings #29 and #30 [CPS-000196]

LOCATION

1962 to 1965 Kinngait (Cape Dorset) - The Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset were situated around the “new” Federal Day School building and “about 300 yards” from the existing (old) one classroom building in the Cape Dorset settlement located on the Southwest Coast of Baffin Island, Nunavut. [CPS-000249; CPS-000148-0001; RCN-008223-0004].

PROVINCE/TERRITORY

Nunavut

OPERATING DATES AS AN INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

These dates represent the time during which the Government of Canada was responsible for the operation of the Indian Residential School, excluding any periods of closure.

January 1, 1962 to June 30, 1965

Interim Closure: January 31, 1964 to September 14, 1964

Throughout their entire period of operation, the Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset were student residences only.

OPERATING DATES CONTEXT

Residents were admitted to the Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset on January 1, 1962 [CPS-000001; CPS-000013-0000; CPS-000159]. The Hostels were temporarily closed from January 31, 1964 to September 14, 1964, due to a lack of resident pupils [CPS-000146; CPS-000007; CPS-000237; CPS-000147; RCN-004478; CPS-000008]. As a consequence of the decline in the number of student residents, the Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset ceased operation by June 1965 [CPS-000148-0000; CPS-000249; CPS-000254].

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

The Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset were non-denominational.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Date	Event	Document Reference
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Date	Event	Document Reference
January 1962	<p>The first pupils were admitted to the Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset on January 1, 1962. The hostels housed children from camps in the Cape Dorset area in addition to the children of hostel employees.</p> <p>The hostels were to not be “fully” used until the completion of a new Federal Day School facility in Cape Dorset in December of 1962.</p>	CPS-000001 CPS-000013-0000
February 1962	<p>Service Agreement was signed between the federal government and two hostel parents to oversee day-to-day operations at the Hostel.</p> <p>Only one hostel building was reportedly “in operation”.</p>	CPS-000167
May 1962	Documents indicate that a group of women from the Cape Dorset community were performing some supervisory duties at the hostel on an ad hoc basis.	CPS-000178-0000
November 8, 1962	A Hostel Supervisor was hired to train and supervise the Hostel Parents.	CPS-000193-0000 CPS-000193-0001
December 1962 to January 1963	Due to a fuel shortage in the community, just one eight-bed building was being used to house students. Another eight-bed building was used to house a Hostel Parent and her two children.	CPS-000196 CPS-000199
January to February 1963	Due to a continued fuel shortage, two of the three hostel buildings remained closed.	CPS-000205
May 4, 1963	By May 4, 1963, three pupils remained in the one operating hostel building.	CPS-000218-0001
September 1962 to June 1963	Only one hostel building operated during the 1962/63 school year.	RCN-009162-0001
September 1, 1963	Service Agreement was signed between federal government and three Hostel Parents to oversee the day to day operations at the hostel.	CPS-000222-0001 CPS-000222-0002 CPS-000222-0003 CPS-000222-0004
September to November 1963	<p>At the beginning of the 1963/64 school year, two hostel buildings were in operation, one for boys and one for girls.</p> <p>By November 8, 1963, all residents were living in the former girls’ hostel. The former boys’ hostel was to be used for “homemaking” instruction until more residential pupils could be recruited.</p>	CPS-000228 CPS-000231
November 28, 1963	The federal government approved an expansion of the hostels’ pupil recruiting region in hopes of boosting resident pupil enrolment.	CPS-000232
January 31 to September 14, 1964	The Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset temporarily closed on January 31,	CPS-000007 CPS-000008

Date	Event	Document Reference
	1964, as a result of decreased enrollment and parental preference to not have their children placed in hostels. The Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset remained closed until September 14, 1964.	CPS-000146 RCN-004478 CPS-000147 CPS-000237
September 14, 1964	Service Agreement was signed between the federal government and two hostel parents to oversee day-to-day operations at the Hostel.	CPS-000242
September to November 1964	The hostel re-opened for the 1964/65 school year. By November 5, 1964, there were five pupils in residence.	CPS-000008 CPS-000245
June 1965	The Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset did not re-open after the 1964/65 school year. By September 1965, all three of the former hostel buildings were being utilized for purposes other than the housing of children.	CPS-000254 CPS-000148-0000 GWR-000233-0002 CPS-000249 CPS-000256 CPS-000257

EDUCATION OF STUDENTS

Grades taught at the Indian residential school

The Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset did not provide classroom instruction. Residents attended classes at the Cape Dorset Federal Day School.

Other Schools Attended by Residents

School Years	Name of School	Location	Administration	Grades	Document
1961/62	Cape Dorset Federal Day School	Cape Dorset/ Kinngait, NU	Federal government	Grades 1 and 2	CPS-000001
1962/63	Cape Dorset Federal Day School	Cape Dorset/ Kinngait, NU	Federal government	Grades 1,2,3,4, 5	CPS-000002; CPS-000003; CPS-000004
1963/64	Cape Dorset Federal Day School	Cape Dorset/ Kinngait, NU	Federal government	Grades 1,2,3,4, 5	CPS-000005; CPS-000006; CPS-000007
1964/65	Cape Dorset Federal Day School	Cape Dorset/ Kinngait, NU	Federal government	Grades 1 and 6	CPS-000008; CPS-000009; CPS-000010

GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

School Years	Number of Residents	If applicable, day scholars	Document Reference
1961/62	6 [3 boys; 3 girls]	Not applicable	CPS-000001
1962/63	6-10 [2-4 boys; 4-6 girls]	Not applicable	CPS-000002 CPS-000003 CPS-000004
1963/64	3-11 [1-6 boys; 2-5 girls]	Not applicable	CPS-000005 CPS-000006 CPS-000007
NOTE: Interim Closure of the Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset: January 31, 1964 to September 14, 1964			
1964/65	4-6 [2-3 boys; 2-3 girls]	Not applicable	CPS-000008 CPS-000009 CPS-000010

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

School Years	Special Programs Offered	Document Reference
1961/62 to 1964/65	No information was found concerning special programs at the Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset.	

INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL AND GROUNDS

Date	Event	Document Reference
1962 to 1965	The Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset consisted of three hostel buildings located on the southern side of the Cape Dorset settlement in close proximity to the Federal Day School.	CPS-000249 CPS-000148-0000 CPS-000148-0001
September to December 1962	The roof on one of the hostel buildings leaked badly, while furnaces did not operate in two of them. The freezing of pipes was a problem in the winter months, and a lack of hot water and bathing facilities was a common complaint.	CPS-000196

PHOTOS, PLANS AND LAYOUT

Date	Description	Document Reference
1965	A hand-drawn diagram that depicts the three hostel buildings in relation to the federal day school and teacher's quarters.	CPS-000148-0001

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at Federal Hostels at Cape Dorset or of any convicted abusers present at the Hostels.

Incidents (Sexual)

Last updated March 14, 2014

No information found

Incidents (Physical)

No information found

Incidents (Student on Student)

No information found

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1962 to 1965 Documents indicate that on several occasions, parents had resisted the placement of their children in the hostels. [CPS-000213; CPS-000228; CPS-000231; CPS-000147; CPS-000249]

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

The Day School Principals acted in the Administrator role for the hostels - despite this dual role, the federal day school and hostels were two separate institutions.

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Berndtsson, Anne	School Principal	1961 to 1963
Dalby, Ronald	School Principal	1963
Lewis, Brian	School Principal	1963 to 1965

Narrative Completed: March 14, 2014

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

